



Megaphone Online

December 2016

the voice of Health Sciences' staff and students

Karl's Christmas message

We face challenging and uncertain times. The University is in transition, while the external environment in which we work is as volatile as it has ever been. Nonetheless, we can look back on another successful year, in which our professionalism, adaptability and resilience has helped us negotiate the many challenges presented to us.

This bodes well for the future. I continually remain impressed by the enthusiasm, commitment and engagement of my colleagues. We are in good shape and have an excellent student body. I am confident we can continue to thrive, whatever the difficulties we face in the coming year.

Thank you for your support.

Enjoy the festive season and I wish you all the very best for 2017.

Professor Karl Atkin,
FACSS
Head of Department



Merry Christmas!

Emma, Jane and Nicola from the Marketing and Communications Office would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2017.

Thank you to everyone who has provided articles and pictures to Megaphone over the last 12 months.

See you in the New Year!

In this issue:

- Teaching fellowship for Anne Phillips
- Women miss out on cardiac rehabilitation
- Students meet Sir Keith Pearson
- Midsoc gets to work

Learning Disability students meet Sir Keith Pearson

Health Sciences Learning Disability students Anna Tash, Brenda Chinyemba and Hannah Spooner (all second year) and Rachel King (third year) were recently invited to meet Sir Keith Pearson, the Chairman for Health Education England at an event in Leeds (delegates are pictured with Sir Keith). The event was coordinated by Nottingham University and included attendees from higher education institutions from across the country. Some of the issues covered included retention and innovation in the learning disability field of practice.



Brenda said: “It was a very exciting moment to meet Sir Keith and discuss professional identity and how learning disability nurses are perceived. Concerns were also raised about the financial burden placed on students by travel costs. The event was also a great opportunity to network with other student nurses.”

Rachel said: “The meeting was a great opportunity and the value I took away from it was the importance of having peer support during our nursing training.

Learning disability student nurses can feel quite isolated within the overall nursing programme and it is important to support each other by networking. A network for learning disability student nurses has been created at the university this year so that students have the opportunity to help and support each other.”

Anna said, “This meeting was a valuable occasion to hear from those who shape nurse training, and to voice some of the challenges specific to learning disability nursing students. It was a great moment to hear from students from across the country, to discuss shared experiences, and to be encouraged together in our training.”



New MidSoc committee gets to work

Jade Entwistle, midwifery student writes:

“A new academic year, and we have a brand new MidSoc committee. The new team began the year very excited to get started with lots of ideas and plans for the future. Writing and submitting our initial fundraising plan was the first step, which we then submitted to the University of York’s Students’ Union (YUSU).

“Once that was done, we began to look for a charity to work with. We had lots of ideas from the midwifery cohorts so the decision was quite a tough one. However, 4Louis stood out to us the most. They are a family-run, non-profit organisation whose aim is to help families experiencing the loss of a child by providing lovely memory boxes.

Kirsty, who founded the charity, gave birth to Louis Robert Joseph Knight, a beautiful baby who was born sleeping on 10 December 2009. In the UK, around 17 babies are born sleeping, or are lost through neonatal death each day. Families of these babies are left feeling devastated and crushed. 4Louis aims to raise money for maternity and neonatal units to ensure these families have vital time to spend with their babies and to provide memory boxes for families to remember them with. We first met Kirsty and Bob from the 4Louis team at the recent Royal College of Midwives (RCM) conference and they really inspired us with their work.

“The RCM conference (pictured above) was held in Harrogate and we were so lucky that it was nearby as a number of our students were lucky enough to be able to attend such an inspirational day. Throughout the day we took every opportunity to network with some amazing people. We even met the admirable Cathy Warwick (Chief Executive of the RCM) and she joined us for a photo which we tweeted! This tweet was then included in Lesley Page’s (President of the RCM) closing statement of the conference (this is the picture shown above). We were highly honoured with the mention! #MidwiferyMoments.

“Other work we have recently undertaken includes holding a bake sale during our elective presentations, raising a total of £71 for 4Louis. Thanks to everyone that supported us on the day. We are thrilled with our plans for the forthcoming year and we hope that you will join us at our planned events and study days in order to enhance our education, and of course support a fantastic charity.”



Simulation based education for nursing students

Jess Powell, lecturer in adult nursing, writes: “It is likely that the new Nursing and Midwifery Council Standards for Pre-Registration Nursing Education will place an increased focus on the use of Simulation Based Education (SBE). SBE has become an integrated part of the course for students in Health Sciences due to the strong evidence to support its use. Beginning in the first year, with clinical skills training using simple scenarios, the students’ experiences develop in terms of complexity and fidelity (realism) as they progress through their study.



“Each autumn, third year Adult and Child field nursing students participate in simulated practice. For the Adult field students this involves caring for a variety of ‘simulated patients’, both human and manikins, in a hospital ward and Emergency Department. Each student has the opportunity to experience being a qualified nurse in one of the clinical areas and to experience another as a patient, carer or relative. Each simulation is carefully aligned with the learning outcomes for their module and complements the York Pedagogy.

“For the first time this year, this immersive high-fidelity simulation incorporated all four fields of nursing practice working together simultaneously. This is the culmination of six months of planning by lecturing staff across each field, aspiring to offer a valuable and integrated learning experience.

“Challenges for the staff included the addition of new patients, carers and scenarios. Behind the scenes the control room now homes additional lecturers watching multiple screens to monitor the progression of the scenarios while remotely manipulating the manikins. There are two switchboards and the facilitators can enter the simulated environment as healthcare professionals as required. Despite this, interventions in the clinical areas are kept to a minimum, allowing the students to make their own clinical decisions, communicate and develop team dynamics independently.

“Over the years we have developed a system of pre-briefing, simulation and debriefing. The literature reflects our own experience in that well facilitated debrief is where the ‘deeper’ learning takes place. Debriefing sessions are spaced well apart to facilitate critical reflection on action and comparison between theory and practice; in essence achieving the most learning value for a comparatively short intervention.”



Top: A student is pictured with one of the simulation manikins.

Bottom: David Graham, lecturer in adult nursing, pictured in the control centre.

Teaching News

Diabetes conference

Anne Phillips, senior lecturer in diabetes care, writes:

“The annual diabetes conference was held at Wetherby Racecourse on 16 November. This was a highly successful conference with over 300 delegates, following the theme of ‘Diabetes Care in a Disjointed World’. There were eminent

speakers, including Professor Edwin Gale, from Bristol, Professor Simon Heller, from Sheffield, and Dr Jonathan Bodansky, from Leeds. It is always refreshing to see our students and former students attending this annual event. My thanks, as always, go to the conference planning committee, Diabetes UK, and Jane Milsom and Pauline Johnson, without any of these wonderful people, the conference could not be possible.”

Midwifery conference

From 2 to 3 December, members of the midwifery team attended the 5th European Midwives Association (EMA) Education Conference at the Queen Elizabeth II Centre, London. This triennial conference was hosted by the Royal College of Midwives, and was attended by their RCM Patron, HRH the Princess Royal (pictured right).

Helen Bedford, lecturer in midwifery, presented a paper: ‘Internationalisation within a UK pre-registration midwifery curriculum: students’ views on the nature, value and potential for learning’ (on behalf of colleagues on the project Dorothy McCaughan and Jerome Wright), and Louise Long presented a poster on the multiple mini interviews (MMIs) being undertaken as part of the selection process for the BA (Hons) Midwifery Practice programme.

The conference afforded great opportunities for networking with international and UK based colleagues, which will be used to enhance midwifery education within the Department.



Share your scholarship and innovative practice within learning and teaching

The call is out to disseminate your expertise at the University of York’s annual Learning and Teaching Conference which will be held on Tuesday 20 June 2017. The theme of the 2017 conference is, ‘The York pedagogy - making it work’. The deadline for workshop submissions is Wednesday 15 February 2017.

Further information can be found at the conference website (link below) or please speak to Helen Bedford, member of Learning and Teaching Forum.

www.york.ac.uk/staff/teaching/community/events/annual-conference/2017

York diabetes expert awarded National Teaching Fellowship

A Health Sciences specialist practitioner has been awarded a National Teaching Fellowship - the most prestigious individual award for excellence in teaching in higher education.

Anne Phillips, Senior Lecturer in Diabetes Care (pictured right), is one of 55 higher education staff from institutions across the UK to receive the award from the Higher Education Academy (HEA).

Recognising excellent practice and outstanding achievement, each National Teaching Fellow will receive £5,000 to support their professional development in teaching and learning.



Over the years, Anne has developed innovative diabetes care programmes designed to produce confident and reflective practitioners. Making significant contributions to national and international diabetes education policy and guidance, her work includes virtual case assessments, podcasts, business case preparation and 'writing for publication' assessments.

Anne said: "It is an honour and privilege to be recognised for teaching and scholarship in this way - I feel very humble indeed."

She will use the award to continue to develop education and relationships with colleagues working in diabetes care internationally.

Professor Marshall, Chief Executive of the HEA, said: "I am so pleased the HEA has the opportunity to run these awards, and to help to disseminate the best practice they reveal. Celebrating great teaching, whether by teams or individuals, is really important and highlights just some of the great work in the sector to improve the student experience. All the awards provide compelling case studies of best practice which we can share around the sector."

For more info, please visit: www.heacademy.ac.uk/person/mrs-anne-phillips

Rose gets publication

An article by Rose Pringle, Lecturer in Mental Health Nursing, has been published in the University of York Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Journal.

The article discusses the purpose of university education in relation to nursing and was part of Rose's submission for her Postgraduate Certificate in Academic Practice (PGCAP).

It discusses whether university degree preparation is necessary for nursing. The specific context of nursing education is addressed with an overview of recent developments. The theme of anti-intellectualism and how this relates to the nursing education debate is explored, both in the light of what society states that it requires from its nurses and in terms of contemporary concerns about the quality of nursing care.

To read the article go to: www.york.ac.uk/staff/teaching/develop/network/#tab-1

Teaching News

Nursing associate training

The Department of Health Sciences has joined forces with York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust to train students in the new nursing associate role.

Health Education England (HEE) announced that the Foundation Trust would be included in the second tranche of test bed sites for the new nursing associate role.

Some 20 nursing associates will start their training in spring 2017. They will work alongside existing nursing care support workers and fully-qualified registered nurses to deliver hands-on care for patients.

The role has been developed to enable nurses to focus on the more advanced elements of their jobs and to offer improved career pathway opportunities to emerging talent. The Trust will work in partnership with the Department of Health Sciences to deliver the curriculum framework.

Professor Vanessa Taylor, Deputy Head of Nursing, Midwifery and Professional Programmes, Department of Health Sciences, said: "This collaboration between York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and the Department of Health Sciences, University of York, offers an exciting opportunity to build on the established relationship between our organisations in preparing assistant practitioners, nurses and midwives for the local workforce."

Health Education England is the body responsible for planning and developing the healthcare and public health workforce.

Research News

Early career researcher prize success

Nicole Gridley (pictured right) won an early career researcher prize at the European Society for Prevention Research (EUSPR) conference held in Berlin this November.

The prize was for her presentation, 'Preliminary findings from a systematic review of tools and instruments used to measure parent and child outcomes in evaluation studies of parent programmes for parents with children aged 0-5 years'. The award was voted for by the EUSPR awards panel and Nicole was highly praised by both delegates and conference organisers. The review team is led by Sarah Blower and also includes Abby Dunn, Zoe Hindson and Tracey Bywater.



Research News

Paul Toner gives conference presentation

Paul Toner (pictured far left on the photograph) was an invited speaker at the Society for the Study of Addiction (SSA)-sponsored session at their international Annual Symposium on 10 - 11 November 2016 at the Park Inn, York. Paul presented the latest psychometric evidence on capturing youth drinking and possible directions for research to produce age appropriate, reliable and valid screening and assessment measures.



Conference presentation for PhD student

Health Sciences' international PhD student Dr Ahmad Salman (pictured left in the photo) and Professor Patrick Doherty (pictured right) jointly presented their latest research as a main conference session at the British Association for Cardiovascular Prevention Rehabilitation (BACPR) Annual Conference in Cardiff in October 2016.

Their presentation entitled: "To what extent does cardiac rehabilitation meet national minimum standards for service delivery" was well received by delegates. The session presented data from the National Audit of Cardiac Rehabilitation (NACR) set against six measurable minimum standards important for the delivery of high-quality cardiac rehab programmes.



The performance of cardiac rehab programmes was categorised into three groups: high, middle and low. Data from 170 programmes revealed that around a third achieved high-performance status, about 46% were in the mid-level category and around 20% were in the lower-level category.

This analysis shows that high level of performance is achievable in the era of modern cardiology and that many cardiac rehab programmes are close to meeting high-performance standards. That said, substantial variation below the recommended minimum standard, exists throughout the UK.

The NACR is funded by the British Heart Foundation and supported by the NACR Team based in Health Sciences.



Research News

College of Podiatry Conference

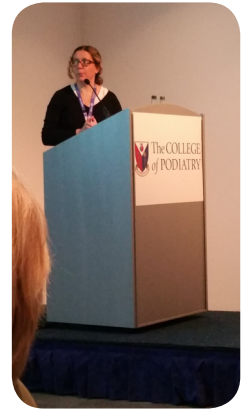
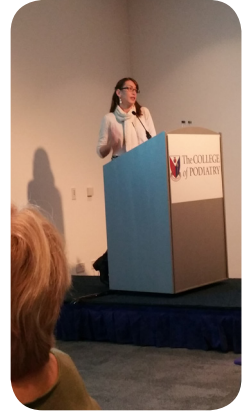
Arabella Scantlebury, Belen Corbacho, David Torgerson and Caroline Fairhurst (all from York Trials Unit) attended the 2016 College of Podiatry Annual Conference at the SECC, Glasgow, on 18 November, to disseminate findings from the REFORM trial.

Caroline (pictured top right) gave an oral presentation on the “Clinical effectiveness of a multifaceted podiatry intervention for falls prevention in older people: a multicentre cohort Randomised Controlled Trial (REFORM)”. Caroline also had a poster on “Intervention fidelity, participant compliance and predictors of compliance in the REFORM randomised controlled trial”.

Belen (pictured bottom right) presented on the “Cost-effectiveness analysis of the REFORM trial: a randomised controlled trial comparing a multifaceted podiatry intervention versus usual care for falls prevention”.

Arabella presented a poster on “The REFORM study: views and experiences of podiatrists on the delivery of a multifaceted intervention for falls prevention”.

All presentations were very well received.



Police knowledge fund workshop

As part of an information sharing workshop between centres which have received Police Knowledge Funding grants, held on the 29 November, Arabella Scantlebury, research fellow, presented on ‘A randomised control trial of a bespoke mental health training package for front-line police officers’ and Adwoa Hughes-Morley, research fellow, gave an overview of ‘Connect project, systematic review research stream: an overview’.

Writing week Grand Prix off to racing start

Alison Booth, research fellow in York Trials Unit, writes:

“The tri-annual writing week held in York Trials Unit got quickly off the starting grid on 17 October 2016. The Grand Prix theme inspired teams to get into gear and produce an impressive array of work. Trials unit staff are becoming adept at setting realistic goals for what they can achieve in the week while keeping essential work on trials ticking over. Improved time management has been a notable outcome for many. It’s also good to see planned papers moving forward, particularly methodological topics that can otherwise fall by the wayside under pressure of daily work. For speed (volume) combined with precision positioning and road holding (quality), the winning team of the October writing week Grand Prix 2016 was Donington Park (all the teams are named after racing circuits).

“Congratulations to Puvan, Sara, Adwoa, Laura, and Catherine Hewitt The Rally Wheel trophy will be up for grabs again in February’s second lap!” The winning team are pictured above.



Cardiac rehab report out

Record numbers of people are taking part in rehabilitation following a heart attack, according to new figures released by the British Heart Foundation (BHF), but female patients are being left behind.

Around 66,000 heart patients took part in rehabilitation in 2014/15, an increase of 27% since 2009 (51,000). This means that uptake for rehabilitation services has reached 50 per cent for the first time since records began according to a report written by Professor Patrick Doherty, Professor of Cardiovascular Health.

But the BHF is warning that female patients are being left behind and are missing out on vital services to improve their chance of recovery and reduce the risk of suffering another heart attack.

Statistics, published in the National Audit of Cardiac Rehabilitation, reveal: 66,000 people took part in rehabilitation following a heart attack; more than 20,000 female patients are missing out; half of patients are left waiting too long to start rehabilitation; in England, around 52% of eligible male patients take part in cardiac rehabilitation compared to 44% of female patients.

It's recommended that heart attack and angioplasty patients start cardiac rehabilitation within 33 days, but just half of programmes are meeting this target.

The BHF is calling for cardiac rehabilitation services to do more to meet waiting time targets and encourage more female patients to take part.

Professor Doherty, author of the report and Director of the National Audit of Cardiac Rehabilitation, based in the Department of Health Sciences, said: "The good news is that the UK now leads the world in uptake to cardiac rehabilitation and prevention for patients following a cardiac event or procedure, with an average of 50 per cent of patients accessing services.

"The bad news is that half of patients are not still accessing these services and those that do attend may receive sub-optimal service delivery with nearly half of programmes failing to meet the minimum standards."

The National Audit of Cardiac Rehabilitation (NACR), which is funded by the BHF and hosted within the Department of Health Sciences, combines data from hundreds of rehabilitation centres in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Cardiac rehabilitation offers physical activity support and lifestyle advice, such as exercise classes and dietary guidance, to help people living with heart disease manage their condition and reduce their risk of associated heart events.

Download the NACR at www.bhf.org.uk/NACR2016.

Research Concordat forum event

On 23 November 2016, Sheila Perry, University of York Research Communications Officer, and Alistair Keely, University of York Head of Media Relations, provided a seminar discussion on 'Writing for Lay Audiences and Media'. The seminar allowed the audience to share ideas on how to communicate our research to the widest possible audience.

The session started with a brief explanation of the different roles in the communications office and how they work together to promote research. The

speakers then went on to detail how they handled potential research stories and described a variety of different options for communicating research (ie press releases, The Conversation, social media etc). They provided a range of examples from researchers in the Department of Health Sciences and showed the journey from 'raw' research paper to press release or Conversation article, to demonstrate how each story was handled by the media.

Loneliness in later life

Mental health researchers from the Department of Health Sciences have contributed an article to an NHS magazine about loneliness in later life.

Nicole Valtorta (pictured right), who was, until recently, a research fellow in the Public Health and Society Research group, and Professor Simon Gilbody, of the Mental Health and Addiction Research Group, have contributed an article to Innovage Magazine, which promotes excellence in health and eldercare.

The article: “Loneliness in later life: opportunities and challenges for intervention” looks at what can be done to alleviate loneliness and isolation in older individuals.

Innovage magazine, which is produced by Trustech, an NHS organisation, is free to view and subscribe to.



SCIMITAR+ study achieves target recruitment ahead of schedule

The SCIMITAR+ trial led by the Mental Health and Addictions Research Group and the York Trials Unit is a study aimed at enabling people with serious mental health problems such as schizophrenia or bipolar disorder to give up smoking. People with severe mental ill health (SMI) are three to four times more likely to smoke than people in the general population and smoking contributes to poor health, poverty and early death in this group. Smoking therefore makes a significant contribution to this health inequality. A bespoke smoking cessation intervention to help people with SMI cut down or quit smoking has therefore been developed. In the SCIMITAR+ trial we will examine whether this bespoke smoking cessation intervention works better than

existing smoking cessation services for patients with SMI and will compare the cost of the bespoke intervention with usual care.

The SCIMITAR+ trial began recruitment in October 2015 and aimed to recruit 400 people with SMI by the end of March 2017. Despite this trial being conducted in a hard to reach group, the SCIMITAR+ team, with the help of their collaborating NHS sites across the country, successfully recruited the 400 participants ahead of time in October 2016.

Dr Emily Peckham, research fellow, who manages the SCIMITAR+ trial commented: “this was a very challenging trial, but it will answer an important question about how best to ensure people with SMI should be offered help to quit smoking. We have benefited from excellent collaborators in the NHS and we needed to work with 22 NHS trusts



to make this happen”. Professor Simon Gilbody, who is principal investigator for the trial, added: “to have reached our recruitment target is a significant milestone. This is a really important study which is now the largest ever trial done in this area. We are delighted to work with our colleagues in YU. This is what York does best.”

The SCIMITAR+ Team are pictured, from left to right: Simon Gilbody, Emily Peckham, Sue Collins, Della Bailey, Catherine Arundel and Claire Whitmore.

Research News

Global experts launch report on climate change health crisis

A Department of Health Sciences' academic is one of 48 world leading experts to contribute to the inaugural Lancet report amid warnings of a “catastrophic risk to human health” from climate change.

The Lancet Countdown: Tracking Progress on Health and Climate Change is an international research initiative bringing together leading experts from 16 global organisations - alongside special collaboration with the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) - to track and analyse the impacts of climate change on public health.



Launched at the COP22 climate talks in Morocco, the Lancet Countdown will be an annual report to track progress on the implementation of the UNFCCC's Paris Agreement, and the UN Sustainable Development Goals, which aims to resolve health challenges posed by climate change by 2030.

Stating evidence to drive an accelerated policy response, the report builds on the 2015 Lancet Commission on Health and Climate Change, which found that an estimated 18,000 people die every day due to air pollution exposure, making it the world's largest single environmental health risk.

Hilary Graham, Professor of Health Sciences (pictured above), and contributor to the report, said: “Climate change is already exacerbating existing health inequities, damaging the health of children and future generations. By embracing the health opportunities that a strong response to climate change brings, we can help them grow, develop, and live full lives.”

“The Lancet Countdown will work to track and accelerate this transition, providing the evidence that empowers doctors and nurses to advocate for the health of the communities they serve.”

For more information, visit: www.lancetcountdown.org.

Staff News

Staff congratulations

Congratulations to Omara Dogar who successfully gained her doctorate subject to minor corrections. Also to Miqdad Asaria who successfully defended his PhD thesis on the economics of health inequality.

Congratulations also go to Kamran Siddiqi who has been promoted to professor.

Congratulations to Anne Phillips who became a Queen's Nurse at a ceremony in London on 14 November.

Finally, congratulations to Matt Northgraves from YTU whose baby, Tilly Ann Northgraves, was born on 19 October, weighing 6 lb 9 1/2 oz. Rhian Gabe also from YTU had a baby boy, Ceri John Wilson, on 12 December weighing 6lb 8oz.

Staff News

Green Impact update

As we approach the end of the year, we are starting our final push towards our next Green Impact award. With that in mind, we have put together a list of some of the things you may wish to consider over the winter months. Have you considered sending charity Christmas cards this year or even electronic cards? Please consider these as alternatives to the usual cards as you will save energy and help a good cause.

If you are cold in your office, please consider adding an extra layer or a jumper. If you are still cold, please speak to Estates about getting your radiator checked. You can do this by calling x5555 or reporting it on Planon. If the problem persists, portable heaters can be supplied by Estates. Electric convector heaters are no longer permitted. If you have one in your office, please contact Estates to get it collected.

Why not have a change and instead of making a New Year's resolution you won't keep, try making a 'Green' resolution to help the environment instead. You don't even have to ditch the ubiquitous 'get fit' resolution to do it, instead why not consider walking or cycling to work if possible? We would like to encourage anyone making a 'Green' resolution to post it on our noticeboard located in the Seebohm Rowntree common room on the first floor.

In February 2017 we will be holding an event for York Toilet Twinning (<http://www.yott.info/>) with the aim of raising £240 to buy an entire toilet block. To do this we need your help! We are going to be holding a tombola, raffle and other events. Whilst you are doing your Christmas shopping, why not buy a small additional gift and donate it to our raffle? After Christmas, please collect any unwanted Christmas presents, gifts, or bric-a-brac and bring them along to Nicola on the first floor of SBR or Kat in ARRC. Nothing too big or too small!

A dripping tap wastes 5,000 litres of water per year which is equivalent to 20,000 cups of tea! Please report dripping taps and other water wastage to the Facilities Helpdesk at the details above.

The total amount the Department spent on rail travel from August 2015 to October 2016 is £89,276.30. The total spent on domestic air travel is £912.87 and European air travel is £9,463.53. It's great to see so many people taking the train, particularly for domestic travel and we would encourage everyone to consider sustainable transport options when making travel plans (see www.york.ac.uk/admin/estates/transport for more info).

If you have any ideas for more sustainable practice, please do let us know. You can contact Jonathan on jonathan.ayto@york.ac.uk.

Exams raise money for charity

The Exams and Assessments office (pictured right) have been raising money for charitable causes in the run up to Christmas. On Thursday, 15 December, they wore Santa suits for the day to raise funds for St Leonard's Hospice and on Friday, 16 December, they held a Christmas jumper day for Save the Children. Alongside the dressing up events they also held a raffle, a tombola, a cake stall and a mince pie bake off. Congratulations to Anne Thomson who was crowned the winner of the mince pie competition.



Hello

We wish a very warm welcome to new members of staff who have joined the department recently. These include: Jonathan Witts and Melissa Mialon.

Goodbye

We also wish a very fond farewell to those who have left the department over the last few months, including Rob Smith.

The pathways of patients

Artist Jacob van der Beugel has collaborated with Health Sciences' Epidemiology and Cancer Statistics Group (ECSG) and the Haematological Malignancy Research Network (HMRN) to highlight certain aspects of haematological malignancies, commonly known as blood cancers.

As part of the Centre for Chronic Diseases and Disorders Artist in Residence Scheme, Jacob has created an installation piece from concrete and rust, utilising the metaphorical possibilities of concrete cancer, an engineering term that describes the

degradation of concrete that compromises the integrity of the steel framework inside.



The project looked at data surrounding haematological malignancies and humanised it through the emotional associations of blood and rusting.

The installation is on display at York Art Gallery.

Tacky office competition

York Trials Unit got into the festive spirit on 9 December and hosted the 'tackiest decorated office' competition. The winning offices were the Health Economist/Statisticians and Kat Chatterton and Sally Baker's office.

Kat said, "Huge thanks to everyone in YTU who took part. Special thanks also to the judges, David Torgerson, and his two helpers Imogen and Lydia, (Catherine Hewitt's gorgeous four year olds who are pictured above with Caroline Fairhurst (left) and Kerry Bell (right))."



If you would like to make a submission to future editions of Megaphone, please contact Nicola Thomis (nicola.thomis@york.ac.uk or tel 01904 321927).