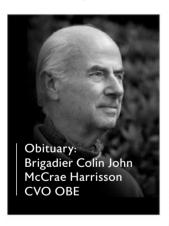


Friends Newsletter

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Adams KCVO, CBE, DSO, RD



Dear Friends

is my pleasure to provide the introduction to our spring newsletter, as we wish our Patron, Her Majesty The Queen, a very happy Platinum Jubilee.

As we emerge from the Coronavirus pandemic, I am pleased to tell you that the Hospital is now busier than ever before, and we have exciting times ahead of us.

Having recently completed and opened our new outpatient and imaging centre, we are now focused on delivering a further comprehensive renovation and development programme. This phase will focus on the refurbishment of our wards, patient bedrooms and replacement of infrastructure within the main Hospital. Following this, our vision over the next five years is to transform every other aspect of our Hospital's campus, bringing numerous benefits to all our patients, and importantly helping us care for greater numbers of veterans of the Armed Forces.

I am pleased to inform you that I have recently added two new Director colleagues to our team, Emmett Steed-Mundin, Director of Nursing and Alex Le Vey, Director of Philanthropy and Veterans' Health. You can read more about Emmett and Alex on the following pages.

We were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Brigadier Colin Harrisson, a former CEO of the Hospital, whom I know many of you will remember fondly. We pay tribute to Brigadier Harrisson on page 8 of this newsletter.

Thank for your continued support over what has been a challenging period. We simply could not achieve all that we do without you.

I wish you and your loved ones a lovely summer ahead.

Lindsey CondronChief Executive

is a great privilege to have joined King Edward VII's Hospital, to have the opportunity to work alongside such a talented and dedicated team and to be able to play a part in adding to the Hospital's incredible history.

From day one I had a very strong sense of standing on the shoulders of giants, a sense that has only grown stronger as I deepen my knowledge of the history of the Hospital, and the many amazing characters who have both worked here and received care here over the years.

I'm really pleased, and very grateful, that Paul Montgomery, consultant ENT surgeon at King Edward VII's Hospital, will be bringing some of these characters to life for us, with a regular 'Into the Archive' profile on a character from the Hospital's past, starting with an esteemed predecessor of mine, the Hospital's first Appeals Secretary, Captain Sir Jameson Boyd Adams, on page 12 of this issue.

As you all know, fundraising is critical to the Hospital fulfilling its charitable objectives, and we have two main strategic priorities which we are fundraising to achieve by 2027. We must:

Double the number of veterans we support each year by the end of 2023, then going on to deliver further sustainable growth.

Undertake a major capital project, to completely redevelop our main Hospital building.

Introducing Alex Le Vey, new Director of Philanthropy and Veterans' Health

Doubling the number of veterans we support

To achieve this priority, we plan to deliver more activity from each pillar of work delivered via the Centre for Veterans' Health:

- Pain Management Programme (PMP) running an increased number of our awardwinning programme to help more veterans to manage acute and chronic pain, ensuring they are able to live their lives to the fullest.
- Military grants and subsidies providing a greater number of 100% means-tested grants, and increasing awareness of our 20% subsidy, which is available to all veterans and their spouses and partners.
- Research conducting research into the health needs of veterans to contribute to wider change.

Redeveloping our main Hospital building

With the completion of our new outpatient and imaging centre, The King Edward VII's Hospital Medical Centre, we now need to transform our main Hospital building. Over the next five years we will be fundraising to deliver additional surgical capacity and significantly improve all structures and spaces, including all three wards and bedrooms, all common areas, our theatres and roof. We will also upgrade the mechanical and electrical systems for the Hospital which will enable and support a full range of state-of-the-art diagnostic and treatment technologies.

The end result will be a completely rejuvenated Hospital campus that blends our unique identity and track record in delivering the highest possible quality of personalised healthcare with the latest innovations in medical science and the ability to continue to grow and develop.

This is an ambitious programme of work, and I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible over the coming weeks and months, and to hopefully work with you to achieve these aims. I will also be reporting back to you with our progress in future editions of the Friends newsletter.



The Pain Management Programme through the pandemic

The pain management team offered face to face PMPs from 2015 to 2020, seeing over 350 veterans.

In April 2020 the team adapted to the pandemic by delivering veteran specific pain management programmes via a video conferencing platform. Since the onset of the pandemic, the team have delivered 16 virtual PMPs (VPMPs) to date. Delivering the PMP is only made possible due to philanthropic support provided by our donors and partners.

"

I cannot thank the team or this programme enough. In 2015 when I was medically discharged from HM Armed Forces I thought my life was over and ever since it has all been put on hold because of pain. I can now look forward to mine and my family's future because of the strategies I have learnt on this course. Yes the pain will always be there, that I have come to terms with, but it no longer defines me as a person. Thank you.

A VETERAN WHO TOOK PART ON A VIRTUAL PMP

"

I can't thank the PMP team enough.

Each chat has delivered a 'golden nugget' of information to allow me to feel better about myself and feel a lot more confident in my future. This course is a must. I have no doubt it has saved lives these last few weeks and prevented further downward spirals for others.

A VETERAN WHO TOOK PART ON A VIRTUAL PMP

100%

of veterans attending the PMP would recommend to another veteran

95%

found all sessions appropriate and relevant to their day-to-day management of pain

98%

rated the programme 5 out of 5

100%

of those seeking employment reported through the programme they felt more confident in seeking employment

98%

of those in employment reported that by attending the PMP they felt more confident in their workplace



The Lord Mayor's Platinum Jubilee Big Curry Lunch

were delighted to be a beneficiary charity of this year's very special Lord Mayor's Platinum Jubilee Big Curry Lunch, named to mark The Queen's Accession to The Throne 70 years ago and her extraordinary service to the United Kingdom and to the Commonwealth, held on 7th April. All funds raised for us will be used to support veterans via the PMP.

Founded in 2008, this is the fourth year that the PMP has benefited from the Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch. Founded and Co-chaired by Mr Michael Hockney MBE CCMI FRSCM FSA and the Lord Mayor, whose Committee works in partnership with ABF The Soldiers' Charity, funding from the Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch has enabled us to support dozens of veterans across the Armed Forces to better manage their pain and will continue to so over the coming months.



The Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch enthusiastically continues to support King Edward VII's Centre for Veterans' Health. From the data we have seen we are confident that the PMP delivers significant outcomes for veterans. Veterans can go on to achieve long-term employment in the civilian community. This is transformational for them and their families.

MICHAEL HOCKNEY MBE, CO-CHAIR OF THE LORD MAYOR'S BIG CURRY LUNCH



We are hugely grateful to Mr Hockney and the Committee for their on-going commitment to and generous support of the PMP, which has had a profound impact on the lives of hundreds of veterans.

PROFESSOR ROGER KIRBY, TRUSTEE, KING EDWARD VII'S HOSPITAL

Emmett Steed-Mundin Director of Nursing

What do you love about the Hospital?

When I joined the Hospital as Senior Staff Nurse, nearly 15 years ago, I was immediately struck by what a special organisation it is. We have always followed a nursing model that gives us time to care for each patient as an individual and although this may sound basic, it had been rare in my experience of nursing and the importance of this fundamental principle, was formative for me. In addition, patient voices have always been valued and considered paramount to drive change across the organisation. In the Hospital today, Patient Representatives sit on key working groups to help inform Hospital policy; and even sit on the interview panels for senior clinical posts. We are always keen to recruit a diverse cohort of Patient Representatives, who are happy to contribute to the Hospital in this way. I'd really encourage people to get in touch if it is something they are interested in.

The other thing which has always stood out about King Edward VII's Hospital is the fantastic clinical workforce. The expertise and experience of the clinical team helps to create an environment where professionalism and outstanding standards are perfectly balanced with care and kindness.

It is a big responsibility to carry these principles forward, but also a real privilege.

How have you seen the Hospital change over time?

The Hospital has always been forwardlooking and has grown significantly, both in its clinical offering and in its improved patient journeys. The recently built outpatient centre, for example, is a fantastic, modern facility, which offers a considerably more streamlined experience. Patients can now have minor procedures as part of their consultation within a bespoke space. We have also recently added a state-of-the-art day-case surgery unit and endoscopy suite, which are brilliant for patient experience because they offer a range of surgery, without the need for hospital admission.

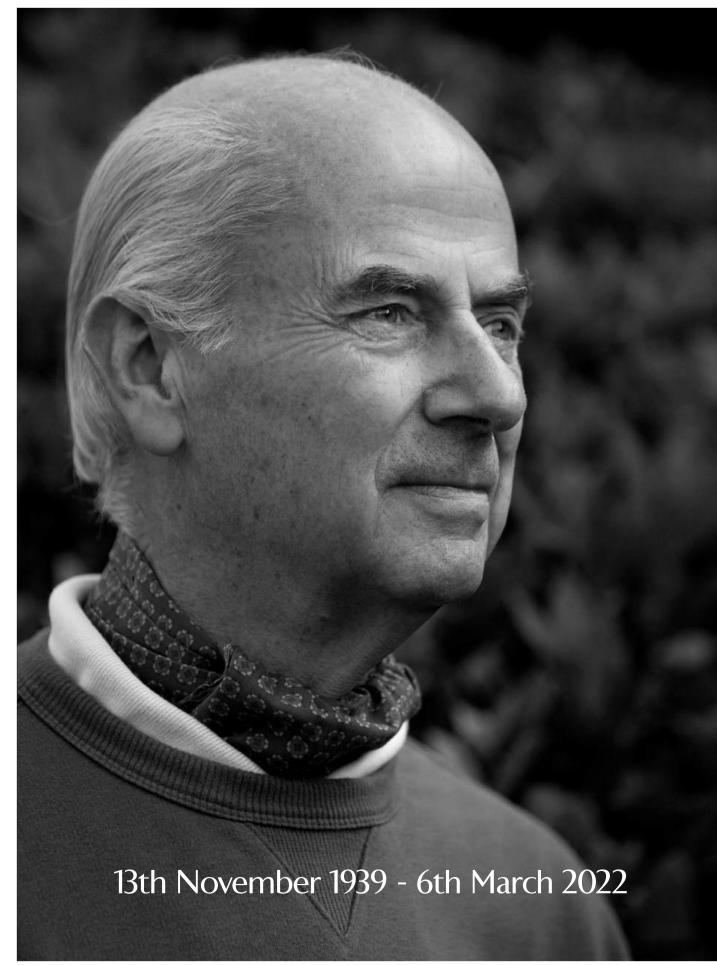
There has also been a big advance in the scope of nursing practice at the Hospital. When I started at the Hospital 15 years ago, I would have never imagined nurses being able to prescribe for patients. But now we have a team of Clinical Nurse Specialists, who work alongside our consultants to assess, diagnose and treat patients and are able to prescribe within their areas of expertise. They also undertake a considerable amount of education not only with their patients, but also with the clinical team, to ensure practice is grounded in the most recent evidence.

What does your role involve and what are your plans for the Hospital?

The Director of Nursing is essentially the 'Director of Care'. It goes without saying that I lead on patient safety, patient experience and clinical quality. From a personal perspective it is important to me that excellence in nursing care and the Hospital values inform all of the strategic decisions we make. Clearly none of this is possible without incredible teams of people. Supporting and developing these teams, especially as we come out of the pandemic, will remain a key priority for me. It is important to me that King Edward VII's Hospital continues to attract and promote the best clinicians. I am delighted that we have recently appointed a new Head of Nursing, Elaine Danns, for example, who brings a wealth of expertise and experience to the role.

Another priority will be to harness opportunities in the digital healthcare market. There have been huge advances in this sector and the key here will be to invest in technologies that can free up nurses' time to care, and ultimately to improve patient outcomes and experience.





Brigadier Colin John McCrae Harrisson CVO OBE

We were greatly saddened to receive the news that Brigadier Colin John McCrae Harrisson, who was the CEO at King Edward VII's Hospital for 13 years, passed away at home on 6th March after a long battle with cancer at the age of 82.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Jane, who he married only three months after their first meeting and remained to for 55 years, and his children, Anthony and Camilla.

Before his tenure at King Edward VII's Hospital, Brigadier Harrisson was a member of The Rifle Brigade and Royal Green Jackets and flew as a helicopter pilot both in the United Kingdom and abroad.

While not in the air, the Brigadier delighted in indulging his passion for motorbikes and fast cars.

He also served as an army commander in Ulster, both before and after being posted to the Ministry of Defence. In 1991, he was selected to be the Chief Executive of King Edward VII's Hospital, moving him from military to civilian life. Brigadier Harrisson showed incredible leadership abilities, owing to his clear thinking, impeccable judgment and embracing of the Hospital's ethos.

Patients and staff from all levels at the Hospital regarded him with true affection and warmth, with many still fondly recounting memories of Brigadier Harrisson to this day.

After leaving his post as Chief Executive, the Brigadier was appointed the Governor of the Hospital and also sat on the Hospital's Governance Committee.

Brigadier Harrisson will be remembered as a devoted husband, loving father, loyal friend and a person whose enthusiasm for life touched many people in all different corners of the world.

He will be truly missed by all at King Edward VII's Hospital.

I had the great honour and privilege to work with Colin Harrisson for 12 of my 24 years as Matron at King Edward VII's Hospital and continued to work with him when he became a Governor. It was in fact Colin who persuaded me to apply for the post all those years ago! I thought he was mad!

I was truly lucky to work with such a wonderful mentor, he taught me so much and was a constant support. Always immaculately dressed and a true gentleman. He had extremely high standards and expected the best from everyone.

We worked hard, but also had fun; he loved a practical joke and you had to be always on your guard! His many sayings and quotes remain with me today as they do with other colleagues from the time. The one thing we all agreed on when we met up at Colin's funeral, was that we were all extremely fortunate to have known him and the influence he had on all of our lives will never be forgotten.

CAROLINE CASSELS, FORMER MATRON

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An interview with Tom Tugendhat MBE MP

We were pleased to speak with Tom recently:

You served in the Territorial Army for a number of years, rising to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and serving in both Iraq and Afghanistan. What first inspired you to serve?

I was always drawn to the community of the Army. Working together with people from across our country was what drove me to serve. Over the years of serving around the world and eventually even in the Ministry of Defence it was always great to be part of a fantastic team.

How would you like to see veterans supported now and into the future?

The key to supporting veterans is recognising the service that so many have given. We need to recognise that as a society we all have a responsibility to those most in need, particularly those who have given so much. For me, the first thing we need to fix is the mental health crisis we see in veterans' care.

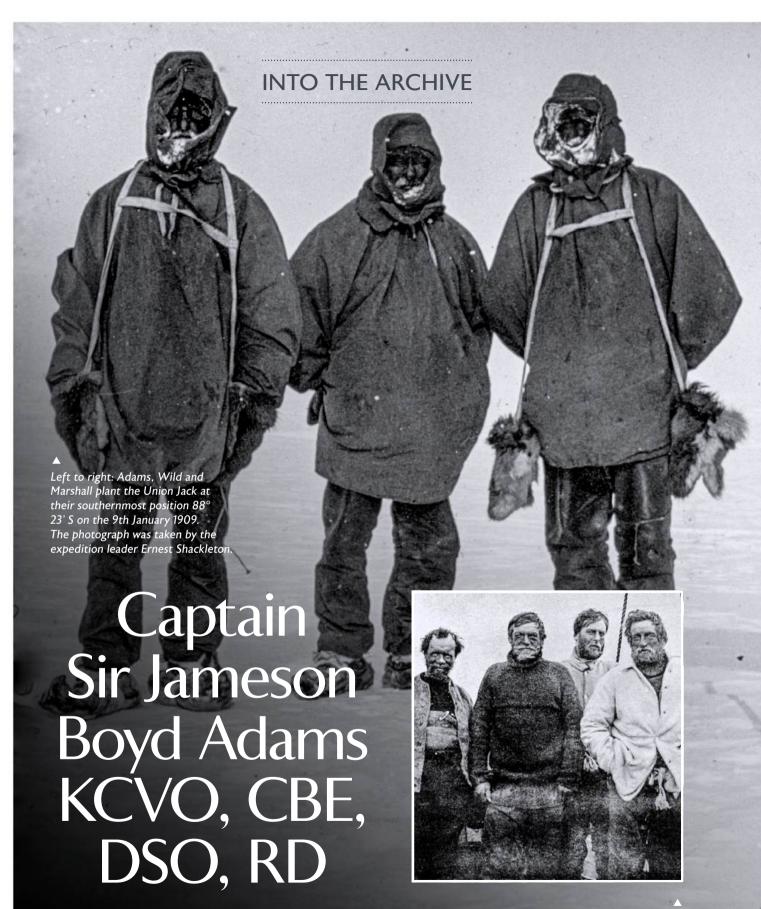
How has your military background influenced your approach to politics?

The Army has given me a greater understanding of our country. I was lucky to serve alongside the most amazing people from across our islands who showed me the great strength of our country. There is so much energy and talent that the Armed Forces draws from, I know we can do better. I am very confident of a greater future because of the creativity of our people.

King Edward VII's Hospital has a proud history of supporting service personnel and veterans, many of whom will be reading this interview, is there anything you would like to say directly to them?

Thank you. The service those who have worn the uniform have given our country is not just while on duty but the example of service itself. You have shown what we know - there is a cause greater than all of us, that matters more than us - serving our community, our country and The Queen is a privilege because it helps us all be better than we could be as individuals.





Left to right: Frank Wild, Ernest Shackleton, Eric Marshall & Jameson Adams on board the "Nimrod".



60 years ago, Captain Sir Jameson Boyd Adams, the charismatic and brilliant Head of the Hospital's Appeals office died.

His life was extraordinary, a hero from the Heroic Age of Antarctic Exploration.

After meeting Ernest Shackleton, he became the first man to volunteer for the British Antarctic Expedition in 1907. Its main target, among a range of geographical and scientific objectives, was to be first to the South Pole. This was not attained, but the expedition's southern march reached a farthest south latitude of 88° 23' S, just 97.5 nautical miles (180.6 km; 112.2 mi) from the pole.

Also whilst there Adams, with others, conquered the summit of Mount Erebus, Antarctica's most southerly active volcano, on the 10th of March 1908.

During World War I, he commanded a battery of naval siege guns in Flanders, but a bad head wound necessitated his return from the front in 1917. He received both a Distinguished Service Order and the Croix de Guerre for his services. After further distinguished service in World War II he was knighted.

Adams led the fundraising for the Hospital between 1949 and 1962 and was phenomenally effective. Often, he would use personal contacts which included fellow club members at Brooke's and Whites. He was never deterred by convention from saying what he thought. He preferred to be known by allcomers simply as "The Mate".

He would often be seen dressed in Edwardian style: narrow trousers, high cut waistcoats and a bowler hat.

Adams is commemorated in the Antarctic by Adams Glacier (78°7' S 163°38' E) named in his honour by the New Zealand Northern Survey Party of the Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition (1956–58).

In November 2008, 100 years after the Expedition began, one of "The Mate's" great grandsons, Henry Adams, set off from the Shackleton Hut with two other members of the Shackleton Centenary Expedition to complete the whole 800 nautical miles (1,500 km) to the South Pole on foot, hauling their own supplies, unassisted. In January 2009, another of "The Mate's" great grandsons, David Cornell, joined the Expedition at the Farthest South 88°23' S 162°00' E to complete the last 97 miles (156 km) of unfinished family business.

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Get in touch

For more information on anything included in this newsletter, or to discuss how to best support the Hospital, please contact:

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