

Thursday 12 October 2023

Upgrade to maternity bereavement suit at DGH Specially designed work by a local artist, Stephanie Russell Snyder, has been included in the upgraded bereavement suite at DGH. The project has been funded by NHS Grampian Charity, as well as the charities Sands and MISS.

Investing in the suite is part of our commitment to the National Bereavement Care Pathways. With a longstanding commitment to person-centered and trauma informed approaches to supporting pregnancy loss, we are part of a Scotland-wide pilot project to improve the care and experiences of women and families.

Marcia Dean, who is based in Elgin, is one of two bereavement specialist midwives who work alongside staff providing clinical care to bereaved families across the Grampian area. She said: “We are very lucky to have the support of people like Stephanie, who volunteered to provide a specially designed art piece for our walls, as well as local representatives from the Sands and MISS charities. The upgrade vastly improves our bereavement room for families, making it a more friendly and comfortable place to spend time as a family with their baby.”

The design of the facility also takes in some of the carefully thought-out ideas which will feature at The Baird Family Hospital. Its design has been informed by a huge amount of community engagement work, carefully planning the layout and features.

International Infection Prevention Week This global campaign kicks off on Sunday. The theme this year is ‘Celebrating the Fundamentals of Infection Prevention’, highlighting the role all of us play (clinical and non-clinical) in reducing the risk of infection. Our local IPC team will have items in the brief throughout next week, going into more detail, but for now they are challenging you to suggest tunes for the day with an infection prevention theme. Get in touch with your requests via the usual address.

Staff Equalities Network – British Sign Language Do you want to find out more about British Sign Language (BSL)? Would you like to learn some simple words and greetings you can use in your in your daily life? Then the next meeting of the Staff Equalities Network, on Wednesday 18 October, between 2-3pm is for you!

It is estimated over 150,000 people use BSL as their primary or preferred language in the UK. This number includes both Deaf and hearing people, who may have learned to sign as part of their work or to communicate better with the Deaf people in their lives. The BSL (Scotland) Act 2015 makes requirements for public bodies such as ourselves to develop a BSL Plan and this work is coordinated by our interim Equality and Diversity Manager Roda Bird. During this session Roda will help you to better understand BSL and equip you with some everyday words you can practice and use to improve communication with Deaf / BSL colleagues, patients, and their families.

If you would like to join this session, please email gram.staffequalities@nhs.scot for the Teams link, all welcome!

Using Place as a Lens to Improve Health - 2023 On Thursday 9 November the North-East Population Health Alliance will host an event entitled **Using Place as a Lens to Improve Health - 2023** at Haddo House in Aberdeenshire. Following a symposium in Aberdeen last year an enthusiastic Place & Wellbeing Network evolved, and this is an opportunity for members and anyone who's interested to get together to continue learning and to network across the region. We're pleased to be welcoming Professor Rich Mitchell from Glasgow University and representatives from several key organisations to inspire us to take forward 'Place' to the next level. Further information and a link to registration can be found here: [Using Place as a lens to improve Health 2023 \(nhsgrampian.org\)](https://nhsgrampian.org/using-place-as-a-lens-to-improve-health-2023)

Managed Clinical Networks conferences – respiratory and palliative & end of life care Two important conferences are coming up locally:

- The Grampian respiratory MCN winter event will take place on Teams on Wednesday 15 November, 9.30am-12noon. Topics covered will include winter support for respiratory patients, prescribing updates, inhaler technique, and exacerbation bundles. You can register for the event [using this link](#) or contact gram.mcn@nhs.scot for more information.
- The palliative & end of life care network will host their annual event at the Beach Ballroom on Thursday 23 November. This is an all-day event, with both plenary sessions and smaller workshops. The event costs £35 per person, [registration is via this Eventbrite link](#), where you can also see the full programme. Again, for any queries please contact gram.mcn@nhs.scot

Jane Davies award for person centredness We want to say thank you to everyone who submitted suggestions for our nomination for the inaugural Jane Davies award for person centredness. After very careful consideration, we are delighted to say the Neurological Rehabilitation Unit (NRU) team at Woodend will go forward as our nomination. We wish them the very best of luck; we expect the winner to be announced towards the end of this year, or in early 2024.

Is there a referee in the house? An unusual request today; Team Aberdeen take on Team DGH in a 'friendly' football match this Saturday and find themselves without a referee. Any potential volunteers would be required between 12.30-3pm at Get Active @ Cults (Cults Academy). If you can assist, get in touch directly with Daniel Cowper via daniel.cowper@nhs.scot

Tune of the day It's time to say another goodbye, this time to June Fair (speech & language therapist at RACH). Your colleagues sent this message: "June, you're still standing and now it's time to enjoy your retirement! We will miss you greatly and wish you all the best with your new venture!" As for their request, did you spot the clue? [I'm Still Standing](#) by Elton John is our tune of the day (EP)

If you want to request a tune, follow up on items included in this brief, or suggest an item for sharing, drop us an email via gram.communications@nhs.scot