

11.11.21

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Media Release

RUH holds Armistice Day service

A service to mark Armistice Day, including a two minutes' silence, took place at the Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust today (Thursday 11 November).

The service, which took place in the garden of the hospital's Spiritual Care Centre, also included readings, the laying of a wreath and the Last Post.

The service was led by Deputy Team Chaplain Philip Turner, alongside a small number of staff, including Deputy Chief Executive Libby Walters.

The last post was played by Warrant Officer Class 1 (ret'd) Jason Sellars, who also works in the hospital's elective swabbing team.

The wreath was laid by Victoria Gilmartin, Intensive Care Charge Nurse at the RUH and also Intensive Care Nurse for 243 (Wessex) Field Hospital.

With the RUH continuing to follow social distancing, staff were asked to watch the service in a Facebook Live stream, rather than attending in person.

The service is available to view on the RUH's Facebook page - <https://fb.watch/9cKnkU5odS/>

The RUH is one of 75 trusts across the UK to be awarded Veteran Aware accreditation for its commitment to leading the way in improving NHS care for veterans and members of the armed forces community.

Veteran Aware status is granted by the Veterans Covenant Hospital Alliance (VCHA). To achieve it, trusts make a series of pledges such as training staff in veteran-specific needs, supporting the armed forces as an employer and ensuring that members of the armed forces are never disadvantaged when receiving care.

You can find more information about the RHU's Veteran Aware accreditation here:

<https://bit.ly/31HaWfo>

Ends

Notes to Editor:

The Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust provides acute treatment and care for a catchment population of around 500,000 people in Bath, and the surrounding towns and villages in North East Somerset and Western Wiltshire. The hospital provides healthcare to the population served by four Clinical Commissioning Groups: Bath & North East Somerset CCG, Wiltshire CCG, Somerset CCG and South Gloucestershire CCG.

The Trust provides 759 beds and a comprehensive range of acute services including medicine and surgery, services for women and children, accident and emergency services, and diagnostic and clinical support services.

In 2015 The Royal United Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust acquired the Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases (RNHRD) NHS Foundation Trust. The RNHRD treats patients from across the country offering services in rheumatology, chronic pain and chronic fatigue syndrome/ME, cancer related fatigue and fatigue linked to other long term conditions such as multiple sclerosis.

The RUH is changing - we have an exciting programme of redevelopment underway transforming our site and further improving the services we provide. The Trust has opened the purpose-built RNHRD and Brownsword Therapies Centre and is now working towards the new Dyson Cancer Centre. For more details visit: www.ruh.nhs.uk/about/fit_for_the_future

For more information about the Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust visit: www.ruh.nhs.uk