The hospital is looking for more volunteers who can help patients or answer questions about our new outpatient check-in kiosks.

Check-in kiosks are now available in some outpatient areas and main reception and mean that patients do not need to queue while the receptionist may be helping other patients who need more help or who are busy booking follow up appointments.

All kiosks have a touch screen facility and once checked in patients can take a seat in the waiting area before being called for their appointment.

Sophie Jordan, Directorate Manager said: "Our volunteers enjoy helping patients and are finding the work really rewarding. We can provide training and volunteers can choose which hours they want to help."

If people are interested in volunteering in this area please call 01722 336262. Ext. 2770.
Hospital wins military award

The Trust has been awarded a Silver award in the HM Lord Lieutenant for Wiltshire Employer Recognition Scheme, for its support of the Reserve Forces in Wessex.

Salisbury District Hospital has a long tradition of giving reservists time off for training and collaborating with reserve units so that they can mobilise their operations for long term commitments.

In the citation it said: “Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust has proven to be a deeply valued supporter of the Defence community and the model of a truly Armed Forces-friendly organisation”.

Alison Kingscott, Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development said: “We have a strong military presence here in Salisbury and the surrounding area and a proud history and tradition of support for our Armed Forces. We are delighted with this award which reflects our commitment in this area.”

Trust chairman Dr Nick Marsden (right) receives the award from Jon Beake, regional director for Support for Britain’s Reservists and Employers.

Hospital commits to sign up to safety campaign

Safety continues to remain a high priority and, as part of our ongoing commitment in this area, we have joined the national Sign Up To Safety Campaign which aims to halve avoidable harm within the NHS over the next three years. This involves signing up to five pledges which strengthen patient safety under the following headings, together with a number of actions that complement our Trust strategy and priorities. The headings are:

- Put patient safety first
- Continually learn
- Honesty
- Collaborate
- Support

This builds on the work that has been undertaken as part of the South West Patient Safety Programme over the last five years. The details of all our pledges are now published on our website at www.salisbury.nhs.uk

National Patient Safety Lead finds Hospital work inspiring

National Patient Safety Lead for NHS England, Caroline Lecko, visited Salisbury District Hospital to meet staff and see the outstanding work taking place to ensure older patients receive the right food and nutrition while in hospital and experience some of the creative activities that help support this work. As part of her visit she joined patients on Redlynch Ward who now enjoy the splendour of 1950s style tea parties, which Caroline Lecko described as "truly inspiring".

Caroline Lecko (left) with Rebecca Seymour from the Artcare team

Successful engage volunteers day

A number of new people will start training shortly to become Engage volunteers following a successful recruitment and education day at Salisbury District Hospital.

As part of the Engage programme, which is funded by the Stars Appeal, volunteers provide additional stimulation and interaction for older people in hospital through memory puzzles, discussion groups and reading. Since it started in 2011, the team has expanded their award-winning programme from two wards to 14 and are looking for more volunteers to help provide social stimulation for older people here and in other hospitals in the region who are interested in using the programme.

If you want to know more about becoming an Engage volunteer or know someone else who may be interested please contact Tora Mathias-Jones, Psychology Coordinator on 01722 425105

Members of the Engage Team

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Trust chairman Dr Nick Marsden (right) receives the award from Jon Beake, regional director for Support for Britain’s Reservists and Employers.
Hospital says thank you to League of Friends for over 60 years support

The hospital Board and Governors marked the considerable contribution and achievements of the League of Friends of Salisbury Hospital at a special gathering to celebrate over 60 years of supporting healthcare in the city.

Since it was founded in 1954, the League of Friends has raised over £2 million - significantly more in today’s money, which has helped provide excellent new facilities and vital new equipment that supports hospital services.

“It’s hard to put into words the enormous contribution they have made since 1954, such is the support they have given to the hospital, our patients, their relatives and carers over the last 60 years,” said Chief Executive, Peter Hill.

“This gathering was one small way of marking their considerable achievements and thanking them for their commitment and dedication to the local community and our hospital.”

Salisbury Hospice Update from Ceri Hurford-Jones, Chair of Salisbury Hospice Care Trust

The past year has been an extremely exciting and challenging time for The Salisbury Hospice Charity.

We have made significant changes in the way we work and support Salisbury Hospice which has enabled the team to continue to deliver its specialist palliative care Services to our local community.

During the summer of 2014 we were very proud to have completed a £528,000 refurbishment of the Hospice and are looking forward to 2015 with real anticipation, with an exciting programme of events to suit everyone, from our Midnight Walk to our family day out at The Wessex Country Fair.

It costs over £2.2M a year to ensure Salisbury Hospice continues to offer a full range of critical services to our patients and their families. Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust funds part of the £2.2m and the rest has to be raised by the charity. The continued support from you our donors remains vital and I really look forward to you supporting us this year and beyond!

For more information, to register for our amazing lottery or to find out more please visit our website www.salisburyhospicecharity.org.uk

Find us on social media

Don’t forget you can now keep up to date on the latest health news, campaigns and job opportunities from the hospital on Twitter and Facebook. You can find us at @SalisburyNHS on Twitter and Salisbury District Hospital Official on Facebook. Alternatively go to our website at www.salisbury.nhs.uk, where we have more in-depth information - whether you are coming into hospital for treatment, visiting a loved one or friend or want to know more about the hospital and our services.
Governors’ Corner

Message from Carole Noonan, Governor for West Wiltshire, who will be standing down at the next election, having completed her final term of office.

It is essential that you receive nutritious food when you are in hospital as this will aid your recovery. During my time as a Governor one of my key roles has been to ensure that patients experience the very best care that we can provide.

I have been a member of the Patient Food Forum and the Food and Nutrition Steering Group for most of the nine years I have been a Governor. While some hospitals have removed their kitchens, at Salisbury we have continued to prepare and cook all the meals that are served to patients, staff and visitors on-site. We have made significant improvements and during 2013 we upgraded our kitchens with a new preparation area, new cooking equipment, fridges, dishwashers and flooring.

In the past some patients said that when they received their meals they were not hot enough. The catering department carried out an assessment, and bought new food trolleys which retain the temperature of the food. Since the arrival of these during the latter part of 2014, the number of comments about food temperature dropped and we now receive positive feedback on this issue. Each day the same menu is available in Springs Restaurant and Hedgerows for staff and visitors.

As you will have seen in this newsletter, Caroline Lecko, Patient Safety Lead at NHS England, recently visited the hospital and met members of the Food and Nutrition Steering Group and discussed its work. She also visited Winterslow ward to see the popular Lunch Club, where patients can sit together instead of having lunch by their beds, and then saw the “Vintage Tea Party held on Redlynch ward.

During the national Nutrition and Hydration week between the 16 and 22 March 2015 we will have an afternoon tea party and staff, governors and volunteers will hand out cakes made by the catering department to patients on all wards. Last year this proved very popular.

This is a small snapshot of my work as a governor. I feel privileged to have been able to represent the members of West Wiltshire, and this wonderful hospital.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Stars Appeal Christmas raffle. Your support helped to raise over £28,000 for Salisbury District Hospital’s charity.

Mrs Valerie Evill of Gillingham (pictured), won the top prize, a brand new Kia Picanto supplied by FJ Chalke. She and her son Rupert (also pictured) bought the books of tickets that were enclosed in the December copy of this newsletter.

Funds raised by the raffle will go towards the Breast Cancer unit campaign target of £750,000 to build and equip Salisbury’s first dedicated Breast Cancer Unit. The new unit will benefit the 4,500 local patients seen by the Breast team here at the hospital each year, from across Wiltshire, Hampshire and Dorset. It will enable faster diagnosis and treatment, and the best possible environment and experience for patients.

Enclosed with this newsletter you will find an entry form for our flagship event Walk for Wards - Sunday 21st June, which last year raised a wonderful £80,000. You can walk to support the Breast Cancer Unit campaign or the ward/department of your choice. We do hope you will be able to join us.

You can find more details and keep up to date with the Stars Appeal at www.starsappeal.org or call us on 01722 429005

Talkhealth

Local people can now get free information and support on a wide range of health conditions on a new online health community page on the NHS Choices website. Talkhealth hosts a monthly clinic with a panel of leading experts available to answer questions on the clinic’s topic of the month. People can either go to this directly from NHS Choices or through a link from our own website.

Get in touch with your Governor, by going onto our Website: www.salisbury.nhs.uk, click on the Foundation icon, and then Council of Governors. Once there, choose the Governor who represents your constituency, or contact us by post at the following address, Salisbury District Hospital, Trust Offices, Odstock Road, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP2 8BJ.

To help with our costs, where possible we would like to send this newsletter by email. If you are happy to receive it this way, please contact Isabel Cardoso at: Isabel.cardoso@salisbury.nhs.uk, or on tel: 01722 429390.

This document is available in large print, audio tape or another language on request.