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Communications Department

Tel: 01225 82 5849/5799/6230

Media Release

communication@ruh.nhs.uk

www.ruh.nhs.uk

Hear from the experts at the RUH

Members of the public will hear directly from the experts on how the Royal United Hospital is leading the bowel cancer screening programme, and improving care for patients with general surgical problems.

Consultant Gastroenterologist Dr John Linehan and Emergency General Consultant Surgeon Sarah Richards will talk about the work the RUH is doing to care for these patients at our **Annual General Meeting**, which will take place from **5.00pm on Thursday 26 September at the Assembly Rooms, Bath.**

Last year 9,000 patients were referred to the Gastroenterology department, which is one of the largest departments in the hospital. As well as talking about the bowel cancer screening programme and colonoscopy, Dr Linehan will explain how patients with chronic diseases such as Crohns disease and Ulcerative Colitis, are managed in order to prevent the need for an operation.

He'll be joined by Emergency General Surgical Consultant Sarah Richards, who will be speaking about the rapid, consultant-led care we provide to the 5,000 patients who are admitted every year to the surgical admissions unit with urgent general surgical problems. These problems include appendicitis, gallstone, hernia and major bowel conditions.

Exhibitions will also showcase some of the other work the hospital is doing, with staff on hand to answer any questions guests may have.

Brian Stables, Chairman, said: "I would encourage anyone who is interested in our work and the services that we provide to our community to come along to find out more. This is also a great opportunity for those of you who have signed up to become members of our NHS Trust to get involved and influence the future of your local hospital. Anyone can become a member for free and it is our members who will help us to improve our services and meet the community's healthcare needs."

If you wish to attend our Annual General Meeting please call 01225 821299 or email RUHmembership@nhs.net

To sign up as a member please visit www.ruh.nhs.uk/foundationtrust

Ends