



Southampton  
Hospitals  
Charity

Charity Registration Number: 1051543

**NHS**

University Hospital  
Southampton  
NHS Foundation Trust

# CHARITY *matters*

Special Edition  
Summer 2020

**SPECIAL  
EDITION**



“Such kind gestures make staff feel valued and cared for.  
Thank you from the bottom of our hearts”

# The early days of the pandemic

On the 8th March 2020, University Hospital Southampton confirmed that they'd treated their first coronavirus patient.

The hospital prepared to adapt and change beyond recognition. Staff would need to work long hours; many were self-isolating to keep vulnerable family members safe and couldn't go home to be with their loved ones.

Within days, we'd launched an appeal to provide staff with immediate practical and emotional support.

## Boosting staff morale

Our supporter's immediate response to our appeal meant that we could quickly

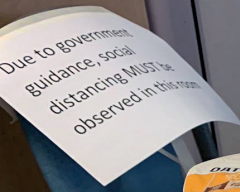
set up rehydration stations, with coffee machines, kettles, tea, coffee and soft drinks to support staff as shops and restaurants began to close and supermarkets struggled to meet demand.

Donations funded wellbeing packs for staff across the hospital containing supplies to have a quick snack, refreshments and hand gels.

Because so many people in our local community stepped up to support our own NHS heroes, we were able to give staff a boost to help them through the difficult weeks that would follow.



**We've delivered  
over 600 wellbeing packs  
to teams across the hospital**



# Support for our Emergency Department

**"The Emergency Department have had to relocate many of their staff rest and changing facilities to ensure they are not within a COVID-19 area.**

**Staff changing facilities were particularly impractical, with a limited number of working lockers and an enclosed set up.**

**The refurbished room means we have significantly more lockers for staff only a short way from the Emergency Department. The room has also been opened up to allow, not just a nicer lighter space, but more room to practice social distancing.**

**Thanks to Southampton Hospitals Charity supporters, the staff now have a staff space and pleasant place to start and end their shift and to store their belongings"**

**– Daniel Holligan, Medical Workforce Project Manager**





# Providing psychological support for frontline staff

During those first difficult weeks, it became clear that many staff would be taking on the biggest challenge of their careers; for some, even caring for friends, family or colleagues on the coronavirus wards.

We're funding Staffline: a helpline run by eight counsellors to give staff someone to call when they

need extra support or someone to talk to.

This extra psychological support will be vital for staff who will be on the frontline for the remainder of the pandemic.

## Creating Wellness Rooms

The generosity of our local community has

meant that, in April and May, we were able to do more to support the wellbeing of our NHS staff with the opening of five wellness rooms. The rooms have been kitted out with comfortable sofas, plants and rehydration stations to give staff a place to go to get away from the ward environment, have a hot drink and connect with colleagues.

"I've just worked over the weekend on G7 COVID-19 ward, and this is such a lovely gesture to keep us going and raise morale"  
– Bex



# Supporting isolated patients through the crisis

It costs  
£648 each day  
to provide free  
television for  
all of our  
inpatients

**Since March, the patient experience has had to change in order to keep patients and their loved ones safe.**

While the care continues to be phenomenal, being a patient is difficult and we've been receiving requests from staff for items

that will offer extra support to patients. We've already committed to funding an enhanced version of the patient entertainment system for 648 beds across the hospital for a period of three months.

Instead of only having access to free television between

8am and 12pm each day, inpatients across the hospital are able to have free television for 24 hours a day. And it means they won't need to worry about the cost of entertainment during a time when they are unable to receive visitors and may have other financial concerns.

## Shian's Story

Shian, a retired teacher from Southampton, was admitted to the General Intensive Care Unit at University Hospital Southampton after developing coronavirus symptoms.

***"All the staff were amazing – they saved my life. I had a lot of one-to-one support. They were so attentive to everybody's needs, so kind and so giving of themselves".***

Read Shian's story at  
[southamptonhospitalscharity.org/news](https://southamptonhospitalscharity.org/news)



# Peter's Story



**"I'm Peter, Jack and Dora's son, and I have a younger sister, Joan. Our family photo is from the mid-1940's.**

Just over ten years ago, I was admitted on transfer to University Hospital Southampton for heart surgery. Following that surgery, I was transferred to the expert care of ICU and maintained in a drug-induced coma for a month. Much later I learned from my family, who visited me daily, that there was at least one very 'touch and go' moment. That I survived is down to the teams who operated on me; to everyone who cared for me in ICU - twenty-four hours a day, every single day for that month – and my very

caring family.

Nurses on the High-Dependency Unit cared for me after ICU whence a few days later I was transferred to a general ward for just a couple more days and then to a hospital closer to my home for final 'rehab' prior to discharge.

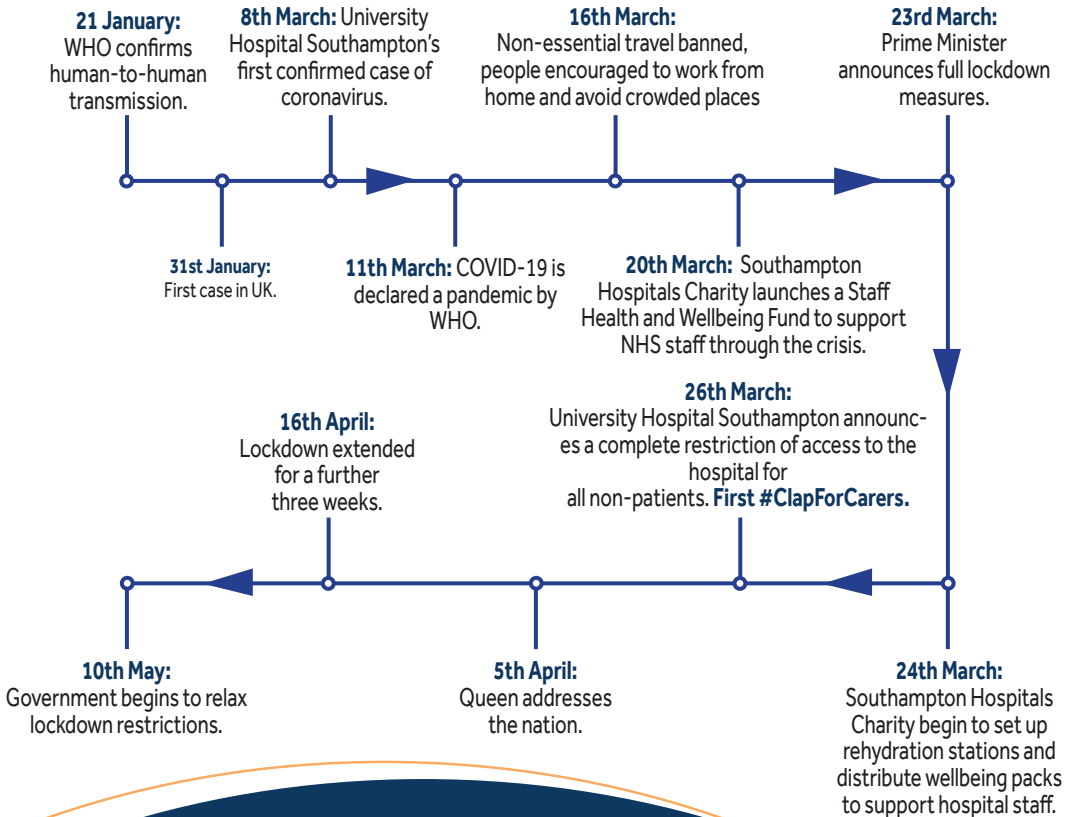
Your Surgical; ICU; HDU and general ward teams at University Hospital Southampton have given me at least ten more years of life, time that I have valued beyond words. Every day is a blessing.

I hope that my life will continue for many more years yet. My gifts to the Hospitals' Charity could never repay my family's debt to you all no matter how much I donate.

I am so pleased that one of the current appeals is for the benefit of the staff of University Hospital Southampton.

**Thank you,  
from the  
bottom of my  
heart".**

# Timeline



At Southampton Hospitals Charity, we bring people together to raise life-changing funds for University Hospital Southampton – the South Coast's leading healthcare provider.

From specialist services to pioneering research, our incredible supporters enhance care, experience and outcomes for thousands of patients each year.

For more information or to make a donation, contact us on:



**023 8120 8881**



**charity@uhs.nhs.uk**



**www.southamptonhospitalscharity.org**

**Southampton Hospitals Charity**

Mailpoint 135, Southampton General Hospital, Tremona Road, Southampton, SO16 6YD



Southampton Hospitals Charity UK



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All information is correct at the time of printing. We hope you enjoy hearing from us but if you ever change your mind, please let us know by calling 023 8120 8881.

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