Community groups set to bring Christmas cheer to Rotherham Hospital

Local community groups are bringing Christmas cheer to Rotherham Hospital by holding a range of festive activities in the hospital’s newly completed main entrance.

Next week the main entrance will provide the perfect platform for children, choirs and brass bands to bring some festive cheer to the hospital. Children from Leapfrog Nursery will be singing Christmas carols from 2pm – 3pm on Monday 20 December, with choirs from Rotherham Pentecostal Church and Rotherham Minster singing carols on Tuesday 21 December, at 11am and 2pm respectively. On Thursday 23 December Whiston Brass Band will be playing Christmas carols and festive favourites from 11am.

The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust’s Fundraiser, Tracy Williams says: “It’s great that so many different community groups are supporting the hospital at this special time of year and we really do appreciate the support of all organisations that help us, both at Christmas and throughout the year. In our new main entrance we are lucky to have a dedicated ‘community corner,’ which will give community groups the space and opportunity to highlight the work they do. All visitors to the hospital are welcome to come along and enjoy the music. They will also have the chance to support the hospital as raffle tickets and Christmas cards will be on sale. All proceeds and donations will go to the hospital’s Purple Butterfly appeal.”

Over the past year the hospital main entrance has undergone a major redevelopment to provide better, safer and easier access to the hospital and its services, for patients and visitors. The improvements include a safer pedestrian crossing and an extended main entrance and reception area, including the new ‘community corner.’ The new main entrance also provides access to a new health information area, new enlarged public toilets, a baby changing room and separate baby feeding room, new larger public toilets, increased visibility and access to the Outpatients department and enhanced drop-off facilities for patients.

The redevelopment of the main entrance has been one of the most visible parts of the Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust’s ‘Hospital of Tomorrow’ programme, which is focused on developing and upgrading services and facilities across the hospital.

The Trust’s Chief of Hospital Matthew Lowry said: “We would like to thank all visitors to the hospital for their patience and understanding whilst these works were being carried out. It’s wonderful to see all the hard work come to fruition and the results are definitely worthwhile, as thousands of people will now benefit from the improved facilities on a daily basis, including patients, visitors, staff and all those who regularly use our hospital.”
Patients, staff and visitors tuned their vocal chords and made merry music at Rotherham Hospital’s carol service on the 13th December to raise money for the hospital’s Purple Butterfly Appeal.

More than 150 people were joined by the Mayor of Rotherham, Rosie McNeely and Chairman Margaret Oldfield in the hospital canteen, to sing festive favourites with music from Rotherham Hospital Choir and the Salvation Army.

Co-ordinator of Chaplaincy Services Reverend Joan Ashton said: “It’s lovely to see so many different groups of people coming together to celebrate the festive season. It has been a fantastic service and I hope we have made everyone smile.”

Children from St Mary Magdalene Primary School, Maltby, performed a medley of Christmas songs including ‘Little Donkey’ and ‘When a Child is Born.’ There was also a special visit from Santa Claus on his sleigh with his elves.

Joan said: “Santa gave all the children some chocolate which they enjoyed. The choir from St Magdalene’s School were fantastic - they were very brave to sing in front of so many people. I’m already looking forward to next year’s event, as I hope it will be even better!”

All the money raised from the carol concert will be donated to Rotherham Hospital’s Purple Butterfly Appeal and the Salvation Army.

Carol service boosts hospital charity

Christmas cards from Rotherham Hospital Charity

Don’t forget to get your hands on this year’s Rotherham Hospital Charity Christmas cards and help to improve end of life care as part of the Purple Butterfly Appeal.

It’s the first year that cards have been sold directly for the hospital and they’re priced between £2.50 and £3.25. The cards can be bought by contacting Tracy Williams on ext. 7563 or email communications@rothgen.nhs.uk.

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