



# News

Issue 1 | Summer 2025

## Welcome!

Welcome to the first issue of MWL NHS Charity News.

We are the official charity for Mersey and West Lancashire NHS Teaching Hospitals Trust, supporting Whiston, St Helens, Southport, Ormskirk, and Newton hospitals. We raise money to fund equipment and facilities to improve the quality of care for our patients.

In this newsletter you can learn more about what we do, read stories about some fabulous fundraisers, and find out what we have coming up over the next few months.

If there is anything you would like to ask or speak to us about, please get in touch by emailing [hello@mwlnhscharity.org](mailto:hello@mwlnhscharity.org).

Scrubs 



## Our new website is live

Head over to [www.mwlnhscharity.org](http://www.mwlnhscharity.org) and take a look at our brand new website.

Here you'll find all the latest news and upcoming events, as well as information about how to support the charity through fundraising or making a donation.

A colorful illustration of a beach scene. On the left, there is a yellow and blue beach umbrella, a red and orange striped beach chair, and a pair of blue flip-flops. In the center, the text 'Summer Raffle' is written in a large, purple, cursive font. To the right of the text, there is a cartoon bear mascot wearing a blue NHS scrubs top and a blue cap with the MWL logo, holding a red and yellow surfboard. Below the bear, there is a beach ball. In the bottom right corner, there is a small sandcastle and a red bucket with a shovel. The background shows waves and a blue sky.

## Summer Raffle

Get set for the summer hols!  
Win family days out, restaurant and pamper vouchers, and much, much more in our charity raffle!

Tickets are £1 each and can be bought online [here](http://www.mwlnhscharity.org).

★ Tickets £1 ★ 

## Fundraisers hit new heights

A group of twenty fearless fundraisers recently took on a charity abseil at Liverpool FC's iconic Anfield Stadium.

The group, which also included the Trust's Chief Executive, Rob Cooper, and Head of Charity, Victoria Burrows, descended from the roof of the Main Stand - a drop of 100ft - before safely landing back on solid ground.

Between them, they raised over £8,000 including Gift Aid for our charity; a magnificent achievement for everyone involved.



## MWL and VINCI go head-to-head on the pitch

Two football teams made up of staff from across the Trust battled it out on the pitch in May to raise money for MWL NHS Charity.

Team MWL's squad comprised of Trust staff from various departments, whilst Team VINCI were represented by staff from VINCI Facilities, the hospitals' buildings and maintenance contractor.

With a coveted trophy and bragging rights at stake, both teams really gave it their all. After a tense and exciting 90 minutes, it was Team VINCI who emerged victorious!

The total amount raised from the match was over £700. What a result!

## Play the MWL NHS Charity Lottery

By joining our charity lottery, you're not only giving yourself the exciting chance to win cash prizes of up to £25,000, but you're also directly supporting the vital work that helps improve care, comfort, and facilities for patients and their families every single day.

Your support helps fund cutting-edge equipment, enhance patient environments, and provide essential extras; all of which make a huge difference in recovery and wellbeing.

For more information and to sign up, visit [www.mwlnhscharity.com/lottery](http://www.mwlnhscharity.com/lottery).

**MWL NHS CHARITY LOTTERY**

Play from just £1 a week for a chance to win up to

**£25,000**

GambleAware Advice | Tools | Support



## Introducing our 2025 charity appeal

### About the Spinal Injuries Centre

The North West Regional Spinal Injuries Centre, based at Southport hospital, is one of 8 facilities in the country that specialises in rehabilitation for patients who have suffered a spinal cord injury. The Centre serves the whole of the North West area, covering Merseyside, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Cumbria, Cheshire, North Wales, and the Isle of Man.

Home to a multi-professional team of specialist consultants, doctors, nurses, and therapists, the centre is also equipped with a gymnasium and swimming pool to help patients regain as much independence as possible. Depending on the complexity and/or severity of their condition, inpatient stays can range anywhere from a few weeks, to several months or more.

### About the appeal

For patients facing a particularly lengthy stay in hospital, having a place to relax away from the clinical setting of the ward is important for both mental and physical wellbeing. Following patient feedback about the Centre's inpatient day room, the space would benefit greatly from modernisation and improvements to enhance its functionality, and create a more welcoming environment.

With your help, we aim to raise **£50,000** to transform the day room into a more comfortable, accessible and engaging space, so that patients requiring extended stays have somewhere they can unwind, take some time for themselves, or spend time with their families and loved ones.



If you would like to fundraise or make a donation towards this appeal, scan the QR code or visit [www.mwlnhscharity.org/spinal-appeal](http://www.mwlnhscharity.org/spinal-appeal).

You can also email us at [hello@mwlnhscharity.org](mailto:hello@mwlnhscharity.org), or call us on 0151 290 4400.



Registered Charity: 1053125



Registered with  
**FUNDRAISING  
REGULATOR**

# Your donation, your way

Across the five hospital sites that make up Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, there are many departments that do amazing work.

We realise that lots of people who want to support our hospitals often have a particular area that is close to their heart, either because they, or someone close to them, have received excellent care from that area. We have introduced twenty-one designated funds that anyone who would like to donate or fundraise can support.

## Our funds

### Specialty Funds

Baby Bereavement

Breast Care

Burns & Plastics

Cancer

Children's

Critical Care

Diabetes

Elderly Care & Dementia

Heart

Lilac Centre

Neonatal

Ophthalmology

Orthopaedics

Respiratory

Spinal

Stroke & Rehabilitation

### Hospital Site Funds

Whiston Hospital

St Helens Hospital

Southport Hospital

Ormskirk Hospital

### All Areas

General Fund



When you support us, **YOU** choose where you want your donations to go. You can find out more about each of our twenty-one funds on our website: [www.mwlnhscharity.org/fundraising](http://www.mwlnhscharity.org/fundraising)

# Where your donations go

With your help, we were able to fund **£410,169** worth of equipment and improvements across our hospital sites over the last year.

Our priority is to fund items or projects that directly benefit patients, either by providing vital equipment to help with diagnostics and treatment, or by improving the hospital environment and facilities to make the hospital experience more comfortable.

## Medical equipment

Medical equipment accounted for **42%** of charity spend last year, enabling the purchase of essential equipment to help improve the treatment and care of patients.

This included the state-of-the-art Faxitron machine, which provides our breast cancer surgical team with immediate access to high-resolution imaging and biopsy reporting during an operation. This machine saves time, both in theatre and in clinic, as well as improving patient outcomes.



## Patient welfare and amenities



**41%** of charity spend funded non-medical items to help improve the patient environment and experience. This included post-surgery bras, toys and sensory items, replacement exercise equipment, and reclining chairs for overnight visitors on the Maternity Unit.

Our Stroke Ward at Southport Hospital benefitted from an interactive board to support physical and cognitive rehabilitation. Therapists use this to help improve patients upper limb movement, coordination, and communication through interactive games and video.

## Our funding priorities:

- Medical equipment
- Patient welfare and amenities
- Building and refurbishment

**£173,194**

**£166,761**

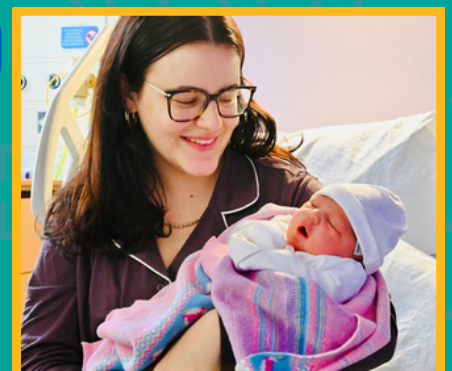
## Buildings and refurbishment

**5%** of charity spend last year was used for building and refurbishment purposes.

This included refurbishment of the ante-natal playroom and works to the delivery suite, providing a more welcoming and comfortable environment for expectant parents.

## Other charitable spend

The remaining **12%** of the total charity spend was associated with miscellaneous costs that did not fall into any of these other categories.



# Fundraiser Focus



## Marching for Maddie

For the second year in a row, Rachel Featherstone, her dad John, and a group of fantastic fundraisers recently completed a gruelling 35-mile sponsored walk from Oldham Athletic football club to Whiston hospital.

Rachel's baby daughter, Maddison, was born sleeping at Whiston Hospital in 2022. She received outstanding support from the Bereavement Midwifery Team, who provided her with precious memories and keepsakes, as well as giving her time to spend with Maddison.

Just a few months later, Rachel's dad John was diagnosed with cancer, and was treated at The Christie cancer centre. After being declared cancer-free, John, along with Rachel, were so grateful for the care they had both received, they were keen to give back to the hospitals that had helped them. They decided to do the 'March for Maddie' fundraiser, and split the donations between both hospitals. Last year, they raised an incredible £14,100, and this year's donations are still rolling in.

Rachel's experience had so much of an impact that she was inspired to pursue a career in midwifery, and she now works at the Trust as a Student Midwife.



A huge thank you and well done to Kirsty Evans, who raised a brilliant £1,165 for the MWL NHS Charity by smashing her very first 10k at the AJ Bell Great Manchester Run.

Kirsty ran in memory of her mum, who sadly passed away five years ago from a sudden brain haemorrhage. Her mum was looked after with such kindness and care at Southport Hospital, and Kirsty chose to support MWL NHS Charity as a way of giving back to the incredible teams who helped her family during such a tough time.



Well done to Eric Ranson who completed the London Marathon in just under 4 hours, raising over £1,400 for the Lilac Centre, where his partner Sharon is receiving treatment for Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma.

Congratulations to Andy Sutton from the security team at St Helens Hospital who recently completed a skydive; jumping from a plane at 11,000ft, and raising a fantastic £785 for the Lilac Centre.



If you would like to fundraise for MWL NHS Charity, or ask any questions, please get in touch!



[hello@mwlnhscharity.org](mailto:hello@mwlnhscharity.org)



0151 290 4400



@MWLNHSCharity

# Upcoming Events



## Whiston Hospital Abseil

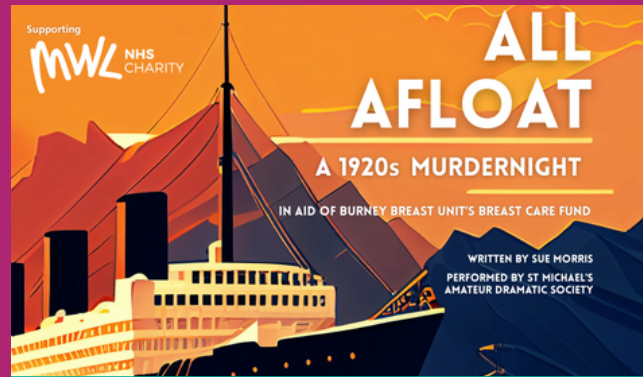
Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September

Do you have what it takes to brave our latest challenge?

We are searching for brave fundraisers to abseil down Whiston Hospital. Facing the drop in pairs, challengers will descend the the front facade of the hospital, near the building's main entrance.

Entry is free of charge, all we ask is that everyone who takes part raises a minimum of £50.

If you are interested in signing up, please email [hello@mwlnhscharity.org](mailto:hello@mwlnhscharity.org) for more details.



## Murder Mystery: 'All Afloat'

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September, Windle Social Club

An unexpected encounter on a cruise liner travelling between Liverpool and New York brings to the surface a past which many had felt - and preferred - to be forgotten: a tale of spurned love and cowardice. And on a boat there is nowhere to hide...

Written by Sue Morris and performed by St Michael's ADS, this 1920s themed whodunnit will challenge amateur sleuths to solve the clues and unmask the murderer.

Tickets are £10 and include a hotpot supper. All funds raised will go to the Burney Breast Unit's Breast Care Fund.

The Events page on our website is regularly updated with all the latest activities:  
[www.mwlnhscharity.org/events](http://www.mwlnhscharity.org/events)



There are lots of opportunities for volunteers to lend a helping hand:

- Fundraising
- Public collections
- Events
- Awareness stalls
- Raffles & tombolas
- Christmas campaign

We are always looking for people to get involved, so if you would like to find out more, visit our website or get in touch.

[www.mwlnhscharity.org/volunteer](http://www.mwlnhscharity.org/volunteer)  
[hello@mwlnhscharity.org](mailto:hello@mwlnhscharity.org)  
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