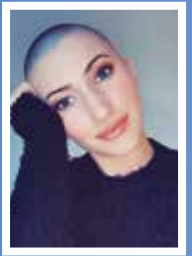


C3

MAGAZINE

OUR
PATIENTS
TELL THEIR
STORIES



HOW THE ARTS
ARE ENHANCING
PATIENT EXPERIENCE



A YEAR LIKE NO OTHER

Clatterbridge Cancer Centre – Liverpool marks its first anniversary

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WELCOME...

to the Summer 2021 edition of C3 Magazine from The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust.

This last year was a year unlike any other. As a nation, as a healthcare system and as a specialist cancer hospital, we have all felt the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

We understand how difficult it has been, having cancer alongside the impact of the pandemic for patients and their loved ones – concerns about whether COVID-19 would affect their care or impact on their treatment, the worry of infection and the loneliness that comes with shielding and not being allowed visitors for appointments and inpatient stays.

I hope that our patients have felt supported by us and that the initiatives we have set up to help – including chemotherapy delivery services, our COVID-19 Helpline and our video consultations – have provided patients and their families with some comfort and reassurance.

I would also like to thank our staff and volunteers for continuing to support our patients through this challenging time and I have heard some wonderful stories from patients of how our teams have helped them.

In this edition of C3 Magazine, we mark 12 months since we opened Clatterbridge Cancer Centre – Liverpool in the midst of the pandemic, look back at some of our achievements over the past year, and outline our plans for the future.

You will get to know some of our patients and the care they have received from our teams in this difficult time, as well as finding out more about our pioneering research and cancer care.



I would like to take the opportunity to thank our Board of Governors and our members for their support over the past year. Despite the challenges we continue to face, we have lots of exciting plans for the future that will help us to continue to care and treat those living with cancer in our region.

Best wishes,

Liz Bishop, Chief Executive



“IT’S MY FAMILY THAT GETS ME THROUGH”

Rob, 38, from Warrington, initially put bowel cancer symptoms down to stress.

Rob Gore, who has a four year old daughter and two stepsons, was diagnosed with bowel cancer in 2019 after family members noticed his weight loss and his wife, Kirsty, booked him a GP appointment.

“I’d noticed some blood when I went to the toilet and my mother-in-law commented on how much weight I’d lost at a family party. We put it down to stress at work, not eating right and maybe too much alcohol. But Kirsty booked me an appointment anyway,” Rob explains.

Cancer was found in Rob’s bowel, along with nodules on his liver and lung. “By the time I received my diagnosis, I’d resigned myself to the fact it was serious,” says Rob. “Kirsty was obviously devastated. I think my positive attitude throughout all this has really helped her. If I stay positive, it puts her mind at rest. The kids have taken all of this in their stride. In the beginning, they

were always asking if they could help me. They’re amazing and took to these changes in our family like ducks to water.”

Rob was fitted with a stoma bag and began six rounds of chemotherapy at our clinic in Halton Hospital’s CANtreat unit in March 2019.

“The Clatterbridge team in Halton are amazing,” says Rob. “It was such a welcoming environment; nothing like what you seen in the films, where cancer treatment happens in dark and gloomy hospitals. The experience was so positive, even if my first treatment was a little daunting.”

Two years after his diagnosis, Rob continues to receive chemotherapy and had successful surgery to his liver in December 2020.

“The future looks good,” he says, “and I’m recovering well from my surgery and the treatment I’m having. I trust the teams looking

after me implicitly. They know what they’re doing and I’m in the very best hands with the NHS. Never have I wanted to give up – this cancer is more of an inconvenience than anything and I just take every day as it comes.”

Dr Danielle Shaw, Consultant in Medical Oncology at The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre, who has led Rob’s care, said: “I’m delighted that Rob has such a strong support network around him and them noticing his weight loss and booking an appointment with his GP was a vital first step in his diagnosis.”

Jeanette Ribton, Bowel Cancer Nurse Consultant at The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre, said: “Rob’s attitude is so inspirational. With the support of his family and friends, I’ve no doubt he’ll continue to cope through all the ups and downs that this disease can throw at you.”

THE CLATTERBRIDGE CANCER CENTRE IN NUMBERS...

Our team has continued to provide specialist cancer care and treatment through the past year. We look at some of our figures from 2020/2021.

59,913

Patients attended 59,913 outpatient and 1,180 inpatient chemotherapy appointments



12,965

We saw 12,965 new outpatients and 175,711 follow-ups



1,575

We have 1,575 staff and 70 volunteers



2,878

We provided 2,878 day case appointments

4,188

There were 4,188 patients admitted to the Clinical Decisions Unit



1 OF 3

We are 1 of 3 specialist cancer centres in England

31,986

We cared for 31,986 individual patients

70,170

Patients attended 70,170 outpatient radiotherapy appointments (planning & treatment)

152

We treated 152 proton therapy patients



2,289

2,289 patients were admitted to our wards



2.4M

We serve a population of 2.4M people

9

We have 9 linacs across our sites, the machines used to deliver radiotherapy treatment

WHAT'S NEXT FOR US?

Find out what the next five years has in store.

Now we have opened Clatterbridge Cancer Centre – Liverpool and embedded our unique networked model of care across Cheshire and Merseyside, our attention is focused on the next five years.

With a track record of developing new and better ways of treating cancer, we want to maximise the benefits of these developments for patient outcomes and experience.

We're focusing on six strategic priorities, shown below, and we're already making strong progress with our plans for year one.

They include interventional radiology for cancer treatment, greater use of genomics in cancer care, the expansion of our pioneering 'treatment at home' services, and planning redevelopment work at Clatterbridge Cancer Centre – Wirral.

OUR MISSION:
Drive improved outcomes and experiences through our unique network of specialist cancer care across Cheshire & Merseyside.

Our key strategic priorities and key outcomes



BE OUTSTANDING

Deliver safe, high-quality care and outstanding operational and financial performance

Outstanding CQC rating
Top decile NCPES survey



BE COLLABORATIVE

Drive better outcomes for cancer patients, working with our partners across our unique network of care

Improved 5-year survival
Increased early diagnosis



BE RESEARCH LEADERS

Be leaders in cancer research to improve outcomes for patients now and in the future

Retain ECMC status
Gain CRUK centre status



BE DIGITAL

Deliver digitally-transformed services, empowering patients and staff

Develop a digital strategy
Achieve HIMSS level 7



BE A GREAT PLACE TO WORK

Attract, develop and retain a highly-skilled, motivated and inclusive workforce to deliver the best care

Top decile staff survey
Teaching hospital status



BE INNOVATIVE

Be enterprising and innovative, exploring opportunities that improve or support patient care

Develop and implement an innovation strategy

NCPES, National Cancer Patient Experience Survey
ECMC, Experimental Cancer Medicine Centre
CRUK, Cancer Research UK
HIMSS, Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society

Take a look at our full Five Year Strategic Plan at www.clatterbridgecc.nhs.uk/about-centre

BE RESEARCH LEADERS...

One of our key priorities over the next five years is to continue to drive forward research into the latest and most innovative cancer treatments, including genomics.

Genomics is revolutionising our understanding, diagnosis and treatment of cancer, offering the hope of more personalised care tailored to people's individual health needs.

It is 18 years since the human genome – a person's genetic code – was mapped, opening a new window onto knowledge about cancer.

Advances in understanding and technology now means that the use of genomics in routine NHS care is a reality, allowing personalised treatments based on what

would be the most effective treatment to improve patient outcomes.

The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre is nationally recognised as a research centre of excellence and our teams carry out trials and studies that are helping to bring exciting breakthroughs in the study of cancer genomics.

Dr Rosie Lord, Deputy Medical Director, said: "Genomics really is the future of cancer care and has revolutionised our understanding, diagnosis and treatment of cancer.

Our job now is to embed these transformative interventions properly so that they become routine and effective ways to help our patients.

"Research and clinical trials will help to further our understanding and ability to provide the most effective therapies for our patients and for future generations."

Dr Rosie Lord



FIRST PATIENT RETURNS TO AINTREE FOR CENTRE'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY

Back in February, the first patient to receive radiotherapy treatment at our Aintree site, returned to celebrate its 10th birthday.



Doug Barclay, 73, from Anfield was the first patient to be treated at the unit when it opened in 2011, receiving 30 rounds of radiotherapy treatment for prostate cancer.

"I was having pain in my back and legs before I was diagnosed. I remember walking into the building 10 years ago and feeling very anxious; being treated for cancer is a really scary thing to go through. But the team were amazing and put me at ease. The fact that they were all so friendly definitely made the experience easier.

"It's lovely to see some familiar faces still working at the centre and I was delighted that they remembered me. I can't believe it's been 10 years since my treatment but I'm feeling good,

the pain in my back and legs has gone and I'm not having any further treatment."

Our Aintree radiotherapy centre was developed as a satellite unit a decade ago to bring treatment even closer to people in north Liverpool. It is located on the Aintree University Hospital site and has provided over 300,000 treatments to patients over the past 10 years.

Louise Corcoran, Treatment Expert Practitioner at Clatterbridge Cancer Centre – Aintree, has worked at the unit since it opened. She said: "The team at our Aintree site are fantastic and it's been a real privilege to work here for the past 10 years, providing the care that our patients deserve."

OUR RESEARCH RESPONSE TO COVID-19

The pandemic presented the NHS with its greatest ever challenge across all healthcare sectors. Our Research & Innovation Department confronted this test, head on.



Opened
46

RESEARCH
TRIALS
& STUDIES



942

PARTICIPANTS IN
RESEARCH



12

TRIALS & STUDIES
INVOLVING COVID-19
RESEARCH



85%

of clinical trials
restarted as part of
COVID-19 recovery
which has exceeded
the national target.



1ST

Pivotal in the set-up of our first ever Interventional Radiology Service based at Clatterbridge Cancer Centre – Liverpool to support clinical trials, working in collaboration with Radiation Services.



“12 YEARS SINCE MY DIAGNOSIS AND THANKS TO A CLINICAL TRIAL, I’M STILL HERE”

Pat received her 200th treatment for breast cancer at Clatterbridge Cancer Centre – Wirral.



A great-grandmother who took part in a ground breaking breast cancer study has received her 200th chemotherapy treatment more than a decade after being diagnosed.

Pat Bordley, 78, from Wallasey, was diagnosed with advanced breast cancer and took part in a clinical trial for a new therapy. It was such a success it is now a standard NHS treatment – saving thousands of lives – and the retired teacher is still receiving it.

Pat was initially diagnosed with a pre-cancerous breast condition in 2005 (High Grade DCIS) for which, following surgery, she received radiotherapy treatment. Four years later, she developed a skin rash on her breast. Biopsies and CT images diagnosed advanced breast cancer and Pat was told her cancer was incurable.

“I remember thinking, ‘but what about Christmas?’ said Pat. “It was only March, but I went out and bought all my Christmas presents and had them wrapped and ready to go. I didn’t think I would live to watch my family open them but here I am.”

Through Dr Zaf Malik, Consultant Clinical Oncologist at The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre, Pat discovered she was eligible for a chemotherapy clinical trial, called CLEOPATRA. The trial involved using chemotherapy and two targeted treatments to kill cancer cells and to stop the messages that tell them to grow.

In 2014, following successful trials with thousands of women, CLEOPATRA was approved and offered as a standard NHS treatment. And in March Pat received her 200th dose, having had the treatment every three weeks for the past 12 years, both as part of the trial and continuing once it was approved.

“I was told my cancer was incurable but this trial has allowed me to see another 12 years with my husband Alex, my children, grandchildren and great grandchildren,” she said.

Pat has been treated since her diagnosis at The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre’s Delamere clinic at our Wirral site.

“I’ve really got to know the team at The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre and the care they give me is outstanding,” said Pat.

Since April 2020, The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre has offered hope to 942 people through clinical trials. Researching new and innovative ways of treating cancer remain one of the Trust’s top priorities.

Pat’s consultant, Dr Malik, said: “Pat is a wonderful example of the effectiveness of clinical trials and the lifeline they can give to patients.”

Dr Gillian Heap, Director of Research and Innovation Operations added: “We have continued to offer clinical trials to patients throughout the pandemic, opening many new cancer trials since the start of 2020. We will continue to work with local, national and international research partners to offer the very latest and most innovative treatments to our patients.”

On 27th June 2020, in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, Clatterbridge Cancer Centre – Liverpool opened its doors to patients for the very first time, becoming the hub of our extensive network of services across Cheshire and Merseyside.

The opening of our new 11 storey cancer centre was over a decade in the making after it was first proposed in a 2008 report that recommended sweeping changes to cancer care in the region.

It marked the beginning of a new chapter for The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre, with care being delivered right in the heart of the population we serve. As people in Cheshire and Merseyside are more likely to develop cancer than almost anywhere else in the country, the need had never been greater.

Since then, Clatterbridge Cancer Centre – Liverpool has been successfully delivering on its mission to bring cancer care closer to those who need it.

The opening of the hospital meant that for the first time in our region, blood cancer care and treatment for solid tumours were brought together. Clatterbridge Cancer Centre – Liverpool includes a stem cell transplant unit for cancer treatment and its close proximity

to the acute medical and surgical specialties at the Royal Liverpool University Hospital means our most unwell patients have access to even better, safer care.

Since it's opening, over 2,000 patients have been cared for in our 110 inpatient rooms. During the pandemic, these single occupancy, en-suite rooms have become even more vital, reducing any risk of vulnerable patients being exposed to potential infections.

In April 2021, we opened our new Teenage and Young Adult unit, which relocated from our site in Wirral. It offers tailor-made care to young people, including access to a Youth Support Worker, dedicated psychologist, and a social space for them to get to know one another.

The new hospital has become the hub of our Arts Strategy, with a number of beautiful artworks commissioned by regional artists decorating the building, providing a welcome distraction and talking point for patients and staff alike. It's also a base for the majority of our 70 volunteers, who help our staff and support our patients from the moment they walk through the door.

Dr Liz Bishop, Chief Executive of The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust, said:

“The opening of Clatterbridge Cancer Centre – Liverpool was the culmination of an eight-year project for transforming cancer care in a region with one of the highest rates of cancer in the country.

“Since the moment we opened those doors, our teams have been working hard to deliver on its promise to bring cancer care closer to those that need it and I'm delighted with the progress we've made so far.

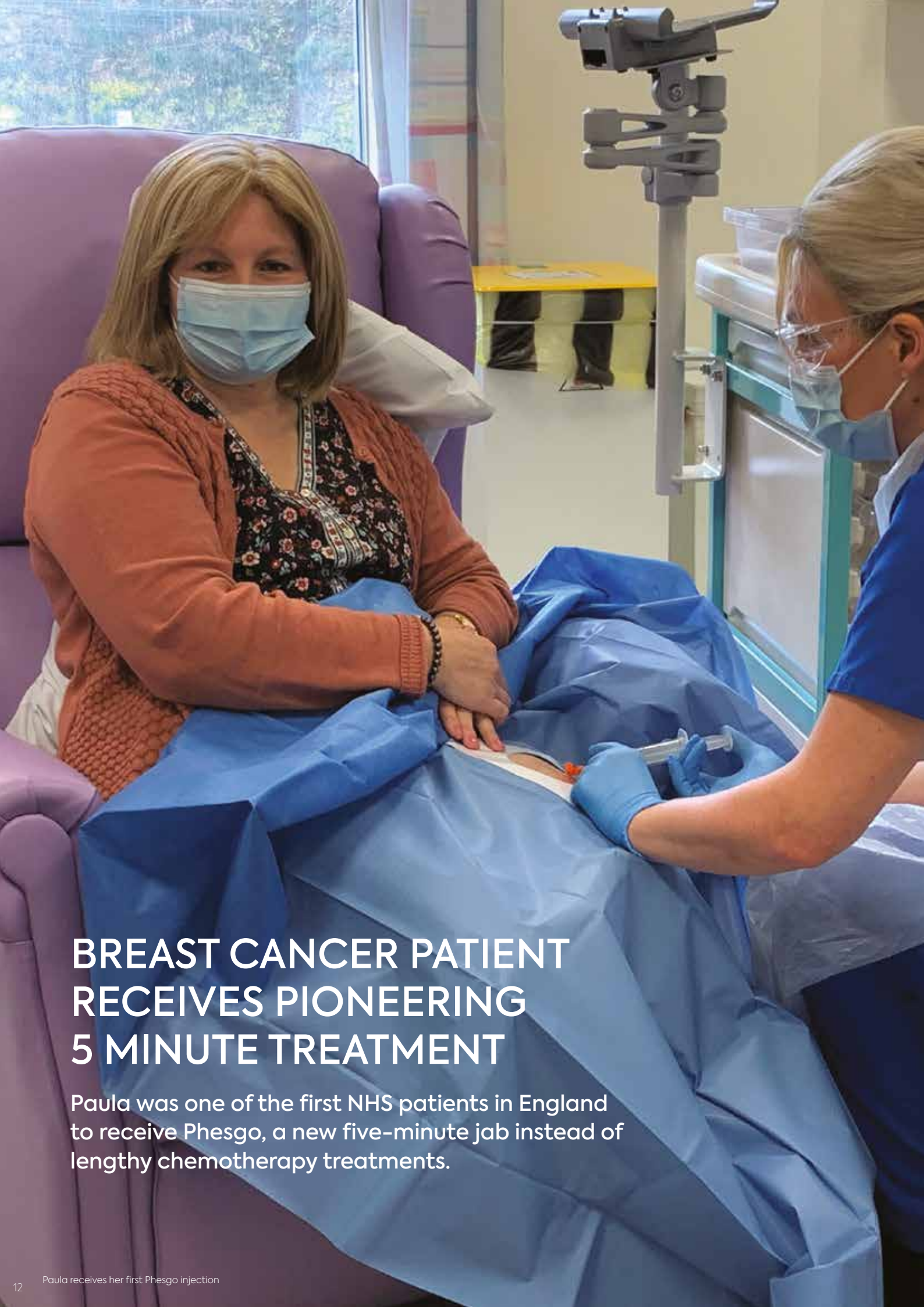
“This year has been the most challenging in the history of our Trust and to have successfully opened our new hospital and continued to provide such a high level of care, is testament to the dedication of our staff. Each one of them puts our patients' care and wellbeing at the heart of what they do.

“So whilst we are celebrating our first successful year at Clatterbridge Cancer Centre – Liverpool, it's also an opportunity to acknowledge the dedication of our staff and look forward to many more successful years.”

IN OUR LIVERPOOL HOME...

Our flagship hospital in the heart of the city celebrates its first anniversary.





BREAST CANCER PATIENT RECEIVES PIONEERING 5 MINUTE TREATMENT

Paula was one of the first NHS patients in England to receive Phesgo, a new five-minute jab instead of lengthy chemotherapy treatments.



Paula said: “It feels amazing to be one of the first people to receive this treatment through this NHS scheme. It’s great that I can now get the same drugs in one injection that only takes a few minutes.”

Paula Lamb, 51, from Newton-le-Willows, was one of the first patients to receive the Phesgo treatment for breast cancer since NHS England began rolling it out.

Phesgo combines two treatments – pertuzumab and trastuzumab – into a single injection. Instead of having each drug separately as an intravenous infusion (i.e. via a drip) that can take up to two-and-a-half hours, Phesgo only takes around five minutes to prepare and administer a single injection into the thigh.

Paula was prescribed the treatment by her consultant Dr Helen Innes at The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre, following a NHS England deal with the manufacturer to make it available at no extra cost. Phesgo will now be offered to all eligible patients with HER2-positive breast cancer, which accounts for 15% of all cases. It can be given alongside chemotherapy or by itself.

Paula was diagnosed with advanced breast cancer in 2014 and has been receiving trastuzumab and pertuzumab regularly since then. Along with radiotherapy, surgery and other treatments, it has proved very effective at managing her cancer but it has involved her spending around two hours in hospital every three weeks.

Now she can get the same benefits from an injection that only takes a few minutes.

The treatment is now being rolled out across England to around 3,600 newly-diagnosed patients each year, along with other patients like Paula who are currently receiving the same drugs by infusion.

As well as reducing the amount of time patients need to spend in hospital, Phesgo also frees up clinical time and chemotherapy treatment chairs for other people receiving cancer care.

Dr Helen Innes, Consultant Medical Oncologist at The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre, who is caring for Paula, said: “We are always looking at how we can enhance care and make it more convenient for patients. I am delighted that we are now able to offer Phesgo treatment, which means patients like Paula can have the same treatment in a much more convenient way for them.”



(l-r) Ian Ogilvie, Meg Owen and Katrina Bury from The Clatterbridge Cancer Charity.

25 YEARS OF OUR CHARITY

The Clatterbridge Cancer Charity was launched 25 years ago for patients, their families and our community who want to show their support.

Thanks to the millions of pounds donated since 1996, The Clatterbridge Cancer Charity is now achieving so much for local people with cancer, which may not have been possible through NHS funding alone.

Over the years, Charity has helped to improve facilities, funded groundbreaking research and enabled new therapies which have shaped cancer care in our region.

Last year saw the Charity's most significant achievement yet, with the opening of Liverpool's first cancer hospital, Clatterbridge Cancer Centre – Liverpool, a facility that would look very different without the support of charitable donations, providing that extra funding to create the best possible environment.

Katrina Bury, Head of Charity, said: "As our charity celebrates 25 years of supporting patients and staff at The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre and the amazing supporters and volunteers who have made this possible, we are looking forward to the future of cancer care in our region.

"The charity has a fresh new look and big plans to make a real difference to local people affected by cancer."

Over the next five years, The Clatterbridge Cancer Charity's focus will be:

- 1 Enabling innovations in care, for every patient every day
- 2 Funding life-saving research, shaping cancer care for generations to come
- 3 Enhancing the patient environment, supporting recovery and wellbeing.
- 4 Investing in leading technology, driving better outcomes for people with cancer.

Supporting these four key areas will ensure that your donations will go where our patients need it most, helping to change the lives of so many people.

We can't do this without your support. To donate today, take part in our events or find out more, visit clatterbridgecc.org.uk

HELP SHAPE CANCER SERVICES

Governors are a vital part of every NHS foundation trust. They help set the direction of an organisation on behalf of local people and members, and oversee the work of the Board.



Jane Wilkinson

Jane Wilkinson, Lead Governor, said: "The members – 5,000 public and over 1,500 staff. That's a lot of people to listen to and hear their views, but that's what we as governors are here to do. We make sure their views are included in decision-making processes and we raise issues on behalf of members at our Council of Governors meetings. But we don't just sit in meetings. We also get out and about: visiting wards and departments with Board members on walkabouts, taking part in charity events, informing community groups about the fantastic work our staff and volunteers do, promoting our Trust at local and national events, and actively helping shape our services.

"There are many reasons governors choose to get involved – we want to give something back to our Trust and the NHS, we have a general interest in healthcare, and together we bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to the role."

Most governors are elected by our members.

Membership: What does it involve?

Public Members

We hope everyone who is linked to us in some way would like to be a member. Membership is completely free and open to anyone aged 16 years or over such as local residents, patients and carers.

Staff Members

All staff become members when they start working with us as we are confident they will want to play an active role in developing services for both patients and staff.

Being a member of the Trust means you can have a real say, through your elected representatives (Governors), in shaping future services and the strategic direction of The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre. We are committed to establishing a truly representative membership.

You can decide how involved you want to be – you can:

- Simply receive our C3 magazine
- Attend events like the Annual Members Meeting
- Stand for nomination to the Council of Governors – We have Governor Elections taking place between May-August. For more information, please visit www.clatterbridgecc.nhs.uk

Your views matter and can make a difference

Governors are your voice – if you would like to share any views or comments about our strategic plans or our services or you have any ideas/suggestions, contact our Governors:

Email: ccf-tr.enquiriesforgovernors@nhs.net

Membership Office: 0151 318 8110

We look forward to hearing from you.

“I NEVER HAD ANY SYMPTOMS
BUT I COULD JUST TELL
SOMETHING WASN'T RIGHT”



Edina is now receiving expert care from a dedicated Clinical Nurse Specialist here at The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre, after being diagnosed with a brain tumour.





A 23-year-old woman from Warrington diagnosed with a brain tumour had been telling friends for months that something wasn't quite right.

Edina Szilveszter's diagnosis came after she suffered a number of seizures one night in May 2020. She was rushed to A&E where CT scans and checks discovered a tumour on the right-hand side of her brain.

"Before the seizure, I'd never felt any typical symptoms of a tumour such as headaches or blurred vision. But I could just tell something felt 'off' within my head. I couldn't put my finger on it but I would tell my friends and all of them knew I had these feelings. So whilst my diagnosis was an awful shock, I sort of knew something was happening."

Just one week after her diagnosis, Edina received surgery to remove the tumour at The Walton Centre in Liverpool, followed by extensive chemotherapy and radiotherapy at Clatterbridge Cancer Centre – Liverpool. Through The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre, Edina also received the support of a dedicated Clinical Nurse Specialist, who works to not only manage a patient's symptoms but care for their emotional and mental wellbeing.

Originally from Hungary, Edina and her partner Laszlo moved to the UK from Romania five years ago. With Edina's family back in Transylvania, she relied on friends for support whilst Laszlo continued to work.

"My surgery went well and I was discharged five days later. But that first month was tough. I was so tired, my vision was blurred and I was very emotional. Laszlo had to go back to work but I was unable to do anything for myself.

"During that time, I felt so worried I would never feel normal again. But I tried not to let Laszlo or my family know how I was feeling. If I was positive, they would be positive. I hid my feelings from them to protect them.

"When I do need to talk to someone, I have a dedicated social worker who rings me every week. My neuro-oncology team at The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre have been amazing throughout, right from the first consultation. They support all of us. My diagnosis has also been a trauma for Laszlo but knowing I have someone on the end of the phone, whether it's to help me when I'm feeling unwell or someone to express my feelings to, helps us both."

Edina also felt a lot of comfort and support from the wider team at The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre.

"Everyone at the hospital has been so nice, from the receptionists to the nurses and the radiographers. I also love chatting with the volunteers who would pick me up and take me to the hospital for treatment. I learn a lot from just chatting to them and if I'm having a bad day, their positivity cheers me up."

Edina's Clinical Nurse Specialist is Jan Holding. Jan said: "With Edina's family living so far away and unable to support her and Laszlo in person, our team have done everything we can to ensure they feel as supported and informed as possible during this time.

"As a Clinical Nurse Specialist, we are always on hand for our patients. It's part of our job to ensure that patients not only receive support managing their symptoms, but emotional and holistic support too. This helps our patients not only to go through the treatment but to have the best possible quality of life and come to terms with such a devastating diagnosis."

Dr Shaveta Mehta, Consultant Clinical Oncologist at The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre, is leading Edina's care. She said: "Whilst brain tumours are very rare, it is common for patients to not experience any symptoms. Unfortunately, brain tumours are often diagnosed in A&E, as was the case with Edina.

"Treating and caring for patients with a brain tumour is very complex. We work closely with other hospitals across the region, such as The Walton Centre, and meet weekly to discuss each of our patients. It's vital that we offer treatment and support quickly and in the right setting so that patients can benefit from better quality of life for as long as possible."



AT THE ART OF IT...

The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre is putting the arts at the centre of its commitment to patient experience.

In June 2020, we opened our state-of-the-art Clatterbridge Cancer Centre – Liverpool. But enhancing our patients' experience of our new hospital started long before the foundations of the hospital had even been dug.

At the centre of our commitment to patients' positive experience of our centres is the arts. Our Arts Strategy was established in 2014 and outlines how art can impact positively on health. It also suggests ways in which the arts can fulfil our mission and values to ensure good practice and it aims high in terms of artistic ambition, quality and excellence.

Sam Wade is the Trust's dedicated Arts Coordinator and works within our Patient Experience Team. Sam said: "We know that the arts have a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of both patients and staff.

"So for the past few years, and particularly since the opening of Clatterbridge Cancer Centre – Liverpool, we've been engaging with patients and staff and working with local artists and musicians to enhance our physical spaces."

Seven pieces of artwork have been installed around the new hospital, including Timeline by Professor Sunny Myint and Primavera, a large, metal sculpture of a tree by Wirral artist Emma Rodgers, situated in the Winter Garden. Emma said; "My mum was treated by the team in Wirral and I have been involved for a long time as a patron of The Clatterbridge Cancer Charity. So when I was approached to commission a piece for the new hospital, I was keen that it was a legacy for the centre and something that would continue to support it for a long time to come."

Spanning across the atrium walls of our Outpatient Department is Our Melody Unwound, a site-specific work by Manchester based artist, Liz West. The immersive installation, which extends across 225 square foot in the hospital's Outpatient Department on Level M1, is made up of tens of thousands of coloured shards, with the pattern never repeating itself.

Artist Liz says: "I hope people find that this luminous and considered mix of colours encourages a sense of wellbeing and brings joy."

As well as the artworks, a digital Yamaha Disklavier Enspire Grand Piano donated to the Trust by the Marina Dalglish Appeal automatically plays live music in the hospital's vast atrium.

Professor Sunny Myint with his piece, Timeline



The lifting of COVID-19 restrictions will hopefully allow live musical and dance performances and patient arts workshops to take place in due course, to further put the Arts Strategy into action. Plans are also afoot for the Arts Strategy to have the same impact at our sites in Wirral and Aintree.

Sam adds: "We've had some fantastic feedback from our patients and staff and we have lots of exciting plans to continue to provide the very best environment for everyone who walks through our doors."



Our Melody Unwound, by Liz West, spans the walls of our Outpatient Department at Clatterbridge Cancer Centre – Liverpool

COVID-19 HELPLINE HELPS HUNDREDS

Our nurse-led service supported patients during the pandemic.

Throughout the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, our teams have gone above and beyond to support our patients and their families, quickly establishing a number of initiatives in the most difficult of circumstances.

One such project was our COVID-19 Helpline.

Staffed by over 50 nurses, and with the support of departments from across the Trust, the COVID-19 Helpline was set up to support our patients and their families, answer their questions and help alleviate their fears during the early stages of the pandemic in March 2020.

The Helpline has so far taken over 1,400 calls, answering up to 200 a week during the height of the pandemic, with staff still maintaining their normal duties around our various hospital sites.

Alison Taylor, Acute Oncology Nurse Consultant, led the service. She said: "We realised very early on that our patients needed specific support and their questions answered; understandably, they were anxious and scared as to how the pandemic would affect their treatment or had questions about shielding.

"Like all health professionals, we had to keep up-to-date with the correct information so we could advise our patients. But we also wanted to make sure we were a listening ear, someone they could talk to who would reassure them; the pandemic was a very isolating time for many of our patients.

"The COVID-19 Helpline was set up really quickly and was a Trust-wide effort, with lots of teams being involved. I'm really proud of it and the support it's given our patients and would like to thank everyone who has helped to facilitate it."



BE OUTSTANDING A bright new future for Clatterbridge Cancer Centre – Wirral

Providing the very best patient experience isn't just about the care we provide. It's also about our buildings, facilities and the whole environment where we provide that care. Our Aintree cancer centre celebrated its 10th birthday last year and we opened our new flagship Liverpool hospital in June 2020.

Now we're planning some exciting upgrades and refurbishment of our Wirral cancer centre so it can continue to offer outstanding patient care for decades to come. Work is still at a very early stage but we've engaged architects to start developing initial visions for the site, based on the plans that our clinical divisions have for their services.

Investing in our Wirral site is a key part of our strategic plan for the next five years. Look out for more information later this year.

