

Research and Innovation Winter Newsletter

February 2026

The Clinical Research Facility welcomes its first patients.

Research & Innovation has welcomed the first patients through the doors of the new Clinical Research Facility at Sherwood Forest Hospitals.

The new facility, which can be found in TB3 at King's Mill Hospital, represents new investment into the Mid Nottinghamshire area. This will greatly increase the Research & Innovation department's capacity to provide greater Research opportunities to the wider communities.

Our first participant, who is taking part in one of our Commercially sponsored Clinical Trials, had this to say about the new Clinical Research Facility:

"It's nice, very fresh and it's better than being moved from room to room."

Another research participant agreed & had this to say on the new Clinical Research Facility

"It was really nice to go to an actual, dedicated research space."



This is just the beginning and we look forward to welcoming more participants with a wider variety of studies into the Clinical Research Facility.



DAISY Award

Our friend & colleague, Research Nurse Cheryl Heeley has been recognised for being the amazing nurse she is and has received the DAISY Award.

Cheryl was selected to receive the award with two brilliant nominations, both from Research colleagues. They noted that Cheryl has done "exceptional work in Research for patients" and explained that her "professionalism, meticulous attention to detail and unwavering commitment to both patients and research integrity are truly commendable".

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Both nominations mentioned Cheryl's kindness, saying that she has always gone out of her way to help them and does so much for the department and, if they needed care, they would "definitely want her as their nurse."

The award was presented to Cheryl by Executive Chief Nurse, Phil Bolton & Deputy Chief Nurse & Director of Nursing, Shantell Miles. Cheryl felt emotional when receiving the award, seeing her actions as something she would always do. Cheryl told us how she is "incredibly proud of the whole team" and "absolutely loves" her job.



Well done Cheryl, we have always known that you are brilliant and it's amazing to see you get the recognition you deserve!

FUNDED BY

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INSIGHT Programme

Nurses, midwives, allied health professionals, pharmacists and clinical scientists - fully funded studentships for Master's level research training in the East Midlands.

If you are a new or recent graduate (qualified <5years) - this opportunity could be for you!

The deadline for application is the 4th May - application forms can be found [here](#) or scan the QR code..

If you are interested and would like to know more, please contact:
kerry.evans30@nhs.net



Welcoming our new Clinical Research Practitioners

We have welcomed two new Clinical Research Practitioners to the team. Maisie & Elizabeth have both hit the ground running and have already proven themselves to be invaluable members of the team..

Maisie had this to say: *"Starting my role as a Clinical Research Practitioner has been a really positive experience. I love working in research because I can see how it directly contributes to new developments in the medical field and creates better outcomes for patients. Being involved in this process makes me feel proud to contribute to meaningful change within healthcare.*

I've also been incredibly lucky to join such an amazing and supportive team. Everyone has been welcoming, helpful and always willing to share their knowledge, which has made settling into this role much easier. I'm grateful to be part of a team that is so dedicated to research and patient care."

Elizabeth told us: *I have thoroughly enjoyed my role so far as a Clinical Research Practitioner! It is a varied and rewarding role that directly contributes to improving treatments and shaping the future of patient care. Before working in research, I knew it was important, but I didn't realise just how vital it is, and how much hard work goes into conducting clinical trials.*

Research underpins everything we do in modern clinical practice; without it, we wouldn't have the treatments we rely on today, and it is still progressing. Joining the team at SFH has been a positive and engaging experience, everybody has been very welcoming, and I have learned so much in such a short space of time. I am extremely grateful to have the opportunity to work in research!

