Welcome to your Summer Newsletter!

The Dementia Team have been incredibly busy since our last edition!
We’ve celebrated Dementia Awareness Week, had a cracking time with our Easter fundraisers, and received some exciting new equipment for our patients.

Read on to find out more about our amazing volunteers, and how you can help us to reach our Dementia Appeal target of £500,000-in order that we can continue to make our hospitals ‘Dementia Friendly’.

We’ve also been really lucky to be supported by Natwest bank, and given the chance to speak with customers using the branch, to raise awareness of Dementia.

The Harmonia Village project is gaining momentum and we have some exciting updates for you in this edition too!

The Memory Lane Newsletter, is published by the Dementia Specialist Nurses and East Kent Hospitals Charity.

If you have a story that can be featured in the next edition please email it to Joy McCue at: joy.mccue@nhs.net.
On Saturday 4 May, Tony Friend who is a porter at QEQM, dressed up with his fellow cosplayers and managed to raise an amazing £300 for the Dementia Appeal.

They did this by dressing up as characters from Star Wars entertaining and putting smiles on the faces of the visitors that attended on Saturday 4 May – a day that was chosen as it’s observed by fans of the Star Wars movie franchise. It was chosen in particular for the pun on the catch-phrase ‘May the Force be with you’!

Congratulations to Tony and the team. The force will be with you. Always!

Wards across EKHUFT welcomed 10 new ‘RITA’ devices in May 2019, funded by East Kent Hospitals Charity Dementia Appeal.

The Reminiscence Interactive Therapy Activities (RITA) promotes positive interaction between patients, staff and volunteers: helping care-givers to find out details from the patient’s past that they remember fondly and allowing them to use these as conversation starters throughout their care.

Costing £40,000, it has only been possible to provide these RITAs due to donations made to the Dementia Appeal.
Manager appointed for Harmonia!

We have successfully appointed the Harmonia Village Manager position – Carrie Mandeville (centre) who joins us from the community Trust and brings a wealth of experience along with a warm and friendly personality. She will be pivotal in helping to shape Harmonia into becoming a great place to live and work.

We are progressing forward with recruitment plans and this includes volunteers – keep an eye on the Facebook page for more info.

The team at Harmonia recently had a demo by Kelvin from MiiCare on their MiiCube smart device. This is an innovative ‘Amazon Alexa’ style ‘smart device’, specially created for people living with dementia, which will be used in the homes to help enhance patient care, wellbeing and independence.

Stay connected
You can now keep up-to-date with all the latest on our Facebook and Twitter pages...

Easter Fundraising!

Our amazing volunteers and fundraisers worked tirelessly over the Easter period, raising funds for the Dementia Appeal. Here’s a snap shot of what they got up to.....

The William Harvey Dementia Team organised a collection at Homebase in Folkestone, as well as a raffle with the EKHUFT Therapies Team winning a huge Easter egg (donated by the Folkestone Lions)!

Jim and Carol- our brilliant volunteers- lead on a cake sale and tombola in the hospital foyer.

An amazing £773.26 was raised!

Sue Threadingham, one of our dedicated volunteers, ran an Easter Craft Fair in the foyer of the William Harvey Hospital.

Having spent four months crafting beautiful and unique items for the sale, she raised a total of £335 for the Dementia Appeal (with the assistance of her helpful grandchildren!).

If you are inspired to raise money for the Dementia Appeal, get in touch with East Kent Hospitals Charity to find out how we can support you!
Dementia Action Week- May 2019

Dementia Action Week is a national week of campaigning, action and awareness which takes place every May. This year, we celebrated the achievements of our Dementia Appeal across the Trust sites, and were busy putting on lots of events and activities for our patients and staff.

Kent and Canterbury Hospital
The Dementia Team held lunch clubs and singing groups for patients as well as spending a day in the Hospital Hub, speaking to over 40 students to help educate them about the importance of excellent dementia care.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother Hospital
At QEQM, a carers’ café was organised by Dementia Specialist Nurses, Karan Scrivener and Lorna Shadbolt and held in the conservatory to show some appreciation of the role that carers play in looking after patients living with dementia. A Memory Lane Café with teas, coffees and cakes was also held in St Augustine’s Day Room.

William Harvey Hospital
At the William Harvey, our Dementia Associate Practitioner Ann McGovern trained a further 26 Dementia Friends- see page 9 for more information!

Ann also lead a Memory Lane Café and held a lunch club.

There was lots more going on throughout the week and we couldn’t have done it all without the support of staff across the Trust – so huge thanks to everyone who played a part and got involved in some way.

2020’s Dementia Action Week takes place between 18th- 24th May-time to get planning!

Quiz Night held for the Dementia Appeal

A gripping quiz night was organised by Ali Cigerli and Clare Boggia (Quiz Master Supreme!), part of the Clinical Audit Team, and held at the William Harvey Restaurant in July.

Of a total of 56 contestants, the winners of the night were ‘CPR’ (staff from Bartholomew and CCU who’s swotting during their break times paid off!).

A huge thank you to 2gether Support Solutions for providing the venue and refreshments for the quiz night, and to all of those who donated raffle prizes.

A total of £530 was raised for the Dementia Appeal.

Thank you!
These are open to anyone working within EKHUFT. Contact your Dementia Specialist Nurse to book. Sessions from 9.15am to 4.15pm

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### What is the Dementia Virtual Tour?

The **Dementia Virtual Tour** is medically and scientifically proven to be the closest that we can give a person with a healthy brain an experience of what dementia might be like. By understanding dementia from the person’s point of view we can change practice, reduce issues and improve their lives.

Danielle Neligan, Fundraising Officer for East Kent Hospitals Charity attended the Tour in July. She said: ‘The Tour opened my eyes to how frightening and strange the world can be for patients living with dementia. I valued this insightful opportunity and it has helped me to understand the impact on day to day living for our patients.’

Susan Acott, CEO of EKHUFT stated that the Tour “helped me better understand the impact of dementia, and how we as a hospital trust can improve how we care for people living with dementia”.

**Other feedback we have received:**

- “an excellent and well conducted day”
- “course was amazing, so enlightening”
- “Better understanding of dementia and how it affects people differently”

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### Meet your Dementia Team...

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**QEQM**

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Thank you to our incredible supporters!

We rely on the generosity and support of our donors, fundraisers and volunteers in order to raise the profile of the Dementia Appeal, help to make our East Kent Hospitals ‘Dementia Friendly’ and engage our wider communities, so that they can learn more about the work that we do.

We wanted to mention some of our heroes, who are so valued for the time and effort that they give us……

This is Rowen. He was inspired to bake a cake for the Alzheimer’s Cupcake Day on June 13th, after learning all about dementia at school! Thank you so much Rowen—altogether, the cake sake raised £265.03!

Thank you to Sue Threadingham; whose tireless work for the Dementia Appeal has raised over £3300 since 2016! Sue is often assisted by her grandchildren—Poppy, Isabel and Theo. Thank you for all the time you have put into fundraising.

A huge thanks to Maggie and Worzel, who have attended lots of Memory Lane cafes and other events at QEQM. Both Maggie and Worzel have been really popular with our patients—however, Worzel is hanging up his lead and retiring. Well done Worzel! You are a very good boy indeed!

A big thank you to Dorothy Boor who is 95yrs young! She has made 40 Twiddleblankets since 2018 for our patients at QEQM. Her daughter Sue (below) puts on the ribbons and delivers them to us!
NatWest supports the Dementia Appeal!

NatWest supported the Dementia Appeal during Dementia Action Week, by inviting our Specialist Nurses Lorna and Karan to run a cake sale at their Canterbury Branch.

Enticed by the lovely cakes on sale, NatWest’s customers were able to find out lots of information about dementia and the innovative work that we do at East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust.

A big thanks to Aby Evans, Community Banker for the Kent Coast for organising this event. We raised £107.81!

We’ve been lucky to be able to work so closely with Natwest for a long time now; over the Easter period, Aby arranged for armfuls of Easter Eggs to be delivered to the Kent and Canterbury Hospital Site!

Our patients were delighted. We know how much it means for patients to be aware that they are cared about and considered by their communities- not just the hardworking staff in the hospitals. This gesture meant so much! Thank you!

Dementia Champions Meeting

The next Dementia Champion meeting will take place on:

Friday 6th December 2019
Harvey Hall
Kent and Canterbury Hospital

If you would like to find out more information about this exciting and informative event, please contact your sites’ Dementia Specialist Nurse.
The fundraising total for the Dementia Appeal is now over £141,000.

Thank you!

Since April 2019 we have run:

- 25 dementia activity groups per month...

That's 125 in total!

In the last 4 months, you helped us raise £2695!

We have spent more than £116,000 on facilities and equipment to improve the lives of our patients!

We have trained 150 Dementia Friends!

You can donate to the Dementia Appeal!

www.justgiving.com/campaigns/charity/ekhc/dementiappeal
Our Dementia Friends

Dementia Friends is an Alzheimer’s Society initiative, designed to make it simple for people to understand more about dementia, and the small changes they can make to improve the lives of people living with dementia.

During Dementia Action Week Ann McGovern trained an amazing 26 new Dementia Friends! We have now trained more than 300 Dementia Friends at East Kent Hospitals NHS Foundation University Trust.

Susan Acott, CEO of EKHUFT is launching an initiative to ensure that all members of the Trust to become a Dementia Friend by 2020, saying:

“We all have an opportunity to make a huge difference to the experience of our patients.

“We already do a huge amount to improve the experience of people living with dementia,

“Now every single one of us can play a part in building on that, so that whichever site or department someone visits they know the team will understand dementia and be able to offer support.”

Well done to the Dementia Specialist Nurses for all of your hard work so far!

Twiddlemuffs

Our valued supporters in the community provide us with beautiful Twiddlemuffs and Forget-Me-Not badges. Our Twiddlemuffs are gifted to our patients living with dementia, and provide a useful calming opportunity.

We are always looking for more! Whether you are a beginner, or a seasoned professional, we would love to hear from you (and can also provide you with the patterns!).

DBL Stitching Group (Dover) donated these beautiful Twiddlemuffs in June.

Walmer Baptist Church Knitting Group and Bridget from Inchwater, handing over Twiddlemuffs in July!
The Rotary Club of the Isle of Thanet Sunrise ‘Big Knit’ was held on the 16th March 2019, at the Trinity Resource Centre, Margate.

Celebrating its 10th year, the Big Knit has helped to raise over £45,000 for local charities.

This year, the Dementia Appeal was invited to be one of the charities to benefit from this event, alongside Demelza House, East Kent Mencap and East Kent Strokes.

Dee attended the Rotary Club of the Isle of Thanet Sunrise meeting on the 21st June and was delighted to receive a donation of £1250, raised at the Big Knit event.

This donation will be used to purchase additional equipment and facilities for patients living with dementia, at the QEQM Hospital.

Thank you to all who attended and donated!

Sophie Pettifer, Senior Matron for EKHUFT, attended the meeting of the Hythe and Romney Marsh Lions on 28th May 2019 at the Red Lion Hotel in Hythe.

The Lions had been busy fundraising for our Dementia Appeal and Sophie was delighted to be presented with a cheque for £233.57!

Lorna Shadbolt, Dementia Specialist Nurse said:

‘We are so pleased with this donation- we will use it to make a real difference for our patients!’

Thank you, Lions!
Introducing........ Dee!

My name is Dee (Danielle) Neligan, and I am the new Fundraising and Development Officer for East Kent Hospitals Charity. I’ve been in post since March 2019, taking over from Vicky Adley. I’ve worked in the charity sector for a long time and previous to that worked for local councils around Kent.

It’s a real privilege to be working for the Charity, and I’m so impressed by the amazing achievements of our supporters and donors of the Dementia Appeal. It’s also really exciting to witness the Harmonia Village project taking shape.

If I haven’t had the chance to meet you yet, I hope to, very soon! I’d like to thank you all for everything that you are doing- you are so very appreciated. I can’t wait to hear more about your future plans for the Dementia Appeal!

You can contact me by giving me a call on: 01227 866 356, or dropping me a line on: ekh-tr.fundraising@nhs.net

How can I get involved?

Working closely with the EKHUFT Dementia Specialist Team, we have lots of exciting ideas about innovative new projects that we hope to fund in the future- but we need your help to fundraise!

If you would like to get involved in our Dementia Appeal, you can:
• Make a donation
• Take part in a fundraising event with your place of work or school
• Encourage your employer or organisation to choose us as their ‘Charity of the Year’
• Make a gift in memory of a loved one.
• Donate your twiddlemuffs, blankets and forget-me-not pins!

Check out our website or social media for more information!

www.ekhcharity.org.uk
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