

# ROH LIFE



5th July 1948

The news circular for The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital in Northfield, Birmingham

## Historic Moment: Birth of the 'NHS' Marks a New Era in Healthcare

In a landmark development that will forever reshape the healthcare landscape of our nation, the National Health Service (NHS) officially comes into existence today, July 5, 1948. This historic event marks a new era of accessible and comprehensive healthcare for all citizens of Birmingham and beyond.

Minister of Health, Aneurin Bevan (pictured right) who spearheaded the creation of the NHS said *"No society can legitimately call itself civilized if a sick person is denied medical aid because of lack of means."*

### A Triumph for Birmingham and the Nation

After years of meticulous planning and dedicated efforts, the founding of the NHS is a testament to the tireless work of medical professionals, policymakers, and the unwavering commitment of our community. As the nation rebuilds after the ravages of war, Birmingham takes its rightful place at the forefront of this transformative movement.

### Healthcare for All: A Revolutionary Concept

The NHS brings with it a revolutionary concept – healthcare services, from cradle to grave, provided to all regardless of social standing or financial means. It marks the end of an era when access to healthcare was limited, and only those who could afford it could benefit from medical attention. From this day forward, every citizen will have the right to receive medical care, ensuring that no one is left behind in times of need.

### A Network of Care: Hospitals, Doctors, and More

Under the umbrella of the NHS, Birmingham's healthcare system undergoes a significant overhaul. Hospitals, such as the esteemed Royal Orthopaedic Hospital and Birmingham General Hospital, will work collaboratively to provide top-notch medical care. Skilled doctors, nurses, and healthcare professionals will dedicate their expertise to the wellbeing of all patients, regardless of their financial circumstances.

### From Cradle to Grave: Comprehensive Services

The NHS promises a comprehensive range of services encompassing preventive care, treatment, and rehabilitation. Routine check-ups, vaccinations, maternity care, emergency treatment, surgical procedures, and even dentistry will be available to all. No longer will families have to worry about the financial burden of medical bills or delay seeking necessary care due to financial constraints.



### The Financial Aspect: Contributions and Benefits

To ensure the sustainability of this remarkable healthcare system, citizens will contribute to the NHS through a small weekly contribution called the National Insurance stamp. This financial contribution will grant them access to an array of medical services when required, offering peace of mind and a safety net for all.

### Celebrating Birmingham's Role in the NHS

Birmingham, with its rich heritage in healthcare and medical research, stands as a shining example of the progressive nature of our city. The Birmingham Medical School and renowned medical institutions like the Birmingham General Hospital have played a pivotal role in shaping the vision of the NHS. Our local medical professionals have been at the forefront of this groundbreaking endeavor, contributing their expertise and passion to the establishment of this historic institution.

### A New Chapter Begins

As the NHS commences its journey, the people of Birmingham look ahead with hope and anticipation. The founding of this national institution embodies the spirit of unity, compassion, and equality, offering a brighter future for the health and wellbeing of our citizens. Added to the historical significance of this time is the recent arrival of people from the Caribbean on the HMT Empire Windrush, invited here to help rebuild our nation and work in the NHS. Their contributions are playing an integral role in laying the foundation for a brighter future in the realm of healthcare for this country.

Today, Birmingham witnesses the dawn of a new era, where healthcare is no longer a privilege confined to a select few, but an inalienable right for all. Let us collectively celebrate this momentous occasion, and with the spirit of the Windrush invitees and those that will follow them, embrace the remarkable possibilities that lie ahead.

## Orthopaedic Surgery in 1940s UK: Pioneering Techniques and Transformative Impact

### A decade of progress

The field of orthopaedic surgery has witnessed significant advancements in the 1940s. With the aftermath of World War II and a surge in orthopaedic injuries, medical professionals and researchers have pioneered new techniques and develop innovative approaches to treat musculoskeletal conditions. These new orthopaedic surgical techniques include:

- **External Fixation:** The 1940s has seen extensive use of external fixation devices to stabilise fractures and promote healing. These devices use of external pins or wires attached to a frame outside the body, allows precise control over the alignment and movement of bones during the healing process.
- **Callus Distraction:** Surgeons have started to utilise the principle of callus distraction, a technique where controlled mechanical forces are applied to bone ends, stimulating the formation of new bone tissue.
- **Closed Intramedullary Nailing:** Closed intramedullary nailing has emerged as a significant technique for treating fractures of long bones. This procedure involves inserting a metal rod into the bone marrow cavity to provide stability and facilitate healing.

### The role of the ROH

The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital is playing a crucial role in advancing orthopaedic surgery. Developments in the field have proved invaluable during World War II. Techniques and approaches developed during peacetime have been rapidly adapted to treat soldiers' injuries.

Our hospital is already a hub for pioneering research, surgical innovation, and specialised training. Surgeons at ROH are at the forefront of developing and refining orthopaedic techniques, contributing significantly to the field's evolution.

### A brand new knee or hip? Science says yes - very soon!

The early stages of joint replacement surgery have emerged this decade. Researchers and surgeons are exploring the concept of replacing damaged joints with prosthetic components made of materials such as stainless steel and polyethylene.

Who knows? In the very near future you may be able to replace a worn out knee or hip with a brand new one! What a fantastic and life-changing advancement that would be!



## Don't Let Your Taste Buds Desert You!

**Attention, food lovers!**  
**Introducing our latest culinary masterpiece, the Sizzling Spam Surprise!**

Enjoy the thrill of this mysteriously delicious meat-like substance that's sweeping the nation. Baffle your taste buds with its enigmatic flavour profile and unforgettable texture. Our promise: no ration coupons required! Indulge in the culinary adventure of a lifetime, as you ponder the origin of the Spam you so dearly love. It's like a mini-vacation for your taste buds! Available at your nearest grocers. Get yours today and unleash the fine flavour of Spam on your family.

## Northfield Lonely Hearts



### Lonely Hearts: Sweet tooth seeks sweet heart

Man, 43, seeking woman any age to enjoy the sweeter things in life. Cadbury worker with a sweet tooth, enjoys pottering about the allotment and pipe smoking. Looking for a sweet heart to match my sweet tooth. Must be green-fingered and tender-hearted.



### Lonely Hearts: Someone to dance with

Woman, 36, seeking man 30 - 55 to dance and enjoy life. War widow seeks gentleman for dancing and romancing. Life is short, so why not spend it together? Must be able to foxtrot and rumba and enjoy laughing and spending quality time together.



# A Day in the Life of a Nurse at The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital in 1948.

Reflections of Sister Allen, Dedicated to Patient Care



The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital stands as a beacon of hope and healing, embodying the spirit of the newly formed National Health Service (NHS). As an orthopaedic nurse, it is my privilege to serve here, where the art of mending bones and restoring lives intertwines with the noble mission of providing quality healthcare for all.

As the morning sun casts its gentle glow upon our wards, I embark on another day of compassionate service to those entrusted to our care. Clad in my starched uniform and crisp white apron, I approach the wards with a sense of purpose and dedication.

The wards bustle with activity, as patients recuperate from surgeries, fractures, and musculoskeletal ailments. The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital is renowned for its expertise in orthopaedics, attracting patients from all corners of the country. Our duty is to provide them with the utmost care and support, easing their pain and guiding them on the path to recovery.

In our morning rounds, I work with my fellow nurses, meticulously inspecting each patient's progress. We ensure that the bandages are snugly in place, splints are adjusted to perfection, and pain relief is administered promptly. Comfort and compassion are our guiding principles as we tend to each patient's individual needs, lending a listening ear to their fears and concerns.

...and woe betide us if the Surgeon finds anything out of place on our ward - or worse, the matron! While they can be stern, they are so because they truly care about our patients and providing the very best care.

Our ward is a testament to humanity's resilience and the miracles of modern medicine. Here, we witness the triumph of human spirit as patients take their first steps post-surgery, their determination evident in each labored stride. We assist them with



physiotherapy exercises, gently guiding their movements and encouraging them to persevere through the temporary discomfort, for we know that the journey to recovery is often paved with small victories.

Throughout the day, we maintain meticulous records of each patient's progress, noting the smallest changes with precision.

But it is not just the physical aspect of nursing that occupies our thoughts. We understand that emotional well-being is essential for healing. Therefore, we offer solace and companionship to patients during their stay, often engaging them in conversations about their hobbies and lives. In the evenings, we organise small gatherings, where patients share stories of triumph, finding camaraderie in their shared experiences.

As the day draws to a close, a sense of fulfilment washes over me. The work we do at The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital is more than a job; it is a vocation, a calling to alleviate suffering and restore lives. Each smile, each step taken by a patient, reminds us of the profound impact we have on their journey to recovery.

As I bid farewell to The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital today, I carry with me a profound sense of gratitude for the privilege of serving as an orthopaedic nurse. May our commitment to patient care continue to shine as a beacon of hope, ensuring that the spirit of the NHS endures for generations to come.

Sister Allen, Nurse  
The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital

# The future of orthopaedic care: As medicine rapidly transforms, our resident surgeon Mr Wheattem Levler, speculates about what's next in the world of orthopaedic medicine



As the world hurtles forward into a future of wonders and technological marvels, the field of orthopaedics finds itself on the threshold of exciting advancements. In this article, we shall explore what lies ahead for orthopaedic care, presenting both plausible predictions and delightfully absurd speculations that will tickle the imagination.

- 1. Revolutionary Diagnostic Tools:** Orthopaedics is poised to benefit greatly from advanced diagnostic tools. X-rays, already a marvel, will be refined further to offer unparalleled precision in identifying fractures, dislocations, and degenerative diseases.
- 2. Pioneering Prosthetic Limbs:** The development of prosthetic limbs remains a captivating realm of orthopaedic care. Present-day artificial limbs astound us with their functionality and realism. However, let your imagination run wild as we envision a future where prosthetics are seamlessly integrated with the human body itself. Just imagine!
- 3. Bone Regeneration:** Brace yourself for the arrival of tiny nanoparticles that will be injected into damaged bones, stimulating rapid healing and regeneration. We dare to dream of a day when broken bones will be repaired by an army of microscopic construction workers, merrily rebuilding the skeletal framework with unmatched efficiency.
- 4. The Rise of Telephone medicine:** In the years to come, orthopaedic care will break the barriers of distance and accessibility. No longer will patients in remote areas be deprived of specialised treatment. The advent of 'telemedicine' will allow orthopaedic experts to offer consultations and guidance remotely with telephones and other innovative

- communication technologies. Soon, doctors may even find themselves making house calls through teleportation, ensuring that patient care transcends geographical limitations and defies the laws of physics.
- 5. Joint replacements in a single day:** We already know that soon it will be possible to replace a knee or hip joint in the same way one might change the wheel of a car or the shoe of a horse. But imagine a hospital so advanced that one could enter on a Tuesday and leave the very next day - walking of ones own volition!
  - 6. Hilariously Unlikely Speculation:** Now, let us embark on a delightful flight of fancy and explore the realm of hilariously unlikely predictions. Picture a future where patients with fractures or joint problems are prescribed a therapeutic regimen of exuberant laughter, which, in a bizarre twist, miraculously mends their bones. Orthopaedic clinics become laughter clubs, where patients gather to watch slapstick comedies and engage in jovial exercises, transforming their skeletal woes into comedic gold. While this vision may stretch the bounds of reality, it is a reminder that humor has the power to heal in mysterious ways - it's always important to be "humerus"

In all seriousness, orthopaedic care stands at the brink of extraordinary transformations. While some predictions may dance on the edge of absurdity, they ignite the spark of imagination. Let us embrace this era of change for the future holds unimaginable possibilities for orthopaedics and, indeed, all branches of medicine.

Mr Wheattem Levler  
Orthopaedic Surgeon  
The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital



## Cheap and cheerful

In order to raise valuable funds for The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital, join us for a drink and a dance at 'cheap and cheerful' in Rathbone Hall on 8 July 1948 from 6pm. All welcome.

Pints ~ 8p, Gin ~ 15 shillings the bottle. All for a good cause.



**Blue Heart Awards  
Finalists 2023  
(page 10)**

**Research at ROH  
(page 6)**



**New vision and  
strategy for ROH  
(page 8)**

## New Physio facilities open at ROH at College Green



(Above: Colleagues from the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital and partners from Assura, Interclass and Stride Treglown joined GB athlete Hannah England, who officially opened the new outpatient physiotherapy department; ROH at College Green. Image credit: Andy Marshall)

**The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital (ROH) officially opened the new outpatients physiotherapy and podiatry department at College Green, with a ribbon cutting event attended by GB athlete Hannah England.**

The Trust has invested over £3.5m in relocating outpatient physiotherapy and podiatry services from the main hospital site on the Bristol Road, to College Green at Bournville, where patients and staff will have easier access to new, upgraded equipment and facilities.

Following on from the official opening of clinic space in Griffins Brook Lane, the Trust continues to expand its service offering in the community.

Hydrotherapy and oncology patients will still be treated at the main Royal Orthopaedic Hospital site and patients will be advised in their clinic letters, where their appointment will be held.

Nikki Mason, Head of Therapy Services at the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital, commented: "It's so exciting to see our new department open and ready for

patients! The move provides opportunities for the ROH to engage with the wider local community to promote good musculoskeletal health.

Many teams have worked together to create this new centre of excellence in the community for our patients. There's a dedicated paediatric area for our younger patients and the new space will be a fantastic environment for our colleagues to work in."

GB athlete, Hannah England, officially opened the new location and said: "As an

athlete, physiotherapy has been essential throughout my career. I am also aware of the massive difference it makes in restoring function and transforming lives. This is a fantastic assessment and rehabilitation facility with some amazing new equipment which will really benefit the patients who use it."

Ashley Seymour, Development Director – South at Assura, said: "We are delighted to have played a role in moving services from a cramped hospital site into a state-of-the-art primary care setting. The new space will provide a fantastic environment for both patients and staff, and being neighbours to the GP practice will enable opportunities for collaboration too."

Des O'Neill, managing director at Interclass Plc, said: "Interclass is delighted to be handing over this new state-of-the-art healthcare facility at College Green. We have really enjoyed collaborating with the project team to deliver this project and are thrilled to have played our part in providing a high-quality environment for both staff and patients. We are sure it will be a great asset for the local community for years to come."

Ash Anderson, Technical Associate Project Manager at Ridge and Partners LLP, said: "Ridge are delighted to have provided Quantity Surveying, Health & Safety (Principal Designer), Mechanical & Electrical, Structural and provided Employers Agent services to ROH at College Green. The space will provide a new standard of environment and care for the rehabilitation of patients."

30% of all primary care appointments are related to musculoskeletal conditions. Investing at the new location in the community at College Green means that patients can be treated in a specialist area away from the main hospital site, with parking and public transportation nearby.

**See more photos of the amazing new facilities on page 5.**

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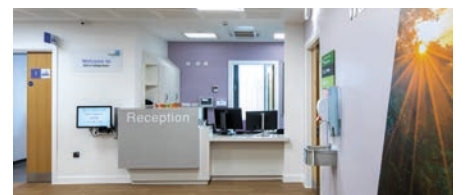
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## Got a story? Contact us!

**Welcome to this edition of ROH Life.**

We want to feature the fantastic work and interesting stories from people across the Trust.

Whether you're a patient with a story to tell, or a member of staff who wants to share some great work, you can get in touch using the details below. We would love to hear from you and hopefully feature you in an upcoming issue.

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## A message from Jo Williams



**Welcome to our special edition of ROH Life! We're delighted to be celebrating the 75th birthday of our wonderful NHS this year.**

75 years ago, the then Health Secretary, Aneurin Bevan, announced to parliament the official launch date for the new NHS: 5th July 1948. Years on, it's difficult to imagine treatments not being free at the point of care.

He also made a speech to the RCN where he said: "The nurse is a vital element in the health organisation, her knowledge, understanding and dedication are fundamental." Back in 1940, all nurses were women. The NHS is a much more diverse workforce in 2023 and we are thankful that we have a wonderful team of staff networks to provide support to colleagues.

The culture at the ROH is very special, and this was particularly evident in our latest assessment day for Elective Hub Accreditation. On the day, we were praised for our authenticity and contributions our hospital makes to the wider NHS service. You can read more about the accreditation

on page 9.

This year has been another busy one and we have treated more orthopaedic patients than any other hospital in the country. As we continue to recover from the effects of the pandemic, the ROH has supported colleagues in hospitals in Birmingham and Solihull with mutual aid projects, taking on patients from other trusts so they can be seen quicker.

In the ROH annual report from 1947 it makes reference to the soon to be created NHS: "Certain advantages, particularly with regard to finance, for which the government will assume complete responsibility, are obvious, but it will be a matter of gravest regret if the spirit of mutual helpfulness and human sympathy is lost."

In 2023 we can draw parallels with the past as the report goes on to mention delays in treatment (due to the war years), and the prospect of increasing demand from the population. "...the best that can be said is that in this, as in many other voluntary hospitals, every effort is being made to maintain and increase efficiency, and we shall all, in so far as we are permitted, do what we can to contribute to the development of the complete and

effective service, which is the object of the National Health Act to provide."

Over the last 75 years so much has changed, but we have stayed true to our ethos and values of compassionate care and innovation.

This anniversary marks a point where we can honour our history, celebrate our accomplishments, and look with hope to the future. Innovation is something that's in our roots at the ROH, and we are lucky to be taking this forward in collaboration with partners like Aston University and through work in our on-site research laboratory, the Dubrowsky Regenerative Laboratory.

I am exceptionally proud of my colleagues at the ROH, who work tirelessly every day for patients and to make our hospital the best it can be. Our staff achieve incredible things every day and provide compassionate care to patients despite facing challenges. Take a look at our Blue Heart Award finalists on page 10 for a snapshot of some of our amazing colleagues.

Thank you to each and every one of our team who make this hospital amazing.

Enjoy the issue!

Jo Williams, Chief Executive

## ROH JOURNEY TO NET ZERO

**The NHS Net Zero Expert Panel has set out a bold plan for the NHS as a whole, to be the world's first net zero national health service.**

The ROH's green plan sets out our commitment to reducing the Trust's impact on the environment and how we are actively contributing towards the NHS meeting this realistic, yet ambitious target.

- In 2022 we made a carbon saving of 71.6 tonnes
- Non-recyclable waste has been sent for energy recovery - meaning no Trust waste is going to landfill.
- Installation of LED lighting on the wards
- Investment in the installation of solar PV panels
- Hospital's green spaces maximised, with the planting of trees, plants, and bird and bat boxes installed to encourage wildlife.



## ROH moves into the cloud



**ROH has undergone one of the biggest IT transformation programmes in its history.**

We are the first Trust within the Birmingham and Solihull ICS, and one of only a handful of NHS Trusts in the country, to move to a full cloud based infrastructure.

This innovative move places the ROH as a leading hospital within the NHS in regards to technology and data.

Cloud migration has benefits for colleagues, patients, and also the environment.

We have improved our carbon footprint as we will no longer need to run power consuming data centres, high electricity consumption and cooling fans. Moving to the cloud also means we can upscale and downscale to suit our needs - which in turn will increase response times.

Migrating to the cloud helps to futureproof our digital systems, our IT colleagues are upskilled to manage our data centres, and it allows easier and faster recovery from any possible disruption should it arise.



**Award win at VMware Explore Europe**

Members of the IT team collected the 'Weathering the Change Hero' Award at the 2022 VMware Explore Europe Customer Achievement Awards, for the Trust's Cloud transformation work.

The organisers noted that ROH is one of the first organisations in the NHS to fully migrate to the Cloud, stating that, "The Hospital moved to VMware Cloud on AWS as part of VMware Cloud Universal. It's now poised to transform patient care with highly available services at lower operating costs."

The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital is also pioneering a new era of greater efficiency, scalability and well-being for clinicians. Reliable, flexible access to apps and data empower them to deliver outstanding patient care anywhere."

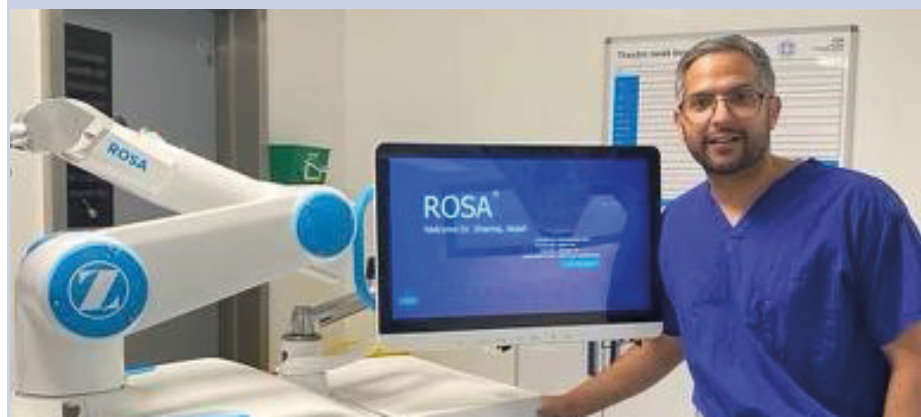


# New Physio facilities open at ROH at College Green ... Continued from front page



To read more about the new physiotherapy and podiatry department at the ROH, scan this code or visit: [www.roh.nhs.uk/college-green](http://www.roh.nhs.uk/college-green)

## Robotic surgery milestone



**We've reached a milestone in robotic surgery at the ROH, with Mr Akash Sharma completing the 200th knee surgery with ROSA!**

Anton Illsley, Senior Product Manager at ROSA manufacturer, Zimmer Biomet said: "Mr Sharma is the first surgeon in the UK to complete this milestone of 200 ROSA cases."

This is a fantastic milestone that has been achieved and puts ROH as the highest volume ROSA total knee replacement surgery in the UK. This technology has been helping offer patients a more personalised knee replacement restoring them back to a

more pain free way of life."

The ROSA TKR robotic system offers surgeons an interactive platform to perform total knee replacement which uses data collected intraoperatively that offers real time feedback to support the surgeon's decision-making during surgery. This data along with the use of the robotic arm, provides a more personalised solution for total knee surgery. The ROSA allows the surgeon to adjust and accurately position the knee implant specific to the patient's anatomy, to help improve functional outcomes post operatively.

## Research: Blood salvage and cancer surgery



**Research undertaken in our Dubrowsky Regenerative Laboratory has been seeking to expand the use of blood salvage, into the realm of cancer surgery.**

Blood salvage is a type of blood conservation. Cancer surgery requires blood transfusions, and this research seeks to use the patient's own blood, cleaned of the cancerous cells, rather than a donor transfusion.

Researcher Eirini Theososiou from Aston University, has been undertaking work using a process called immunoaffinity membrane chromatography, to separate the cancer

cells from healthy blood cells.

Eirini said: "Our technology should be able to selectively fish out specific target cells from body fluids, such as blood, and holds promise for other healthcare applications, such as cancer detection, progression and treatment monitoring."

The project aims to develop technology into an affordable clinical device, to be used to improve patient outcomes and bring the benefits of blood salvage to all cancer surgical interventions.



# Birmingham organisations come together in ground-breaking bone cancer research

**Scientists from renowned Birmingham organisations; the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital and Aston University, have come together and developed a medical implant material to improve bone cancer survival rates.**

The pioneering Bioactive glass treatment has been developed to treat osteosarcoma, which typically occurs in children and young people.

Ga Bioactive glass is a material which has been formulated with the element Gallium, which is toxic to cancerous cells.

Research undertaken at the Dubrowsky Regenerative Laboratory at the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital has shown that using the new material is toxic to bone cancer cells, and simultaneously kills the bone cancer cells and helps new bone regenerate, all while keeping healthy cells safe.

Dr Lucas Souza, Lab Manager at the Dubrowsky Regenerative Laboratory and researcher at Aston University, conducted research using state of the art equipment at the lab, and has recently published a high impact research paper on the topic.

Lucas said: "Treating bone cancer is complex and challenging. Current treatments have unpleasant side effects and outcomes for patients haven't really improved significantly during the last 30 years.

Bioactive glasses are materials commonly used in dentistry and for reconstructive bone surgery, but never before with gallium and to treat sarcoma in this way. We found that 40% of saos-2 (osteosarcoma bone cancer) cells were killed within three days of exposure to the gallium doped bioactive glasses. I'm incredibly excited to have worked on this research which could have real impact for patients here in the future."

Following removal of the cancerous bone, oncologists are faced with two main challenges; to prevent local reoccurrence of the cancer and to help bone regenerate.

Professor Richard Martin, who led the research based at Aston University's Centre for Advanced Material Research, said: "Our research shows that it is possible to simultaneously promote new bone formation whilst also killing cancer cells in



the localised area.

Local reoccurrence of these cells can significantly impact cancer survival rates, so it's really meaningful to be able to reduce the likelihood of cancer reoccurrence."

The Dubrowsky lab at the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital was made possible

by a legacy donation of £1.5m to the Royal Orthopaedic Charity, and was officially opened in 2019.

The lab focuses on research into rare bone cancers and orthopaedic treatments.

Visit [www.roh.nhs.uk](http://www.roh.nhs.uk) for more information

## ROH secures Birmingham City Council Grant to support Cost of Living initiatives

**The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital Charity and Wellbeing Officer have been successful in receiving a grant from Birmingham City Council to support the ongoing work the Trust is doing to support staff, patients, and their families through the cost-of-living crisis.**

These vital funds have been used in a number of carefully considered ways to ensure support can be accessed discreetly.

One being the 'Blue Bag Project'. This initiative supplies period products to staff toilets which are available free of charge.

Another initiative that has received positive feedback from colleagues is the 'ROH Food Pantry and the 'Out of hours food provision'. The ROH Pantry stocks free food, toiletries and sanitary products for staff and patients to those who might be struggling. The Pantry is located within our library and acts as a discreet way of offering food provisions.

The out of hours food provision allows staff to collect a frozen ready meal during times where our main facilities are no longer open, this allows anyone to eat at any time during their shift.

## Celebrating the Windrush Generation: Honouring Contributions, Heritage, and Diversity at the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital



Windrush Day, celebrated on 22 June each year, serves as a tribute to the remarkable contributions and rich heritage of the Windrush generation and their descendants in the UK. It's an occasion to celebrate the vibrant and diverse community within our hospital, the NHS and the wider UK.

Just two weeks prior to the establishment of the NHS in 1948, the HMT Empire Windrush arrived in the UK on 22 June. The ship brought with it over 1,000 passengers - many of which were from the Caribbean. This was the first wave of post war immigration with many of the passengers taking up roles in the NHS.

As a result, the NHS has and always will be intrinsically intertwined with Windrush, and we pay tribute to the significant contributions made by the Windrush generation and their descendants. At the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital we have come together to celebrate the 75th anniversary and the amazing diversity and strength of our NHS workforce, and have marked the occasion by raising the "Windrush

Generations -Standing On Their Shoulders" flag.

Claudette Jones, Research Nurse and and Chair of the Trust's Equality and Diversity Network said: "It's important to honour the impact Windrush had, and how much it is linked with the start of the NHS. It's also important to acknowledge the struggles that the people who moved to the UK faced, and the discrimination and racism they were confronted with."

Falon Paris-Caines, Chair of the Trust's Multi Minority Ethnic Group staff network, said, "I'm so proud we're flying the 'Windrush Generations - Standing On Their Shoulders' flag at the ROH. It creatively captures the iconic image of the HMT Empire Windrush docking into London's Tilbury Docks on 22 June 1948. The rounded triangular form of the flag's

design further holds a profound meaning, symbolising the historical and nautical journey of heritage, highlighting the invaluable contributions of people from Africa to the Caribbean and the Americas to the UK and Europe. Today, and every day, I honour the Windrush pioneers and recognise the challenges they faced, both past and present. Their remarkable legacy and vibrant diversity have greatly enriched our hospital, the NHS, and the wider UK community."

Thank you to our Chief Executive, members of all the staff networks, the Inclusion Team and ROH staff, who took time out of their schedule to acknowledge the momentous occasion of raising the first Windrush flag at the Trust.







## NATIONAL ORTHOPAEDIC ALLIANCE

As a founding member organisation of the National Orthopaedic Alliance (NOA), ROH is part of a multi-disciplinary network of orthopaedic providers leading on collaboration in orthopaedics. Over the last year we contributed to much of NOA's work. From ROH colleagues speaking on NOA webinars and leading sessions

at the 2022 NOA Annual Members' Conference to our Medical Director winning the NOA Director's Award at the 2022 NOA Excellence in Orthopaedics Awards. We play a key role in the alliance's success and look forward to continuing to contribute to its work.

### NOA benefits for ROH staff

Did you know that all colleagues at ROH can attend NOA webinars, workshops, meetings, and events for free? Get the latest updates and find out about other member benefits on the NOA website: [www.nationalorthopaedicalliance.co.uk](http://www.nationalorthopaedicalliance.co.uk)



Above: ROH Medical Director, Matthew Revell receives award last year from NOA Programme Director, Ann Hoey

### Upcoming NOA events

All staff at ROH can attend NOA webinars, workshops, meetings and events free of charge. Upcoming events include:

- **12 July 2023, 10am – 10:45am: Cost improvement Programmes (CIP) Network Group Meeting**
- **6 September 2023, 1pm – 2:15pm: Webinar: Learnings from Revision Implant Surgery**
- **19 October 2023, 9am – 4:30pm: NOA Annual Members Conference at the BCEC, Birmingham. Registration now open**
- **19 October 2023, 6pm – midnight: NOA Excellence in Orthopaedics Awards ceremony**

Find out more about current events via [nationalorthopaedicalliance.co.uk](http://nationalorthopaedicalliance.co.uk)

### Find out more

- [www.nationalorthopaedicalliance.co.uk](http://www.nationalorthopaedicalliance.co.uk)
- Register: ROH staff are entitled to register for the members' area of the NOA website to access even more resources and information. Register here: [bit.ly/NOAMembersArea](http://bit.ly/NOAMembersArea)
- Sign up: You can register to receive the NOA newsletter here: [bit.ly/NOAMemberNewsletter](http://bit.ly/NOAMemberNewsletter)
- Get in touch: Email: [info.noa@nhs.net](mailto:info.noa@nhs.net) Phone: 020 3947 0849
- Socials: Search @NOAOrthopaedics on Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, YouTube and Facebook



## NOA Annual Members' Conference 2023 Registration now open

Are you a member of staff at ROH and not yet registered to attend this year's NOA Annual Members' Conference taking place at the Birmingham Conference and Events Centre in Birmingham on 19 October 2023? Don't miss this engaging event designed to foster learning, networking, and collaboration within the orthopaedic community. Topics covered at this year's conference include:

- NHSEI MSK Strategy
- Equity, Diversity & Inclusion in orthopaedics
- Nursing in orthopaedics
- NOA Excellence in Orthopaedics Awards finalists projects

For the full programme and link to register scan the QR code.



Scan the code to book your place



ROH has been long listed for the 2023 NOA Excellence in Orthopaedics Awards in the below categories:

- Partnerships and Integration Initiative
- Working Towards Net Zero
- Innovation in Orthopaedics
- Supporting Patients On Their Pathway
- Workforce Retention Initiative
- Equity, Diversity, Inclusion

The entries showcase the Trust's dedication to excellence and our continuous efforts to shape the future of orthopaedic care. Finalists will be announced in July and winners will be announced at an award ceremony on 19 October.



# LESS PAIN. MORE INDEPENDENCE. LIFE-CHANGING CARE.

Read the full  
strategy here!



**An ambitious new vision and strategy has been launched at The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital. It's all about helping people live with less pain and more independence.**

## A new vision

Our new vision is *Less pain. More independence. Life-changing care.* It captures what is most important to us - the impact we have in the lives of our patients. We know the care we provide is often life-changing and we want to do even more of it. The new strategy we have developed will help us do just this over the next five years.

## How feedback shaped our strategy

As we developed this strategy, we talked to lots of people to understand what was important to them. We spoke with patients who shared their experiences and the importance of having seamless pathways and person-centred care. We spoke with clinicians who wanted the strategy to reflect our clinical expertise and the positive impact this has for patients. We spoke with partners who felt it was important our strategy was strategically aligned, prevention focussed and prioritised the reduction of health inequality.

We included all of this feedback in our strategy and it has helped us create a much more inclusive and compelling strategy.

## What is our strategy?

Our strategy is really simple. It contains six objectives with measureable goals. Take a look at the summary below. You can also read the full strategy by scanning the QR code on this page or visiting [www.roh.nhs.uk/strategy](http://www.roh.nhs.uk/strategy)



<b>Strategic ambition</b>	<div> <b>OUR VISION</b>                  LESS PAIN                  MORE INDEPENDENCE                  LIFE-CHANGING CARE             </div> <div> <b>OUR MISSION</b>                  We will deliver compassionate, patient-centred care that empowers people to regain their mobility, independence, and quality of life. Through efficiency, expertise, innovation and collaboration we will tackle health inequality and improve access to life-changing care.             </div>					
<b>Strategic objectives</b>	<div> <b>CARE</b>                      Deliver outstanding care that is safe, seamless and patient centred                 </div>	<div> <b>EXPERTISE</b>                      Innovate, improve, research and teach                 </div>		<div> <b>PEOPLE</b>                      Rated as among the best NHS hospitals to work for by our team                 </div>	<div> <b>COMMUNITY</b>                      Work with our community to reduce health inequality and support prevention                 </div>	<div> <b>SERVICES</b>                      Provide efficient, effective and sustainable services                 </div>
<div> </div>	<div> <b>What will we achieve in the next five years:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ We will grow and treat more people</li> <li>✓ We will contribute to reducing health inequality</li> <li>✓ We will improve access to care for our community</li> <li>✓ We will be rated among the best hospitals to work for</li> <li>✓ We will be rated 'outstanding overall' by the CQC</li> <li>✓ We will be a Major Revision Centre and Surgical Elective Hub</li> </ul> </div>					



# Day Case arthroplasty surgery

Through the work of talented individuals at the ROH, we are delighted that our Day Case arthroplasty surgery (hip and knee replacements) is up and running!

The day case surgery forms part of our JointCare pathway for all hip and knee replacement patients and is based on the 'wellness' model.

The wellness model concept focuses more on what patients can do, rather than what they can't. It emphasises early mobilisation, group therapy sessions and is delivered in an environment which reinforces wellness, movement and recovery. Expectations are consistent along the entire pathway leading to happier, more engaged patients, and by developing a robust patient and family education system, patients are more likely to quickly regain their independence.

Patients are encouraged and empowered to play an active part in their own preparation and recovery, working in partnership with our clinicians.

Mr Akash Sharma, Consultant knee surgeon and Day Case Clinical Lead, said: "This pathway is all about a smooth journey for the patient while they're here, and enhanced recovery which allows patients to feel happy and confident to go home. Increased productivity is a great secondary benefit, which is of high importance for the NHS and has become an even higher priority following the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We discuss the Day Case option with patients in detail during their outpatient clinic appointment, and work with them to make sure it's the best option for them and

their recovery."

Colin was our first JointCare Day Case hip patient at the ROH, and had a total hip replacement. He said: "I feel quite chuffed to be his first day case patient! I have no worries about my hip or getting pain now, it's fixed and I'm back to full time work. The whole experience has been great!"

Mr Shakir Hussain, Colin's surgeon, said: "It's proven that early mobilisation after surgery helps patients recover quicker. It was a privilege doing the first JointCare day case hip surgery at the ROH, I'm so glad to see Colin is on his feet and getting out and about, and is back at work."

Patients are provided with a JointCare handbook, and have access to an app, to help with shared decision making and their recovery. Members of the ROCS (Royal Orthopaedic Community Service) team visit patients at home, and outpatient physiotherapy appointments will also provide support after their operation.

Bernard had knee replacement surgery with Mr Sharma at the ROH and was home on the same day. He said: "It's the little things like knowing where the loo is at home and being back in your own bed at the end of the day. The ROCS team visited and gave me the exercises to do at home too, which has really helped my recovery.

Walking the dogs used to be a chore, now it's a pleasure. I'm just back from a cruise and we walked about 10 miles a day – with no pain! It was amazing. This has changed my life for the better, I just can't put it into words."



Above: ROH colleagues Charlotte Moon, Amber Linke and Mr Shakir Hussain, with our first JointCare Day Case patient, Colin Gough.

## Getting it right first time

### The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital poised to receive special accreditation

**The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital is aiming to be accredited as a GIRFT Elective Surgical Hub - a special accreditation that tells patients they are being treated in a centre of excellence.**

GIRFT, or Getting It Right First Time, is a programme in healthcare that aims to improve the quality and efficiency of surgical care in the United Kingdom. It focuses on making sure that patients receive the right treatment, at the right time, in the right place, and by the right healthcare professional.

The purpose of Surgical Elective Hubs is to centralise and streamline the process of elective surgery. By concentrating surgical

expertise and resources in one place, it allows for better coordination and more efficient use of resources. It also helps to ensure that patients receive consistent and standardised care, which can lead to better outcomes.

Most importantly, being accredited helps give patients confidence and reassurance that will receive excellent care at The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital.

The GIRFT team visited The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital in June and spoke to the team about their work. As part of the accreditation, a large amount of data was given to GIRFT for them to examine and confirm the high standard of care and

outcomes at the Trust. The GIRFT Team have given positive feedback and official accreditation is expected to be announced in July.





# BLUE HEART AWARDS FINALISTS 2023

**Congratulations to every member of The ROH team shortlisted at the Blue Heart Awards!**

**Everyone on the shortlist and their nominators will receive an invite to the awards ceremony in July at**

**Birmingham Botanical Gardens. We're looking forward to celebrating our fantastic nominees and thanking them for everything they do for The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital.**



**BLUE HEART  
AWARDS**

## Nurse of the Year

Amber Linke  
Emily Harris  
Louise Cook

## Doctor / Clinician / Medic of the Year

Mr Callum McBryde  
Mr Khalid Baloch  
Dr Manjit Kooner

## Support Service Team Member of the Year

Debbie Jeyes  
Matt Ford  
Sandra Edwards

## Secretarial / Administrative Team member of the Year

Deborah Wright  
Sue Leach  
Vicky Eccleston

## Innovation and Continuous improvement

Mr Akash Sharma  
Digital Technology (IT and Digital)  
Nicola Mason

## Clinical Support Team Member of the Year

Helen Townsend  
Kenya Chakawuya  
Michelle Beddows

## Corporate Services Team Member of the Year

Claire Kettle  
Helen Genders  
Sian Taylor

## Clinical Team of the Year

Oncology  
Pharmacy  
ROCS  
Ward 2  
Ward 4

## Non-Clinical Team of the Year

Catering  
Decontamination and Logistics  
Education and Training  
Oncology Admin and Secretaries  
Stores

## AHP / Pharmacist / Healthcare Scientist of the Year

Anisha Rani  
Karen Edwards  
Lucie Gosling

## Dedication to Learning

Alina Strzelecka  
Donna Neale  
Newly qualified nursing associates:  
- Laura Galvin  
- Gisele Khinkolo  
- Cheryl Bryant

## Outstanding Contribution to Patient Experience

Humma Hussain  
Sophie Jackson  
Stephen Murray

## Fundraiser of the Year

Brett Ellis  
Nightingale Football Team  
Steve Washbourne

## Volunteer of the Year

Anne-Louise Edwards  
Jarlath Hanly  
Marion Betteridge

Proudly sponsored by:

T I E V A



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Scan this code to find our  
more information

[www.roh.nhs.uk/blue-heart-awards](http://www.roh.nhs.uk/blue-heart-awards)



## ENHANCED FACILITIES AND CARE: THE WOODLANDS SUITE RELOCATES TO NEW DEDICATED SPACE



We are excited to announce the relocation of the Woodlands Suite, Private Care at the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital, now conveniently accessible via Ward 4 at the Trust. This move brings with it a host of benefits, including a dedicated space for private patients and an increase in the number of rooms available, totalling nine.

For over twenty years, the Woodlands Suite at ROH has been renowned for its exceptional care, treating patients from around the world. With a team of world-leading surgeons at the forefront of innovative research and techniques, our private offering continues to uphold its reputation for providing outstanding care.

Woodlands Suite Service Manager, Rachel Loveless, expressed her enthusiasm for the new facilities, stating, "We are delighted with the relocation of the Woodlands Suite. The expanded space not only enhances the comfort and experience for our patients but also provides our dedicated staff with a wonderful environment to deliver the highest standard of care. These improvements will enable us to better cater to the needs of

our patients and generate more income for the Trust, which will be reinvested back into the NHS."

The Woodlands Suite comprises of nine individual rooms, each equipped with en-suite facilities, ensuring privacy and convenience for patients. Our dedicated team takes pride in delivering personalised care, fostering a warm and compassionate environment throughout the patient journey.

The income generated by private patients plays a vital role in advancing the quality of care for all patients treated at the Trust. By reinvesting resources, we can continue to drive innovation and excellence in orthopaedic care, and deliver on ROH's commitment to provide less pain, more independence and life changing care to patients.

For more information about the Woodlands Suite, visit [roh.privatecare.co.uk](http://roh.privatecare.co.uk) or contact the dedicated team on 0121 685 4010.



Scan the QR code to find out more

## Knowledge hub: ROH Undergraduate Academy

**The strength of the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital's Undergraduate Academy became abundantly clear in a recent review, as there was an outstanding response received in regards to student satisfaction.**

The Undergraduate Academy annually educates over 500 medical students, through placements in the third, fourth and fifth years of University. These students are all enrolled at either the University of Birmingham Medical School or the Aston University Medical School.

Both of these two Universities are extremely satisfied with the education that the students are getting within the ROH,

with University of Birmingham saying that: "The Trust demonstrated a strong commitment to Undergraduate medical education. We are impressed with the enthusiasm from staff during the visit and demonstrations of good practice."

Aston Medical School said: "The Trust has a very positive ethos and culture around education, and this is evidenced in the Trust's approach to education and its funding, the support systems for students and staff and by the supportive attitudes demonstrated by staff"

It is clear that alongside the Universities,

the students themselves have had a very positive response to the teaching and organisation of their placements at the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital.

In the near future, the Undergraduate Academy has plans to refurbish their library and self-study area, as well as providing additional training space.





**BHBNradio**

*A radio station for Birmingham hospitals and the community.*

**Weekdays**

**12:00** The Golden Hour Hits from 50's – 80's Music Selection

**13:00** Light Lunch, Big Band Classic Standards, and Radio Days Music

**22:00** Selection  
The Soul Train by Peter Bayliss

**23:00** (pre-recorded)  
Late Night Love Songs Music Selection and the BHBN Music Selection throughout the day between live shows

**Monday**

**10:00** The Morning Show – Joy Bourne

**14:00** Good Vibrations – Jo Connop

**20:00** Evening Show – Dale Hobson

**Tuesday**

**10:00** The Morning Show

**14:00** Music from Stage & Screen

**20:00** Evening Show, Paul Millington

**Wednesday**

**10:00** The Morning Show - Rich Pemberton

**14:00** BHBNcountry – Dave Horton

**18:00** Words & Music Extra – Brian Henderson

**20:00** Evening Show – Doug Jackson

**Thursday**

**10:00** The Morning Show – Dave Horton

**14:00** Playing It Cool, Pete Bayliss

**17:00** Tea Time Show Chris Friday

**20:00** Evening Show, Leon Lewis

**Friday**

**10:00** The Morning Show – Paul Stanley

**16:00** The Weekender – Bill Waldron

**18:00** Thank BHBN it's Friday – David Elliott

**20:00** Evening Show – Andy Swaby

**Saturday**

**09:00** BHBNGold – Colin Monnaf

**11:00** Music Box - Pete Bayliss

**14:00** BHBNSport (Hospitals with Hospedia Units Only)

**14:00** Stephanie Flynn on Saturday (on the BHBNradio App & Online)

**18:00** Saturday Disco – Dale Hobson

**20:00** Evening Show – Phil Matthews

**22:00** Reggae Selection

**Sunday**

**11:00** The Sunday Supplement – David Moore

**13:00** The BHBN New Country Chart Selection

**14:00** Kids Time with Kira Hughes

**16:00** Care Home Requests & Duets – Sharon Hill

**18:00** Asian Selection – Natasha Patel

**20:00** Evening Show – Paul Stanley

**22:00** The BHBNclassics Collection

Programming is subject to change. You can keep up-to-date on social media [facebook.com/BHBNradio](https://www.facebook.com/BHBNradio) and @BHBNradio on twitter.

BHBN programmes are available via the BHBNradio App available from the Apple and IOS App Stores







# Our amazing Charity!



**Nightingale FC VS Matt's Legends FC - Charity Football Match and Family Fun Day**



ROC are hosting a 'Charity Football Match and Family Fun Day' on Saturday 15th July, locally to the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital at Shenley Lane Community Sports Centre, Northfield.

The event promises to be exciting with a wide range of activities for families and football enthusiasts alike. Alongside the football match; Nightingale F.C VS Matt's Legends F.C, there will be music, children's

entertainment, face painting, a raffle and hot food, providing an excellent opportunity for a joyful, fulfilled day.

The goal is to bring the community together while raising funds to support the Royal Orthopaedic Charity and Bone Cancer Research Trust. All proceeds raised will be split equally between both charities.

Join us! It isn't too late to purchase your ticket! Scan the QR code above now!

## Strictly Come Carolling

### SAVE THE DATE

Charity carol concert in aid of Shipston Home Nursing and Royal Orthopaedic Charity.  
Join us for a night of fun and joyful cheer with audience participation

**SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER**  
**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH**  
**STRATFORD UPON AVON**  
**7.30PM**

Soprano	Conductor	Reader
Mollie Smith	Julian Harris	TBC

ADULTS £20 | UNDER 16's £5  
MORE INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE SOON AT  
[www.shipstonhomenursing.co.uk](http://www.shipstonhomenursing.co.uk)

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CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE:

[WWW.ROHCHARITY.ORG](http://WWW.ROHCHARITY.ORG)





## Meet Rocy the Bear!

### Celebrating our sponsors

"TIEVA is proud to sponsor the Blue Heart Awards to celebrate the exceptional work of healthcare professionals across the NHS. By recognising and supporting our NHS heroes via these awards, we are able to express our gratitude for their remarkable contribution.

At TIEVA, we also pride ourselves on our 'People First' approach where we value the people at the heart of our business. Our talented team prioritise the IT needs of our customers and deliver platform and software solutions and services across thousands of customers in both the Public and Private Sector. We know that by enabling organisations to enhance security, increase productivity, and realise cost-savings, we make a significant positive impact for them every day.

Through our sponsorship, we wish to honour those who put their heart and soul into delivering great healthcare and reward them for the extraordinary work they do day in day out!"

Isabel Spence – Head of Marketing

Corporate partnerships make a real difference to the lives of our staff and patients. We're always happy to welcome new partners and would love to hear from anyone who might be interested in partnering with us.

T I E V A

### We need YOUR help!

Be a part of something extraordinary at our Charity events! We're seeking raffle prizes that will take these gatherings to the next level. Your generous contribution, no matter the size, will make a significant impact in raising funds and ensuring the success of the day. Every donation is greatly appreciated and will bring joy and excitement to our attendees. Let's join forces and make a positive difference together while creating lasting memories and raising funds.



### Charity Cricket Match



Mark your calendars for an unforgettable day at our upcoming Charity Cricket Match and Family Fun Day! On Saturday 23rd September, Team ROH will go head-to-head with Red Watch in an exhilarating cricket match.

The venue is yet to be confirmed. Stay tuned for more updates as we prepare to bring the community together for an incredible day filled with sportsmanship and entertainment while raising funds for ROC.

If you'd like to get involved by volunteering on the day or taking part in the cricket match, please get in touch!

### New Hardship fund

We understand each of us face challenges and difficulties. In light of this, we want you to know that we are actively engaged in providing support during these challenging times. We have therefore launched a 'Hardship Fund' to support people experiencing urgent financial hardship, offering one-off grants of up to £500. This fund is open to both patients and staff.

Hardship Fund grants can be considered for various reasons such as, but not limited to, the following:

- General living costs such as rent
- Utility costs, Childcare costs
- Clothing
- Repair or replacement of essential household equipment
- Food (please be aware there is an accessible food bank in the Library at the Knowledge Hub and this should be your first point of access)

To find out more, please contact [roh-tr.hardshipfund@nhs.net](mailto:roh-tr.hardshipfund@nhs.net)

### Calling all parents...

Do you have children of school age that might be looking for a new charity of the year when term starts again in September?

Well ROC would love to connect with our local school network and talk about the amazing work the ROH does.

If you have any contact information for your child's school or you are part of the PTA we would love for you to connect us.



[WWW.ROHCHARITY.ORG](http://WWW.ROHCHARITY.ORG)

0121 685 4379

[roc@nhs.net](mailto:roc@nhs.net)

Registered Charity Number:

1078046

# With your help we can make a difference...



## A unique working experience in the Midlands

We're on the look out for passionate people to join our award-winning team at the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital.

We deliver a world class service. We are committed to being the best in orthopaedic care, and we're small enough to offer exceptional patient and staff experience.

## The benefits of working at the ROH



Flexible working opportunities



Staff network groups and a strong wellbeing culture



Values based culture



Dedicated '100 days' programme for new starters

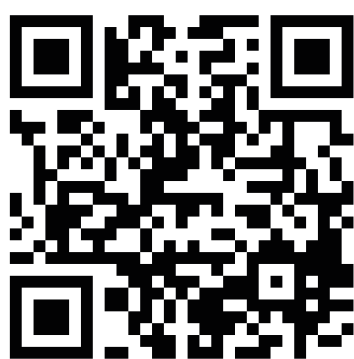


Focus on training & development



Vivup Employee Assistance Programme

*"The ROH just feels different to everywhere else. You have time to care and time to develop. I wouldn't work anywhere else"*



## How does it feel to work here?

Don't just take our word for it! Listen to the people who work here share their thoughts. Scan the QR code or visit [www.roh.nhs.uk/jobs](http://www.roh.nhs.uk/jobs)





# Birmingham 1948: A City Embracing Change, Resilience, and Hope

**Birmingham, the bustling heart of the Midlands, stands as a shining example of the indomitable spirit that has defined Britain in the post-war years.**

As the nation continues to rebuild and renew itself, this vibrant city serves as a microcosm of progress, reflecting both the challenges and triumphs of the era.

In the wake of the Second World War, Birmingham has emerged as a hub of industrial prowess, with factories and workshops bustling once more. The streets, lined with red-brick buildings, resonate with the hum of machinery and the clatter of workers eager to reshape their lives and their city.

Amidst this fervor, The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital has become a beacon of hope for those affected by the ravages of war. With its unwavering commitment to providing outstanding care, the hospital has been instrumental in the rehabilitation and recovery of countless brave men and women. The skilled orthopaedic surgeons, nurses, and therapists work tirelessly to ensure that those with injuries and disabilities find solace, strength, and renewed purpose.

Everyday life in Birmingham carries a sense of resilience and community. The city's proud citizens come together to support each other, fostering a collective spirit that refuses to be dampened by the hardships of the past. As families rebuild their lives and homes, the spirit of camaraderie can be witnessed in the street parties, neighbourhood gatherings, and the sharing of meager resources.

The 1948 Summer Olympics in London have stirred up excitement in Birmingham as well. Although not hosting the Games themselves, the city radiates a sense of pride as its athletes, with their remarkable dedication



*Pictured above: Birmingham after the blitz in 1940*

*Pictured below: Bustling Soho Road, Handsworth*



and prowess, contribute to the national team's success. The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital's role in rehabilitating wounded veterans-turned-athletes is a testament to their commitment to excellence and the transformative power of rehabilitation.

Yet, amidst this bustling cityscape, Birmingham is not untouched by the struggles of the times. Austerity measures persist, rationing remains a reality, and the memory of the war lingers. However, the people of Birmingham stand united, their hearts brimming with optimism for the future.

In the face of adversity, Birmingham continues to march forward, its streets echoing with the sounds of progress and resilience. The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital, a cornerstone of compassion and healing, stands as a testament to the city's unwavering determination to rebuild and create a better future. Birmingham, a city embracing change, exudes an unwavering hope that resonates throughout its streets, promising a brighter tomorrow for all.

# A Transformative Period of Change and Challenges

As the summer of 1948 dawns upon us, Britain finds itself navigating the intricate maze of post-war politics, witnessing a period of significant change, challenges, and evolving dynamics. In these past six months, the political landscape has been anything but static, with events shaping the nation's path to recovery and renewal.

Internationally, the formation of the Organization for European Economic Cooperation (OEEC) has taken center stage. As Britain forges closer ties with European nations, discussions surrounding economic cooperation and reconstruction are at the forefront of diplomatic conversations. The OEEC's efforts to bolster trade and foster collaboration reflect Britain's commitment to rebuilding a war-torn continent.

Closer to home, the Labour government has been grappling with a range of pressing domestic issues. The introduction of the National Health Service Act 1946 has been a significant milestone, bringing about a radical transformation in healthcare provision across the nation. However, its implementation has not been without challenges, with debates surrounding funding, resource allocation, and public perception dominating parliamentary discussions.

In May, the Housing (Temporary Accommodation) Act 1944 was repealed, making way for new legislation aimed at addressing the pressing issue of housing shortages. As the demand for affordable and adequate housing rises, the government has been navigating a delicate balance between meeting immediate needs and devising long-term strategies for urban redevelopment.

Furthermore, discussions surrounding decolonization have gained momentum. The British government faces mounting pressure to address aspirations self-governance and independence.

The first half of 1948 has been characterised by a mix of international cooperation, domestic challenges, and the delicate balancing act of post-war recovery. Britain finds itself at a crossroads, where decisions made today will shape the nation's trajectory for years to come. As we move forward, the nation remains eager to tackle these challenges head-on, as the British people seek a brighter future, marked by progress, unity, and a renewed sense of purpose.

## TACKLING THE FIRST GIANT



*Cartoon of Beveridge's "five giants"*

# Sensational New Dance Craze Sweeps the Nation

In a triumphant fusion of rhythm, agility, and sheer exuberance, a scintillating new dance sensation has captivated the hearts and feet of the nation. At its core, the Jive embodies the spirit of liberation and celebration that defines post-war Britain. Inspired by the infectious sounds of swing and big band music, this vivacious dance form encourages daring moves, quick footwork, and uninhibited expression. Drawing from the rich heritage of African-American dance traditions, the Jive infuses

elements of jitterbug, Lindy Hop, and boogie-woogie, creating a captivating spectacle that sets pulses racing.

As dancers take to the floor, the atmosphere crackles with anticipation. Couples embrace in a firm hold, their bodies poised to explode into a whirlwind of spins, kicks, and jumps. The rhythm section pounds out an invigorating beat, urging dancers to surrender to the music's pulsating charm. One cannot help but be mesmerized by

the sheer athleticism displayed by Jive aficionados. Swift footwork, intricate turns, and gravity-defying lifts punctuate the dance floor, leaving spectators breathless and yearning for more.

The dance floor becomes a stage where ordinary individuals transcend the mundane and become living embodiments of the music that fuels their passion. As we revel in the Jive's infectious charm, one thing is certain: this dance craze shows no signs

of waning. Its energetic rhythms, daring moves, and vibrant spirit have firmly established the Jive as a symbol of joy, freedom, and unbridled enthusiasm. So, put on your dancing shoes, let the music guide your every step, and prepare to be swept away by the exhilarating whirlwind that is the Jive!



Sports round-up: thrilling summer of sport in the United Kingdom



4-2 victory for Man Utd

The beautiful game took center stage as football teams from across the country descended upon Birmingham for the F.A. Cup Final. Highbury Stadium brimmed with anticipation as Manchester United locked horns with Blackpool in a memorable clash.

A pulsating encounter unfolded, with the mighty United emerging as victors in a 4-2 spectacle.

Striker Stan Mortensen's mesmerizing hat-trick for Blackpool ensured his name is etched into footballing history.



Fealess Freddie eyes a title

On July 26 July 1948, Fearless Freddie Mills (pictured) will take on plucky American Gus Lesnevich for his second attempt at the world light heavyweight title. Let 'em have it Freddie! Locally, Birmingham Town Hall witnessed a night of fisticuffs and unwavering resolve. An electrifying middleweight contest unfolded between hometown hero Pat Loughran and the gritty Welshman Brian Kelly. In a bruising encounter that left spectators on the edge of their seats, Loughran emerged victorious, securing a unanimous decision victory after ten arduous rounds.



Nancy swims to victory

The iconic Crystal Palace in London was the setting for the National Swimming Championships, where Birmingham's aquatic talent shone brightly.

The city's prodigious swimmer, Nancy Riach, demonstrated her exceptional skills by clinching gold in the women's 200-meter freestyle event.

Her unwavering determination and impeccable technique showcased why she is regarded as one of Britain's brightest swimming prospects.



New record for Manley

The venerable Alexander Stadium in Birmingham witnessed a remarkable showcase of athletic prowess as the British Olympic Trials unfolded. Amidst a backdrop of patriotic fervor, the nation's top athletes vied for coveted spots in the upcoming London Olympics. Sprinting sensation Dorothy Manley sprinted to victory in the women's 100-meter dash, setting a new national record of 11.3 seconds.

Meanwhile, the legendary Roger Bannister dominated the men's mile, reaffirming his status as a middle-distance titan.



**Get your copy of the Villa News and Record today**

If you're an Aston Villa fan, why not pick up a copy of the Villa News and Record today?

Just threepence will get you all the latest news, match statistics and fixtures from the boys in claret and blue.

Includes:  
~ Trevor Ford's top goals  
~ Tommy Dochert's best passes  
~ Trevor Smith's best tackles

**Oh-h-h! What a VACUUM CLEANER!**

*It really sucks!*

**Introducing the revolutionary 'Dust-O-Matic'**

Attention, housewives and gentlemen who enjoy dusting – we have the solution you've been waiting for! Presenting the "Incredible Dust-O-Matic Vacuum Cleaner!" No more tiresome hours spent chasing dust bunnies around the house. Our extraordinary creation defies gravity, effortlessly collecting every speck of dirt in its path. Watch in awe as it dances across your floors, leaving them gleaming and spotless. Limited stock available, so hurry while supplies last!

**Brum Word Search**

Search for:

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- St. Philip's
- Aston Hall
- BMAG
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- Botanical Gardens
- Hippodrome
- Bull Ring
- Cadbury's
- Library
- ROH
- Northfield
- Selly Manor
- University
- Bab

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A	E	S	Y	T	I	S	R	E	V	I	N	U	O	G	H
N	D	H	Y	H	I	P	M	L	I	B	R	H	O	R	H
I	L	U	L	R	S	T	P	H	I	L	L	I	P	S	M
C	E	M	A	N	U	N	O	R	L	B	F	I	E	L	N
A	I	U	B	A	G	B	F	N	I	M	U	N	I	O	L
L	F	T	U	O	L	L	D	A	D	A	N	I	T	C	L
G	H	A	L	G	H	B	A	A	A	D	L	S	O	E	A
A	T	B	L	A	B	C	B	M	C	A	A	G	W	E	H
R	R	N	R	M	O	B	T	G	F	B	I	D	S	Y	N
D	O	L	I	B	O	Z	X	I	G	L	Q	W	H	W	W
E	N	E	N	E	D	G	B	D	B	O	T	A	D	S	O
N	S	T	G	O	H	I	E	P	P	L	I	B	F	Y	T
S	T	H	W	V	D	L	I	B	R	A	R	Y	S	I	Y

**Guess the lyric**

The most popular song of the year was a philosophical story, exploring themes of nature, love, and spirituality, with a haunting melody and heartfelt lyrics. But can you guess what it is?

*And while we spoke of many things  
Fools and kings  
This he said to me  
"The greatest thing you'll ever learn  
Is just to love and be loved in return"*