



Members' News

September 2012

Welcome to our monthly email newsletter for Foundation Trust members.

Members' News aims to keep you up-to-date with all the latest developments at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital and ensure you are the first to find out how you can get involved in the life of your local hospital as a Foundation Trust member.

A personal message to Foundation Trust members from our new Chief Executive

Tony Bell OBE took up his post as the new Chief Executive of Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust on Monday 3 September.

Tony has worked in the NHS for 30 years, having trained and worked as a nurse before moving into management.

In his first Chief Executive's Blog, which is published on the Trust website this week, Tony explains his personal philosophy:

"I am very fortunate to be building on the strong foundations provided by the hard work of all staff under the leadership of Heather Lawrence who spent 12 successful years at Chelsea and Westminster as Chief Executive.

"I am looking forward to meeting staff, Governors and patients over the next few weeks as I find my feet. My induction programme includes as much time as possible spent in the hospital and at our off-site clinics so I can meet and talk to staff and patients on wards and in departments.

"Experience has taught me that the insight of frontline staff and patients is the touchstone for how we can improve what we do. My inclination is always to get alongside staff to understand what they do, what makes them proud and feel good about their job, and what frustrates them in their work.

"I want to know how we can realise our ambitions together and what I and the Trust Board can do, working with staff, to effect meaningful change to improve our services."

Tony also talks about the important role that Foundation Trust members can play in shaping the future of Chelsea and Westminster Hospital:

"My first impressions as an 'outsider' applying for the job of Chief Executive were that Chelsea and Westminster is a hospital that means a lot to not only the staff who work here but also our patients and our local community."

"More than 10,000 patient and public Foundation Trust members have taken the time and effort to 'join' us so they can become more involved in the life of the hospital."

"And literally hundreds of people give up their time to give something back to the hospital, whether as volunteers, as member of the Friends, or through their involvement with the various charities associated with Chelsea and Westminster."

"Our strength as a hospital comes from the support of all these people and I am very keen that we continue to develop ever stronger links with our key stakeholders so that we are firmly rooted at the heart of our community."

You can read Tony Bell's Blog in full at www.chelwest.nhs.uk/a-bout-us/news/chief-executives-blog.

Annual Members' Meeting - Thursday 13 September

All Foundation Trust members are invited to attend our Annual Members' Meeting at **5:30pm** on **Thursday 13 September** in the **Restaurant** on the **Lower Ground Floor** of **Chelsea and Westminster Hospital**.

It will include reports from the Directors and presentations by doctors and nurses about initiatives to improve the quality of patient care.

Refreshments will be served after the meeting. We look forward to seeing you there.

'Safe in our hands' – Help us to keep A&E at Chelsea and Westminster

A major public consultation on changes to A&E departments and other NHS services in North West London - *Shaping a healthier future* - runs until Monday 8 October.

Please support Option A in the consultation for Chelsea and Westminster to be designated as a 'major hospital' with a full A&E service.

There are 3 main ways that you can support the hospital's 'Safe in our hands' campaign to keep A&E at Chelsea and Westminster and encourage friends, visitors, friends and family to do the same:

- **Complete the 'official' public consultation response form** - hard copies are available in the hospital and there is a link to the online response form and suggested answers to complete it in support of Chelsea and Westminster in the ['Safe in our hands' section of our website](#)
- **Fill in a 'Safe in our hands' postcard** - available in the hospital or you can [complete an online postcard](#)
- **Sign the Governors petition** - set up by elected representatives of staff, patients and members

of the public, you can [sign the petition online](#)

You can also support the hospital by attending a major public meeting organised by the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea to debate *Shaping a healthier future* on **Tuesday 11 September** at **6.30pm** in **Small Hall, Kensington Town Hall, Hornton Street, W8 7NX**.

Thank you for your support.

'Meet a Governor' sessions

September

Members have the opportunity to meet their elected representatives on the Council of Governors at regular 'Meet a Governor' sessions in the Information Zone on the Ground Floor of the hospital (near Costa Coffee).

Why not come along for an informal chat or give your views on the hospital to them?

'Meet a Governor' sessions in September are as follows:

- **Monday 10 September**, 3-4pm - Kathryn Mangold (Staff Governor)
- **Friday 14 September**, 1-3pm - Anna Hodson-Pressinger (Patient Governor)
- **Friday 14 September**, 1-3pm - Melvyn Jeremiah (Public Governor)
- **Tuesday 25 September**, 3.30-4.30pm – Wendie McWatters (Patient Governor)