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Communications Department
Tel: 01225 82 5849/5799/6230/1299

communication@ruh.nhs.uk
www.ruh.nhs.uk

Media Release

Tree of Goodwill at the RUH

Staff and visitors are helping to spread some goodwill in a unique way during the festive season at the Royal United Hospital.

Anita Houlding, Communications Officer at the RUH, explains: "We are inviting people to help us decorate the Christmas tree by writing their personal messages on the back of a Christmas label, to hang amongst the other decorations. We thought it would be a good way of spreading some Christmas cheer to everyone in the hospital.

"The idea seems to have struck a chord as the tree is now laden with these messages. They include seasonal greetings and Christmas wishes, messages to a loved one, or in memory of a loved one. We're delighted with the response. I think we may have started an RUH tradition!"

Alistair Davies, Senior Hospital Chaplain says: "I think the Tree of Goodwill is an excellent idea. It's very moving to read the messages. Christmas may be a time for family and friends to come together, but it is also a poignant and lonely time for many. The tree seems to have become a focal point for sharing some touching and caring messages as well as festive ones."

The Royal United Hospital would like to thank the Longleat Forestry for donating the Christmas tree and the Friends of the RUH for sponsoring the Christmas decorations.

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