



Megaphone Online

October 2021

the voice of Health Sciences' staff and students

Welcome from the Head of Department

"Welcome to all of our nursing and midwifery undergraduates and our postgraduate students who have started their studies with us."

"We are delighted you have chosen to study with us. Whatever course you have chosen, our aim is to provide a supportive learning environment to enable each of you to fulfil your potential. We have a dedicated group of staff, with years of experience between them, who are here to guide and support you through your studies."

"I truly believe we offer some of the best UK educational programmes in health and social care and I hope you thoroughly enjoy your experience of studying in the Department of Health Sciences at the University of York."

Professor Patrick Doherty
Head of Department



In this issue:

- Farewell to UG students
- Research news
- Student Wellbeing Officer
- Staff news

Farewell to final year nursing and midwifery students

In September we said farewell to our final year BSc and MNurs students and to our third year midwifery students. Although we couldn't have the large nursing gathering we normally have, it was lovely to be able to celebrate your achievements with your cooperative learning groups. Good luck to you all on your future careers.



Pictures show - Left to right, top to bottom: CLG11, CLG12, CLG13, CLG14, CLG15 and CLG16

Student News



Pictures show - Left to right, CLG17 and 18, MNursing September 17



Pictured above Mid18

Student Wellbeing Officer

Introducing Louise Parsons, Student Wellbeing Officer

“Hi, I’m Louise and I’m your Student Wellbeing Officer. I’m here to provide a space for you to discuss any concerns or struggles you may be experiencing while you are at University.”

“If you’re feeling stressed or worried, or struggling with your studies, feeling overwhelmed with your academic work, or if you’re experiencing a personal issue, a health issue, a relationship problem or financial concerns, I’m here to listen and to talk things through.”

“I provide support, information and guidance and can help you navigate the support available on and off campus.”

“If you are experiencing any challenges and you would like to speak to someone, please get in contact. I currently offer online Zoom and telephone appointments and face-to-face appointments.”



How to contact your Student Wellbeing Officer

- You can book an appointment slot through the link to my [Google Calendar](#).
- Alternatively, you can ask your academic supervisor, or a member of the administration team, to contact me on your behalf.
- Or, you can complete the Open Door Team’s online self referral form in the following link [Open Door referral form](#).

Watch [introductory video](#) from Louise about her role.

MedSafetyWeek

Jodie Coulson writes: “In support of MedSafetyWeek which runs from 1st - 7th November, there is a new VLE resource for all students available on the VLE.”

“Visit the ‘Medicines Safety’ information for healthcare professionals which will signpost you to national campaigns and other useful links.”

Guest speakers join MSc in International Humanitarian Affairs (MIHA) programme

Janaka Jaywickarma and Claudia Milena Adler write: “We are excited to announce two guest speakers sharing their experience and expertise with the students from the MSc in International Humanitarian Affairs this year as part of their learning and teaching.”

“The MIHA programme invites Dr Anusanthee Pillay (pictured right), a gender advisor to the global humanitarian system currently working for Action Aid International and comes with over 30 years of experience working in the humanitarian and development sector. Dr Pillay, also alumni of the Department, will be speaking on her experience as a humanitarian and the role of women within a humanitarian context. She is a strong advocate for the inclusion of girls and women in the decision-making process and will be answering those difficult questions on what it means to be a good humanitarian?”



“Our second guest speaker is Dr Jwalin Patel, an ESRC Postdoctoral Research Scholar at the University of Cambridge who works in the developmental/social action sector. He is particularly interested in educational philosophy, classroom pedagogy, and teacher professional development.”

“Dr Jwalin will be bringing a new focus to understanding emergency education and its role in empowering marginalised and rural children.”

“This is a great opportunity for our students in the MSc to come together and network whilst gathering key insights from two intellectual practitioners with extensive field experience.”

“In the future, we are planning to invite the students from wider postgraduate programmes of the Department to attend these events. “



My Involvement in Service User and Carer Involvement (SUCI)

Susan Croft writes about her experience as a member of SUCI. Susan writes: “As a carer, my involvement with SUCI dates back to its inception in 2019 and has covered a diverse range of events and activities that, I think, clearly demonstrates the Department’s efforts to encourage and engage with the input of service users (SU) and carers (C) for the betterment of its stakeholders.”

“My experience has spanned four key areas: planning, via focus groups on initiatives that have led to new programmes in nursing; the practical development of courses that formally include SU and C in the education of health professionals, via workshops; quality assurance, via SU/C membership of programme approval panels; and the implementation of SU/C inclusion policies, such as co-interviewing applicants for course enrolment. Other SU/Cs have also participated in activities like working with students in simulations of the working conditions of health professionals.”

“The aim of all this involvement, for both the stakeholders and the SU/Cs, is to expand the Department’s capacity to produce programmes that are effective in enabling its students to thrive and deliver in the world of healthcare. SU/Cs are the ultimate ‘clients’ in this endeavour since we are the recipients of the professional services provided by the graduates of these programmes, so it is fitting that we participate and contribute, as a resource that adds the insights of lived experience to the Department’s academic expertise, as consultants that can give external, real-world perspectives from a wide array of fields to the Department’s healthcare arena, and as active auxiliary ‘members’ of the Department, supplementing the work of its staff.”

“It is for these reasons that the SUCI Forum was created. Officially established in 2020, this body aims to give serious heft to SU/Cs’ involvement by formalising their role and allowing them a proper voice. I would like to congratulate the Department for this enterprise – it has provided us, the SU/Cs, with a sense of purpose, relevance, validation, and the satisfaction of being involved in something as important as education. It’s also fun and, hopefully, useful.”

Research News

Researchers to undertake antifungal stewardship randomised controlled trial aimed at improving treatment of people with blood cancers

In Researchers at York Trials Unit (Department of Health Sciences, University of York) in partnership with Hull York Medical School (HYMS), Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, and the University of Hull have been awarded a £2.3m grant by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR), to help people with Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (AML), High-Risk Myelodysplastic Syndromes (HRMDS) and Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia (ALL).

Chief Investigator Dr Gavin Barlow, Senior Clinical Lecturer at HYMS and an Honorary Consultant in Infection at Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust is leading the project with Co-Chief Investigator Dr David Allsup, Senior Clinical Lecturer in Haematology at HYMS and an Honorary Consultant at the same Trust.

Around 500 patients will take part in the trial, coordinated by York Trials Unit, which aims to examine if blood tests can be used safely to identify serious fungal infections, reducing the use of antifungal drugs and safeguarding their future use. Patients diagnosed with AML, HRMDS and ALL can develop serious fungal infections while undergoing intensive chemotherapy. As fungal infections are often difficult to diagnose and can be life-threatening, the majority of patients are prescribed antifungal drugs as a preventative therapy known as prophylaxis and will then often receive further antifungal drugs if they become unwell, even if a preventative antifungal drug has already been used.

This approach means that almost all patients take a drug to prevent a small total number of fungal infections. Overuse of antifungal drugs may have serious consequences for the individual patient and for the wider NHS in terms of potential side effects, drug interactions, cost and in increasing antifungal resistance.

Another method, used in some hospitals, is not to give patients a preventive antifungal, but to monitor them closely and treat fungal infection early if suspected. Here regular biomarker tests can be used to detect key fungal proteins (the 'biomarkers') within the patients' blood to allow early diagnosis and targeted treatment of fungal infections.

This trial will assess if this biomarker approach for managing fungal infections safely reduces antifungal use compared to the prophylaxis approach, with a focus on patients' health-related quality of life. The findings of this research may prevent patients having to take prophylaxis drugs everyday, which should decrease the risk of fungi becoming resistant to available antifungal drugs, protecting these for patients when they really need them.

Researchers consulted patients with the help of Leukaemia Care before submitting their successful bid for funding and they will continue to be consulted throughout the study, expected to be completed in February 2026. Researchers at York Trials Units worked with the Chief Investigators and clinical co-applicants from an early stage in order to design the study and propose the required analyses. Collaboration on the project is also ongoing with the British Society for Antimicrobial Chemotherapy and the AML Supportive Care Sub-Group of the National Cancer Research Institute. They will also work with other NHS hospitals to see if the regular blood testing approach is a safe and effective way of identifying and treating serious fungal infections in this group of highly vulnerable patients.

The impact and importance of the research was mentioned in a recent press release, which can be seen here: <https://www.hyms.ac.uk/about/news/2021/medical-school-researchers-part-of-team-aiming-to-improve-treatment-of-blood-cancers>.

Research News

James Lind Alliance

James Lind Alliance Priority Setting Partnership identifies research priorities for symptoms not yet medically understood.

After 18 months of surveys and consultations with the public, a priority setting partnership of patients, clinicians and carers prepared research priorities aiming to discover more about conditions affecting patients that doctors can find no medical explanation for.

The partnership was supported by the James Lind Alliance (JLA), several charities such as FND Hope, FND Action, FND Networks, INCLUDE, the Universities disability network, Guts UK, Pain UK, Carers UK, POTS-UK, Graham Hughes International, Fibromyalgia Association UK, the British Thyroid Foundation, clinical networks and the Royal College of Psychiatry Liaison Faculty.

Patients, their carers and clinicians contributed from the domains of cardiology, neurology, stroke medicine, gastroenterology, endocrinology, general practice, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, occupational medicine, psychology, neuropsychology, psychotherapy and rheumatology.

Partnership

The partnership was led by Professor Christina van der Feltz - Cornelis from the Department of Health Sciences of the University of York and the independent JLA advisor was Jonathan Gower. The partnership was funded by the Centre for Future Health. The Centre for Future Health (CFH) has been established with funding from the Wellcome Trust and the University of York to support new collaborative projects that will address some of the most important health issues and challenges facing us today and into the coming decades.

The partnership is international as a Dutch Priority Setting group supported by Tilburg University is running a similar process simultaneously. They will present research priorities for the Netherlands next year. The Anglo-Dutch partnership will enable exploration of international and intercultural differences that might be of interest for future development of services and the co-design of research to develop better treatment and care of Medically Not Yet Explained Symptoms (MNYES).

Medically Not Yet Explained Symptoms represent up to 10 to 30 per cent of cases in general medicine. They can include fatigue, pain, dizziness, bowel problems, unexplained blackouts, seizures or sudden loss of awareness and functional neurological symptoms.

Workshop

When asked why they wanted to be involved in this project, a workshop participant responded saying: I have lived with MNYES since 2009 with various admissions to hospital. In the last six years I have had to give up my job and am still seeking a diagnosis.

Professor van der Feltz - Cornelis said: "People may have a diagnosis such as Functional Neurological Disorder (FND), Fibromyalgia, Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS) or Chronic Pain without fully understanding what has been the cause of these problems or the best way to treat them.

"Patients diagnosed with such symptoms, although care may be taken to explain their condition properly, often do not feel that they are taken seriously. They visit many clinics for diagnostic procedures to hear 'it is all in your head'. Treatments may pay little attention to their patient experiences and have limited effect."

Research News

Annie Shaw who suffers from Functional Neurological Disorder said: “My brain basically rewired itself and the right side of my body is affected. I have constant pain, tremors in my hand and foot, constant fatigue and am unable to use my right hand as I have little control of what it does and I can’t stand for long and have gait problems walking.

“I am disabled and unable to work but I have come to terms with the big stuff in the main but it’s the small things like, for example, not being able to open ring pull cans that really frustrates me.”

Care pathways

Researchers identified several different areas of study including: what treatments work best for patients, how clinicians can collaborate effectively to form the most appropriate care pathways for MNYES sufferers; and what outcomes matter most to patients.

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For more information on the research priorities see the website.

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Research paper wins award

Congratulations to Sarah Blower, Research Fellow in the Public Health and Society research group, co-author of a paper that won the ‘The President’s Award for an outstanding Prevention Science Research paper’ at the 2021 European Society for Prevention Research (EUSPR) conference.

The paper reports a randomised controlled trial evaluation of a community-based mentoring program for children with behavioural difficulties and is available here: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11121-020-01132-4>

Research News

New research will assess the impact of Universal Basic Income on young people's health

With current 14 to 24 year olds possibly the most vulnerable to mental health issues since WWII, York researchers will explore new ways to support their wellbeing.

In collaboration with the Universities of Lancaster and Newcastle, the University of York will model the impact of Universal Basic Income (UBI) schemes on mental health.

UBI is a system of regular, secure, unconditional cash transfers to all citizens. The team's model of impact suggests that UBI can promote health by reducing poverty, mitigating stress associated with inequality and changing behaviour to promote longer-term interests.

For the first time, the project, funded by the health research charity the Wellcome Trust, will model the impact of UBI to predict its impact on anxiety and depression among 14 to 24-year olds.

Project collaborator Professor Kate Pickett, from our Department of Health Sciences, said: "As we think about the post-pandemic future we need to test out new ideas about how to support young people's mental wellbeing while they navigate an increasingly challenging transition into adulthood. With this funding, we can model the potential for a bold new policy idea that could have a significant long-term pay-off."

The multidisciplinary team, which is led by Professor Matthew Johnson from Lancaster University and includes leading behavioural scientist Professor Daniel Nettle, from Newcastle University, will be working with the Royal Society of Arts (RSA) and campaigning organisation Compass to engage with young people from Bradford via the ActEarly project and a range of disability rights bodies to design UBI schemes.

These schemes will then be used to predict the impact on anxiety and depression by HealthLumen, which specialises in simulating the health and economic impact of proposed interventions before real-world implementation.

The findings will be communicated to key policy-makers through an end-of-project report, which will be published by the RSA, which has a track record of driving forward the debate on UBI.

Vitality, the project, which starts this month, will also for the first time establish universal research protocols for accurate measurement of health impact during trials of UBI.



Research News

Male frontline NHS workers to be offered support from mental health programme designed by York researchers

Male NHS frontline workers - particularly those who have experienced emotional and mental health problems due to Covid - will be offered support in a new project being developed by the University of York.

The programme, called Behavioural Activation for Low mood and anxiety in Male NHS frontline workers (BALM), is funded by Movember and being delivered in partnership with York and Scarborough Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Tees Esk & Wear Valleys NHS Trust, and North West Ambulance Service.

Researchers will develop, deliver and evaluate the early intervention programme that aims to improve common mental health challenges such as low mood, burn-out, anxiety and depression faced by male frontline NHS workers.

Disproportionately affected

Lead researcher, Professor Paul Galdas, from the Department of Health Sciences said: "Frontline staff are at increased risk of mental health difficulties which account for almost a quarter of NHS staff sickness absences. Male frontline workers often do not seek help and might be disproportionately affected.

"Identifying effective early interventions that facilitate uptake and engagement in male frontline NHS workers is critical to mitigating the mental health risks they face during the current pandemic and beyond."

Around 45 male NHS frontline workers at risk of low mood will be recruited for the pilot which starts in this winter.

The men will receive the behavioural activation booklet and support from specially trained experts on how to get the most out of the programme. It's expected to be rolled out across the NHS toward the end of the project in two years' time.

Early intervention

Professor Dean McMillan, from Hull-York Medical School, who is co-leading the study said: "Behavioural Activation is an effective treatment that can be used as an early intervention to help stop these difficulties getting worse.

"It is particularly suited for adaptation as a gender-sensitive intervention because of its practical, action-oriented strategies that are consistent with a strengths-based masculinities approach."

Vital support

Dr Michael Mawhinney, Head of Nursing (Corporate) at York and Scarborough Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust said: "Working within the NHS during the COVID-19 response has been a significant challenge for all of us and it is vital now, more than ever, we support all of our staff to the best of our abilities. "This exciting project is one way of doing that and we are very excited to start the project later this year."

Research from previous infectious disease epidemics shows that frontline health workers are at increased risk of developing both short and long-term mental health problems, with up to one-third experiencing high levels of distress.

New studentship at York to support FDA regulatory science

The University of York is part of a consortium that has won a \$2 million research contract from the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to improve Covid-19 models.

Preclinical models have been critical for narrowing down the list of candidate vaccines and therapies that advance to human studies, however, there is tremendous scope to improve these model readouts with recent advances in the disciplines of systems biology and machine learning. This holistic approach involves computational and mathematical analysis and modelling of inherently complex biological systems, and will be led by Australia's science agency, the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO).

Regulatory science

CSIRO scientist and Honorary Professor Seshadri Vasam, from our Department of Health Sciences, is the principal investigator of this project. He said it will develop the underpinning regulatory science to support the FDA in evaluating the suitability of animal models used to assess potential vaccines and therapeutics for Covid-19.

Professor Vasam said: "The project will generate evidence-based recommendations to help the FDA and other regulators evaluate preclinical data with even greater confidence and accuracy through the latest advances in science."

The FDA project will co-fund a masters studentship at the University of York from 2022 to 2023 to understand the burden of increasing model readouts on the preclinical pipeline.

Preclinical models

"By strengthening the preclinical models with additional readouts, we may inadvertently increase the burden on small innovative companies to perform rapid preclinical evaluation of their candidates, therefore suitable mitigation steps will be required," Professor Vasam added.

Professor Patrick Doherty, co-investigator on the FDA project and the head of the Department of Health Sciences, said: "We are particularly keen to see early career researcher involvement through a studentship to help clarify and understand the impact of health policy and funding policy changes required to mitigate these factors."

The postgraduate studentship will waive domestic and international fees and provide a generous stipend. It will be announced through the [University's postgraduate research funding pages](#) in mid-2022.

Nature-based activities can improve mood and reduce anxiety, new study shows

Outdoor nature-based activities are effective for improving mental health in adults, including those with pre-existing mental health problems, a new study has found. The research - led by the University of York - showed that taking part in outdoor, nature-based activities led to improved mood, less anxiety, and positive emotions.

The study found that activities lasting for 20 to 90 minutes, sustained for over the course of eight to 12 weeks, have the most positive outcomes for improving mood and reducing anxiety. Gardening and exercise were among the activities associated with mental health benefits. Engaging in conservation activities was also reported to make people feel better, as did 'forest bathing' (stopping in a forest to take in the atmosphere).

Large gains

Nature-based interventions (NBIs) support people to engage with nature in a structured way to improve mental health. As part of the study, researchers screened 14,321 NBI records and analysed 50 studies.

Lead author of the study, Dr Peter Coventry from the Department of Health Sciences, said: "We've known for some time that being in nature is good for health and wellbeing, but our study reinforces the growing evidence that doing things in nature is associated with large gains in mental health.

"While doing these activities on your own is effective, among the studies we reviewed it seems that doing them in groups led to greater gains in mental health."

However, the study found there was less evidence that outdoor activities led to improved physical health. The research suggests that there needs to be more appropriate ways to measure the short and longer-term impact of nature-based activities on physical health.

Investment

The paper - published in *SSM - Population Health* - also argues there is a need for substantial, sustained investment in community and place-based solutions such as nature-based interventions, which are likely to play important role in addressing a post-pandemic surge in demand for mental health support.

"One of the key ideas that might explain why nature-based activities are good for us is that they help to connect us with nature in meaningful ways that go beyond passively viewing nature", Dr Coventry adds.

The research forms part of the new 'Environment and Health' research theme, supported by the York Environmental Sustainability Institute (YESI). As part of the same theme, Dr Coventry and co-author Professor Piran White are now working with partners at the University of Central Lancashire to understand the health benefits of green social prescribing, in a study funded by the West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership.

Academics from the Department of Health Sciences, Department of Environment and Geography, York Environmental Sustainability Institute (YESI), Hull York Medical School and Stockholm Environment Institute at York contributed to the study.

Staff and student perspectives on online versus onsite teaching during the COVID-19 pandemic

Omara Dogar and Aishwarya Vidyasagaran writes: “ We recently completed a research study which aimed to link the Masters in Public Health (MPH) student experiences of learning with staff experiences of teaching in 2020-21, so as to assemble the best practices in digital learning.”

“The pandemic necessitated a shift from face-to-face to virtual delivery of teaching, and sessions had to be redesigned accordingly into several activities throughout the week for online delivery, while also keeping in view student’s engagement and learning. This presented a unique opportunity to study and understand how well the virtual learning environment (VLE) worked for staff and students, as well as the scope for applying any blended learning practices in the future.”

“Online surveys were administered to MPH students and staff, using Qualtrics. This was followed up with structured interviews with MPH staff to gain deeper insights into their perspectives. Twenty-two students and 10 staff responded to the survey between 29th April and 1st June, 2021, and preliminary results were presented in the form of a digital poster at the 2021 University of York Learning and Teaching conference. Our interactive padlet can be viewed at <https://sites.google.com/york.ac.uk/yorklt21posters/08?authuser=2> – please do have a look and give us your feedback. The full report of this study was written and submitted by Omara Dogar for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, Postgraduate Certificate in Academic Practice.”

“Results showed that both staff and students liked a good balance between synchronous and asynchronous activities. Despite some challenges with student participation in online activities and staff workload, both groups found the combined approach to provide a more flexible format for effective student learning.”

“Moving forward from the pandemic, similarly flexible formats and shifting towards a flipped classroom model, which utilises blended technology-supported activities, may be beneficial for higher education. Preloading lecture materials in advance and shorter in-class lectures with a mix of other activities that promote creativity, interaction and collaboration amongst the students might be taken forward into post-COVID teaching. For online teaching, ways to promote interaction, both peer-to-peer and between teachers and students, should be explored in future practice.”

“Please look out for our full article in the near future – we are in the process of finalising the write-up for submission to an open-access journal. In this, we plan to summarise some good practices in teaching approaches, which will provide a strong basis for future discussions within the MPH programme.”



Research News

Professor Christina van der Feltz-Cornelis wins award for study of diabetes psychology

The PsychoSocial Aspects of Diabetes (PSAD) Study Group of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD) presented Professor Christina van der Feltz-Cornelis with the PSAD Mid/Senior Career Researcher Science Award 2021 in the domain of diabetes psychology. The award was made during PSAD's 26th Annual Scientific Meeting on Thursday 21st October.

Christina won the award as first author of the publication of a systematic review and meta-analysis of treatments of comorbid depressive disorder or subthreshold depressive disorder in diabetes mellitus in *Brain and Behavior*.

The publication found that a variety of interventions are effective and that over the last decade, new interventions with large effect sizes have been introduced, such as group-based therapy, online treatment, and exercise. However, although all interventions, including psychotherapy, antidepressants, and metformin, were effective for depression, not all treatments were effective for glycemic control. Also, interventions in comorbid depressive disorder were more effective than in comorbid subthreshold depression. Based on the findings, guidance was provided for the treatment depending on the patient profile and desired outcome. It was also noted that research was mostly conducted in western countries and China, and LMIC based research was mostly lacking despite the surging prevalence of diabetes and depression in such countries.

Coauthors were Dr. Sarah Allen; Prof Richard Holt, diabetologist; Professor Richard Roberts, past president of WONCA; Professor Arie Nouwen, past president of PSAD, and Professor Norman Sartorius, former director of the World Health Organization's Division of Mental Health, and former president of the World Psychiatric Association and of the European Psychiatric Association.



New publications

Two papers have been published as part of the Transformative Research on the Alcohol industry, Policy and Science (TRAPS) programme within the Mental Health and Addiction Research Group:

Mitchell, G., & McCambridge, J. (2021). Recruitment, risks, rewards and regrets: Senior researcher reflections on working with alcohol industry social aspects organisations. *Drug and Alcohol Review*. doi:10.1111/dar.13342

This paper identifies the role researchers play in initiating and maintaining connections with the alcohol industry, adding to existing evidence that this type of industry activity does not contribute to public health goals.

Mitchell, G., & McCambridge, J. (2021). The 'snowball effect': short and long-term consequences of early career alcohol industry research funding. *Addiction, Research & Theory*. doi:10.1080/16066359.2021.1952190. This qualitative study identifies the crucial role norms and socialisation processes play in shaping researcher decision making about working with the alcohol industry.

Staff News

Hello

We wish a very warm welcome to new members of staff who have joined the department recently, these include: Claudia Milena Adler, Diana Fields, Emma Mclorie, Lucy Atha, Claire Whitmore, Luke Strachan, Jacob Losh, Morgan Clarke, Duncan Watson, Daniel March, Ashley Scrimshire, Emma Filby, Sarah Akhtar Baz, Sarah Hampton, Julia Hackett, Alison Chatten, Lauren Wright, Jonathan Wake and Jessical Whittall.

Goodbye

We also wish a very fond farewell to those who have left, including: Sarah Newsome, Tom Mills, Sarah Butler, Alexander Murphy, Nicola Sawyer Roskell, Vanessa Mendao, Jessica Fairfax, Megan Russell, Ginny Wilson, Panagiotis Spankis, Sara Rogers and Jenny Roche.

Congratulations

Jess Hugill Jones on the birth of her baby boy, Edward (known as Teddy) on 13th August.

Christina van der Feltz-Cornelis, as well as winning her award for the study of diabetes psychology, she has been recognised as a world leader in somatoform disorders research. Christina is listed in the top 1 per cent of scholars researching and publishing about Somatoform Disorders over the past 10 years in expertscape, with the top 1% labeled as expert and at the leading edge of investigation into their topic.

If you would like to make a submission to future editions of Megaphone, please contact Jane Milsom (jane.milsom@york.ac.uk or tel 01904 321392).