



CUH Arts Festival... Simon, Ward Volunteer

The last week of June was transformed into a wonderful festival of live arts performed at and for CUH. Created and led by the CUH Arts team, it included live music, dance and relaxation, tours of CUH art collections, creative writing, painting and sketching.

The Green & The Gardens (beside Royal Papworth Hospital) was transformed into a multi-use arts venue, featuring 'In Memoriam' – an inspiring installation by British artist Luke Jerram of blue and white flags, made from 80 NHS bed sheets. Forming a blue cross from when viewed above, the artwork is dedicated to NHS staff who have gone above and beyond. The flags catch the wind to provide an ever-changing background, and became the backdrop to drop-in festival events.



In Memoriam

It was a great opportunity for everyone to take a break and enjoy the freedom and fun of live arts performances.

Predictably, the audiences for some of the early events were smaller, as people tried out the festival, building up to a big crowd on the final Friday for the outside performance of The King's Men. They sang with style and humour – everything from 'A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square' to an increasingly intoxicated version of 'What should we do with the drunken sailor?'.

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CUH Arts Festival continued

The week started with a creative writing workshop led by poet Hannah Jane Walker, where campus workers reflected on their own pandemic experiences. Tuesday featured a marvellous dance and relaxation session with dance artist Filipa Pereira-Stubbs, who led an inspiring and joyful exploration of movement and relaxation, dancing with staff including members of the CUH diabetes clinic.

Wednesday saw a virtuoso percussion performance by two musicians from the Britten Sinfonia orchestra – Dave Eyre on double bass and Owen Gunnell on the vibraphone, winner of the 2000 Young Musician of the year percussion final. They were undeterred by squalls of rain and played a wonderful mixture of fluent jazz and calypso, and also enjoyed playing to patients on wards including J2, C2 and D2.



Percussion session

The week included two tours of the CUH art collection with Arts Programme Manager Rosie O'Donovan, a paint & Polaroids workshop with artist Josh Bilton exploring the question "what do I need to feel well?", and online workshops for home-based staff, facilitated by The Fitzwilliam Museum and Sketch Appeal.



The King's Men



Natalie closing the festival

The sun came out for The King's Men's final event on The Green and everyone could enjoy the freedom and excitement of open-air music, the first such performance since the advent of Covid.

Head of Arts Natalie Ellis thanked all the performers and all those who'd made the event happen and the audience, which included Dame Mary Archer. Corporate Affairs Director Ian Walker announced that the CUH Arts Festival will now become an annual event! Keep an eye out for more opportunities to get involved in arts & creativity at Addenbrooke's.

Its been a big year for Olivia..... and there's more to come

"After 3 and a half years I will be leaving the Voluntary Services Team on 12th August and starting a new role at Cambridge IVF.

I joined the team in December 2018 as the receptionist/administrator, and was immediately welcomed by the team and all of the amazing "red army" of volunteers. Over the last few years I have loved chatting with you all and getting to know you either over a cup of tea in the office, or more recently over the phone. I have definitely had a lot of life changes during my time with the team which I have enjoyed sharing with you- most notably my wedding!

It has been lovely to start seeing you all again as you have been returning and normality has started to resume and will miss catching up with you (and having a cuddle with our PAT team!), as my new role is not on site I will miss seeing the red (and yellow/blue) shirts around the hospital."

Thank you Olivia for all your hard work and dedication to Voluntary Services and our amazing volunteers. You will be greatly missed and we wish you all the very best in your fabulous new role.



Introducing Joe

We have sadly said goodbye to Isabella who is off to pastures new, but we are delighted to welcome Joe who is helping us out at the moment. "Really good to have a chance to introduce myself to everyone; I've just started an interim post in the Voluntary Services team as the Young Persons' Programme (YPP) Coordinator, and will likely be with you until September or October.

I've been working for the NHS in a number of different administrative roles since leaving university five (or six... or seven...?) years ago, mainly in CUH with my longest stint being in PALS and Complaints; so you might have seen me around before. This is my first time working with our amazing team of volunteers, and it's been a real treat so far. In few other offices do you get such a variety of interesting people calling in for a drink and a chat; and in absolutely no other offices (at least in my experience) do you regularly get to make friends with a number of friendly dogs...

While I'm here, I'm hoping to ensure that the YPP runs smoothly and help out the team in whatever way I can. I have already met some of you but please do say hi if I'm there when you pop in!"



Joe

My family history... Karen, Activity Pack Volunteer

My family history has been a bit of an obsession with me for at least 50 years. It's something I dip into for a few hours or a few days and there is always something new to discover.

It all really started because I was intrigued as a child by the picture of a soldier hanging on my grandmother's sitting room wall. As I grew I learnt that he was my grandfather, Richard Smith, and had died in WWI. I also learnt that he did not have a grave.

Fast forward to 1970 and I was going to France on holiday with my husband so decided to visit the Thiepval Memorial which is where I thought his name appeared. In 1970 we didn't know all that we know today about WWI. I wrote to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission asking for directions and a letter came back with shocking news. My grandfather had a grave which my grandmother had never known about and I could now visit it.



Karen's grandfather

When we got to the cemetery, which has about 600 graves and is attached to the local cemetery in a village called Ribemont, near Albert, the French gardener was there and he rushed home to get a vase for the flowers I had brought. In those days the cemeteries had few visitors and as Grandad was amongst many Australians, visitors were very rare. It was an incredibly emotional day for me as I was greatly saddened by the fact that my grandmother never knew he was there. We have been back many times, once taking my mother and aunt so that they could lay a proper wreath at their father's grave.



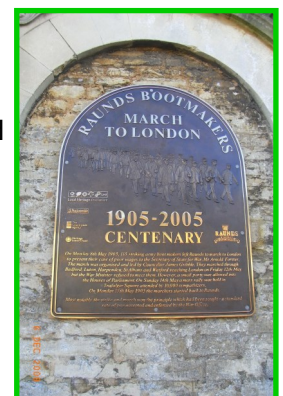
Cemetery and gravestone

After that, of course, I wanted to find out more about my grandfather and over the years I have, with the help of several WWI researchers, been able to piece together some of his life story and how a man of 41 years, father of 6 children, came to be a casualty in the Great War. I have discovered that he came from a family of shoemakers in a large village called Raunds in Northamptonshire. That a Raunds ancestor was recruited by the Mormons in 1850 and as a young man made the dangerous journey to Salt Lake City to become one of Brigham Young's right hand men. To rise in the Mormon community and to be sent out to start another city in Utah where he married and raised 18 children and became the head of a huge dynasty of descendants. Other Smiths followed but went to Buffalo City where they plied their trade as shoemakers.

Back in England in 1905 Richard was one of 100 men chosen to march from Raunds to London to petition Parliament for a basic wage for shoemakers who, until then, had been paid according to the orders the factories had. It was a huge event with 10,000 people waiting for them in Trafalgar Square.

Later I found that Richard, was one of 7 of 11 brothers serving in WWI with his youngest brother killed 6 weeks after Richard. Several of these brothers also went to Buffalo after the war.

This is just a tiny part of my family history, there is so much more I have learnt. My other grandfather also has a fantastic WWI story as he was there from the beginning and was taken prisoner on Christmas Day 1914.



Commemorative plaque

A few quick updates....

**A GREAT
PLACE TO
VOLUNTEER**

Voluntary Services
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E-mail: volunteer@addenbrookes.nhs.uk
www.volunteering.cuh.org.uk

CUH Volunteers

We're on the web!
www.volunteering.cuh.org.uk

Volunteer Long Service Awards

We are so looking forward to Tuesday 27 September when we are very much hoping to welcome you to the CUH Volunteer Long Service Awards being held in the Hexagon, Frank Lee Centre. It will of course be the first one since the start of the pandemic and we are so looking forward to seeing as many people as we can but naturally we will need to be careful with numbers.



If you are due an award we will have contacted in the spring and again this week. If you've not heard from us and think you may be due an award, please do get in touch as soon as possible to let us know.

Volunteering opportunities

If you really enjoy getting out and about around the hospitals, we have just the role for you! Working closely with the PALS team, by helping maintain stocks of Carers Information booklets as well as other PALS information on wards and in clinics, you will really help ensure relevant and up to date information is available to all those who may need it. This is a great role to meet lots of people and build relationships with staff working in clinical areas as well as our PALS team of course.

If you might be interested in this role, please do let us know by contacting volunteer@addenbrookes.nhs.uk



Say 'hello' to our brand new YPP volunteers

We are delighted to be welcoming a brand new cohort of volunteers on our summer Young Person's Programme Programme, starting Monday 1st August. As usual they will be spending time on our wards, chatting to patients and helping with the meal service, but for the first time ever we they be covering the 10.30-12.30 ward shift.

Many thanks to our volunteers who have been able to step forward to mentor, it is much appreciated.

We'd love to hear from you.....

We'd love to hear more of your news, adventures or projects so why not put pen to paper or fingers to keyboard?

You might be more of a photo journo so send us some fabulous shots for us. Just email volunteer@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

