

Staff **News 'n' Views**

NHS

St Helens and Knowsley
Teaching Hospitals
NHS Trust

NHS 70th Birthday

70

**YEARS
OF THE NHS
1948 - 2018**

Special Commemorative Edition

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Excellent Patient Care in World Class Hospitals

Special Edition

Happy Birthday NHS!

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On 5 July 1948, the NHS was launched by the then Health Secretary, Aneurin Bevan. For the first time, hospitals, doctors, nurses, pharmacists, opticians and dentists were brought together under one organisation.

From the start, Bevan was determined the NHS should provide world-class care and not simply act as a safety net for the poor, with the belief that healthcare should be based on need, rather than ability to pay.

The NHS proved to be more than just a personal triumph for Nye Bevan, 94% of the public enrolled with the NHS by the day of the launch – quite an accomplishment! Prior to this, many patients had to pay to visit a doctor or stay in hospital, pushing many families into debt. Free healthcare for all swept that away with the government sending a leaflet to every house in the country with a simple message of reassurance: “It will relieve your money worries in time of illness.”

No society can legitimately call itself civilized if a sick person is denied medical aid because of lack of means.

Aneurin Bevan



Over the last 70 years, the NHS has transformed the health and wellbeing of the nation and become the envy of the world.

It is thanks to the NHS that we have all but eradicated diseases such as polio and diphtheria, and pioneered new treatments like the world's first liver, heart and lung transplant.

In more recent times, we have seen innovations like mechanical thrombectomy to improve stroke survival, bionic eyes to restore sight, and surgical breakthroughs such as hand transplants.

This special year is not only a chance to celebrate some of the most significant medical, technological and scientific developments and breakthroughs since 1948, but to recognise the contribution of the millions of people who have dedicated their lives to working for the most loved institution of this country, who make a real difference each and every day.

6 facts about NHS 70

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Did you know?

- The NHS in England treats more than 1.4 million patients every 24 hours
- The NHS is the UK's largest employer, with over 1.5 million staff from all over the world
- The NHS in England is expected to spend £126 billion in 2018/19
- There are more than 7,400 GP practices in England
- In March 2017, the NHS employed 106,430 doctors, 285,893 nurses and health visitors, 21,597 midwives, 132,673 scientific, therapeutic and technical staff (across England's hospital and community healthcare services (full-time equivalent))
- In comparison with the healthcare systems of ten other countries (Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and USA) the NHS was found to be the most impressive overall by the Commonwealth Fund in 2017

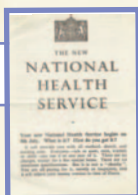
From 1948 to 2018:

Key milestones of our NHS

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Looking back over the last 70 years, we have reflected on the key milestones of the NHS, remembering the most significant moments that have shaped the timeline of the nation's most loved institution!

July 5 1948 – The NHS is born



1953 - DNA structure revealed



On April 25, James D Watson and Francis Crick, two Cambridge University scientists, discover the structure of a chemical called deoxyribonucleic acid – otherwise known as DNA.

1960 - First UK kidney transplant

The first UK kidney transplant takes place at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary on October 30, 1960 and involves an identical set of 49-year-old twins.



1961 - The contraceptive pill is made widely available



The contraceptive pill launched playing a major role in women's liberation and contributing to the sexual freedom of the "Swinging Sixties".

1968 - Britain's first heart transplant

South Africa-born surgeon Donald Ross carries out Britain's first heart transplant at the National Heart Hospital in Marylebone, London, on May 3 1968.



1972 - CT scans revolutionise the way doctors examine the body



The first CT scanner was dreamt up in England in 1967 by Godfrey Newbold Hounsfield, becoming a reality in 1972. His concept wins him a Nobel Prize alongside the American Allan McLeod Cormack, who developed the same idea across the Atlantic.

1978 - World's first baby is born as a result of in vitro fertilisation (IVF)

Louise Brown, the world's first test-tube baby, is born on July 25 1978.



1980s - Keyhole surgery

Keyhole surgery is used for the first time in an operation to remove a gallbladder.

1988 - Breast screening introduced

An ambitious project to reduce breast cancer deaths in women over the age of 50 is launched, with breast screening units around the country providing free mammograms.



1994 - NHS Organ Donor Register is set up

The NHS Organ Donor Register is launched in October 1994, following a 5-year campaign by John and Rosemary Cox from the

West Midlands. In 1989, their 24-year-old son Peter died of a brain tumour. He had asked for his organs to be used to help others.

2007 - Introduction of robotic arm leads to ground-breaking heart operations

A revolutionary robotic arm is used at St Mary's Hospital, London, to treat patients for fast or irregular heartbeats.



2012 - First person in the UK to have a hand transplant



On December 27 2012, a surgical team at Leeds General Infirmary carried out the UK's first hand transplant operation. It involved amputating Mark Cahill's hand and then transplanting a donor hand during the same operation.

2014 - World's first mitral heart valve replacement

Doctors complete a mitral heart valve replacement on a beating heart for the first time in the world. Before this breakthrough, the valve could only be replaced with open heart surgery.



2018 - Happy 70th Birthday! Time to celebrate our NHS

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What a day it was!

July 5th 2018 was certainly a special day to remember at the Trust, with staff, patients and celebrity guests joining together to celebrate the NHS' incredible achievements over the last 70 years!

Months of planning...

Celebrating the 70th birthday of the nation's most loved institution is no small job. In typical STHK style, we pulled out all the stops to celebrate this special occasion – after all, you're only 70 once!

No less than 4 cakes and over 180 afternoon teas were the order of the day, as well as bunting, balloons, and a whole host of choirs.

Our celebration plans were so special that they even attracted local TV and radio stations to contact the Trust and ask to host their shows live from our hospital!

And so it was, that as morning dawned on the 5th July 2018, Radio City 2 broadcast live from Whiston Hospital for their regional breakfast show.

Hosts Simon Ross and Claire Simmo were at the heart of the early morning festivities as they greeted staff on their way home from the night shift and welcomed day staff to the party! Simmo even tested

her own 'nursing' skills, and tried her hand at bandaging Rossie's leg, under the careful supervision of Emergency Department matrons Su Hobbs and Barry Atherton. Although she didn't do too bad a job, we'd recommend Simmo sticks to her day job!!

Over at St Helens Hospital, the 'History of the NHS Exhibition' helped everyone reminisce with displays of vintage uniforms and equipment from throughout the years.



The day wasn't just about remembering times gone by, it was also a chance to make new memories.

Staff across the Trust's four sites; St Helens, Whiston and Newton hospitals, and Alexandra Park, took their places to be part of special

commemorative photographs that will be used in years to come to look back at the 70th birthday celebrations – a

moment in time to be part of the Trust's history.



Whiston Hospital



St Helens Hospital



Alexandra Park



Newton Intermediate Care Unit

And what is a birthday without a cake?

Well we had four to share across our sites and although we couldn't possibly have enough cake to share with everyone, those lucky enough to grab a piece agreed it was delicious!





Local Mayors and Dignitaries were also eager to visit the Trust to thank staff for their hard work and dedication.

The Mayors of Prescot and Halton visited wards 2A and 5A at Whiston Hospital, with the Mayor of St Helens visiting Seddon Rehabilitation Unit.

The Mayor of St Helens visits Seddon Rehabilitation Unit

Our hospitals were alive with the sound of music, as we were lucky enough to have the support of local schools and retirement homes who brought their choirs to both Whiston and St Helens hospitals throughout the day.

A massive thanks to

- Oakdene Primary School
- Reeves Court Retirement Village
- Whiston Willis Community Primary School
- St. Mary And St. Paul's C of E Primary School
- St. Bartholomew's Catholic Primary School
- Allanson Street Primary School
- Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School
- Bleak Hill Primary School



Oakdene Primary School



Reeves Court Retirement Village



Whiston Willis Community Primary School



St. Mary And St. Paul's C of E Primary School



St. Bartholomew's Catholic Primary School



Allanson Street Primary School



Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School



Bleak Hill Primary School



It's magic!

Marvellous magician John Harding performed a brilliant show for our younger patients and visitors on board a special vintage bus at Whiston Hospital before heading over to entertain many of our patients on Duffy Suite at St Helens Hospital.



Celebration Lunch

Thanks to our fantastic catering team some of our staff and invited guests enjoyed a vintage 1948 inspired celebration lunch in the Spice of Life restaurant at both Whiston and St Helens hospitals.



The restaurants were decorated to resemble a traditional street party, 1940s music played and everyone dined on spam fritters, steak and kidney pudding, and traditional English trifle, washed down with that old favourite dandelion and burdock!





Afternoon 7tea

NHS organisations across the country celebrated the day with special charity fundraising afternoon teas but nobody did it better than STHK!

Almost 200 goody bags were delivered to wards and departments across the Trust as everyone took the chance to raise a cuppa and eat a cake (like we need an excuse!). Bunting, balloons and even vintage uniforms made an appearance as our staff celebrated in style.



Glorious gardens

If you are a regular reader of News and Views you will know how proud we are of our award winning gardens and just when we think the amazing David Platt and team can't possibly do anything more to surprise us – they absolutely do!

The gardens looked

spectacular! Beds and borders were planted with special NHS70 logos and the much loved mini cricket pitch even had a special birthday makeover with the characters proudly wearing NHS70 jumpers and bobble hats! A huge thank you to everyone involved.



And finally

The day might have started on Radio City but it finished on ITV News!



Granada Reports broadcast their nightly programme live from Ward 1C, with a special interview with Ann Marr, Chief Executive and patient Richard Aylett who says the care he received at our hospitals was second to none. Many thanks to everyone on the ward for accommodating presenter Tony Morris and the television crew.



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What a way to end our celebrations!

The day was a fitting tribute to the last 70 years of the NHS. The sense of pride of everyone at the Trust was clear, as team STHK once again joined together to show how proud we are to be the best in the NHS!

Celebrating in Rhyme and Verse

In celebration of the NHS' 70th birthday we joined up with the St Helens Star inviting patients staff and the public to enter our special NHS themed poetry competition.



We were bowled over to receive more than 150 entries in three age categories: under 10s, 11-17 and 18 plus.

The winners were chosen by a panel of judges including Ann Marr, Chief Executive, Kelsey Maxwell, St Helens Star, Ann Rimmer, Preceptorship Coordinator, Anne Molton, Therapy Manager and Sarah Jones, Specialist Midwife.

The judges read every poem and were impressed by the incredibly high standard of entries. After much discussion, the winners were eventually chosen, congratulations to:

Poppy Disbury – 10 and Under Winner

I love the NHS
Because it's completely free
I love the NHS
Because they care for me
I love the NHS
Because they're helping my sister Fearné
I love the NHS
Because they're helping her to learn
I love the NHS
With their 70 years of rules and regs
I love the NHS
Because they're helping Fearné's wobbly legs
I love the NHS
And all the work they do
I love the NHS
Long may it continue



Poppy and her sister Fearné who was recently diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy



Poppy receives her certificate from staff at St Helens Hospital

Joshua Dunn, Halewood Academy – 11-17 Winner

Oh beautiful, beautiful NHS,
You work so hard, do you even rest?
Many of my family wouldn't be here,
To spread love and lots of cheer.
You're always helping us out,
So we can trust you without a doubt.
Tons and tons of patients a year,
I wonder what it would be like without you here.
70 years of hard work and dedication,
So thank you from me and the whole nation.



Joshua Dunn entered the competition alongside classmates from Halewood Academy

Congratulations and a huge thank you to everyone who entered our NHS70 poetry competition.

Helen Williams – 18 and Over Winner

Helen receives her certificate at Whiston Hospital



Nye Bevan's Baby is 3 scores years and ten
Would we recognise it, if we saw it then?
From 1948, a whole lifetime has passed
Through governments and politics, it's loyalty steadfast.
Technology and expectations, accelerated with pace
But the same dedication, with a compassionate face
Giving hope where it can and saving lives every day
Top of the list for funding, if I had my say.
It's a baby that never sleeps, always an open door
24/7 care, could we ask for more?
It gets praise and criticism -given in equal measure
Yes the NHS, that's our National Treasure.

What is this institution, that we all love so dear?
It's the people who work within it, to me that's very clear;
It has Leaders, managers, analysts and planners
Porters, cleaners, psychologists and scanners
Administrators, specialists, midwives, nurses galore
Consultants, doctors and accountants and yes many more,
Its therapists, matrons, and those who can scope
If I've missed your profession, you'll forgive me - I hope.

It's not just the hospitals, I am talking about today,
But services in the community and the crucial part they play.
The GP's at the front door, the clinics and the 'walk -in'
Paramedics and district nurses, that's what I'm a'talkin...

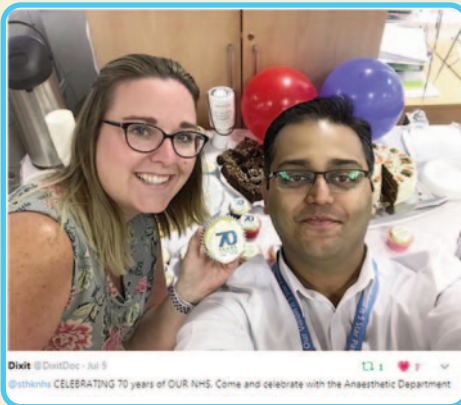
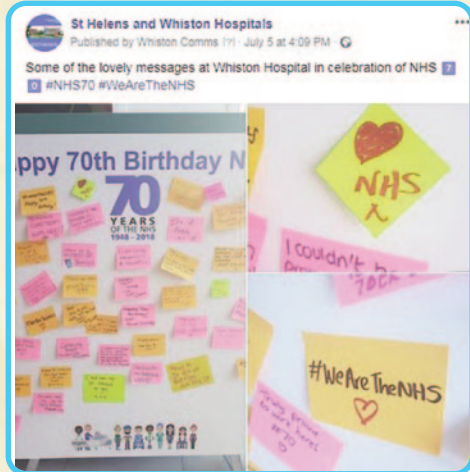
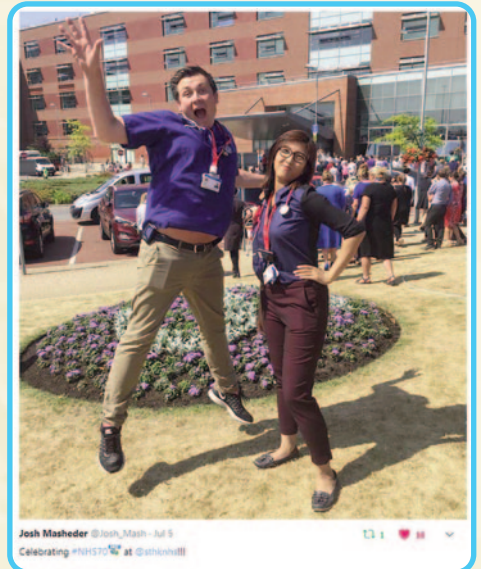
Despite its successes, the media love a 'pop',
Missed targets, DTOCS, I guess they'll never stop.
Yes- it has its challenges, A&E and lack of cash
Those 4 hour targets, which hopefully we'll smash
But it carries on regardless, missed lunches and sore feet
Reports, documentation and more patients' needs to meet.

But to enable it to go on, so we must play our part...
Take care of your own body, your liver and your heart!
Eat less sugar and fat, those extra pounds to lose,
Exercise, quit the fags and yea -keep off the booze!
For we are all living longer, it's fabulous, I know
But we are getting multiple conditions, and to A&E we show.

But today we celebrate, a moment we must take
Blow out the candles and have a slice of cake
For the NHS is 70, a lifetime of demand
The world is green with envy, of what we have in this land.
Always there for us, when we need you most,
To all who work within it, to you a champagne toast.

Sharing the celebrations and memories

And the fun didn't stop there... here are some of our highlights from the big day on social media!



Happy Birthday to our wonderful NHS
– here's to 70 more glorious years!

70 YEARS OF THE NHS 1948 - 2018