



**Oct / Nov 2021**

**We've been charting the key points of progress on our amazing new building for the last few months in this newsletter, and in this issue we're reporting that we've decided to put our actual moving-in date on hold.**

**You can see further details in the article below.**

**Meanwhile we're delighted to tell you now about the final preparations being made to welcome our young people into their lovely new home.**

**Non-stop work is underway to ensure the bedrooms and therapy rooms, curtains and carpets, beds and desks, kitchens and classrooms, will all be ready bang on time. Trees are being planted and decking laid, and in our next issue we hope to throw open the front doors and show you Red Kite View in all its glory.**

**In this issue we write about just some aspects of the new Children and Young People's Mental Health Service – CYPMHS for short – including a member of staff who has travelled from Dublin to start a new career with us, and some wonderful artwork which will adorn the walls of the building thanks to a very special hospitals scheme.**

**There's a lot to read in this newsletter – please encourage anyone you know who would find it useful to subscribe at [communications.lypft@nhs.net](mailto:communications.lypft@nhs.net)**

**We'll be bringing you an absolute bumper 'Special' edition of this newsletter in early January when we'll have it packed full with news of the handover and of how our young people are moving in.**

**Don't miss it!**

## **Our lovely Red Kite building to take flight in the New Year**

Building work continues to progress at pace and if all goes to plan we shall have the official handover of the building to the Trust on Monday November 8th.

However, we have now decided to move the opening of the unit to early in the New Year to allow additional time to ensure the service launches in a safe and effective way, and at the right time for everyone.

Our construction partners, Tilbury Douglas, have worked extremely hard under difficult circumstances throughout the pandemic and recent materials and labour shortages have added to this challenge.

We know that everyone involved in this exciting project is eager for the doors to open and see children, young people and their families benefit from this fantastic facility.

Deferring until the New Year will not affect our original plans for the admission and repatriation of children and young people from across West Yorkshire who need this service. We aim to achieve our full planned occupancy levels by the end of March on schedule.

Once we get the 'keys to the door' we've got just a few weeks to complete the remaining but significant amount of work before our current young inpatients move across from Little Woodhouse Hall early next year. Then we'll start accepting referrals from our community CYPMH teams across West Yorkshire as well as repatriating any local young people who might be staying in inpatient units further away from home than they need to be.

It will be the centre for a dynamic outward-facing directorate that aims to work seamlessly with community services. In every way it will be an inspiration, demonstrating a new-age role model. It will be a fitting embodiment of the hopes and values of the CYPMHS service and of this Trust.



Picture Credit: Leeds-list.com

## Local recruitment key to success for Red Kite

Recruiting locally in Leeds continues to prove a great success for LYPFT in the Armley and neighbouring Lower Wortley areas.

Armley has one of the highest unemployment rates in Leeds, and the Trust has made a commitment to help narrow that inequality.

Earlier this year The Trust ran a major recruitment campaign which opened up 25 assistant support worker and healthcare support worker posts at Red Kite View to specifically local people.

The October round of recruitment was for catering and domestic assistants and a special two-part format was arranged to explain the roles, provide interview tips and techniques, and give attendees information on apprenticeships, career pathways and development across the Trust.

When it came to advertising the roles, the Trust decided to not use NHS Jobs but instead worked with Leeds City Council to directly advertise to the local community through local community hubs.

Nik Lee, Operations Manager, said: “It was fantastic to be able to offer further people from the local community an entry-level role at Red Kite View.

“We are offering the chance to make a career in the NHS, not just a job. The Trust will nurture and support people who want to progress. They can now start their career in health and social care with the full support of the leadership team to help them develop and strive in both a personal and professional capacity.

“The Trust is fully focused on widening participation and narrowing inequalities by offering jobs to people who have either previously struggled to apply or not had the confidence to apply for a role within the NHS.

“Everyone was really engaged, and was enthusiastic about the unit and role, so we believe this will help with retention in the long-term. Some of the over 100 applicants were attracted by the idea of being able to walk to work among other things.

“It’s good to see that being close to home helps with recruitment.”

## **‘There are so many reasons to join Red Kite View’**

**Staff nurse Alan Hussey joins Red Kite View and the service from Dublin. He says there are many reasons why he has made such a major move.**



When I look at it, there are quite a few factors why moving to a new post in a new country attracted me.

Probably foremost is working with young people. It appealed to me to be working in the NHS after two years in the private sector, and particularly working with adolescents who need an empathetic conversation.

My university placement was with a CAMHS unit in Dublin and I immediately found I had an affinity with a small ward where I could get to know patients in depth, and to take part in family therapy which is so important to those patients.

I gained my degree in Mental Health Nursing at Trinity College, Dublin, in 2018 and then qualified at St Patrick’s University Hospital.

I then spent two years at working in the private sector, but came to feel I needed a different nursing environment and a different clinical setting. Throughout I have been interested in psychoanalysis, and when I discovered that Leeds University offers a doctorate in the subject, coinciding with the opening of this very lovely new Red Kite View building, I easily persuaded myself that I should apply to work here.

I also liked the idea of the city of Leeds. It’s rather like Dublin in atmosphere and culture and layout, it’s not too big or small, and there’s lots of green space.

People too are of a similar disposition - they have a similar warmth and friendliness.

I like the idea of being in at the beginning of the Red Kite View project so that I can be part of moulding ideas and a team from the beginning, and being with colleagues from the beginning.

I know that the new service here is very much about working as an in-patient unit collaboratively with the other care services in the community who provide care for service users.

I have already been working in this way in my previous role and I am excited that I will be able to contribute to ongoing care here in the same enlightened way.

I’m really looking forward to the future at Red Kite View and being part of a team that empowers our young people to realise and maintain their potential.



## Art ‘helps us be healthier and live longer’

Colourful art, organised by art workstream lead Em Inman, is set to appear around Red Kite View. Working with individual artists and the organisation ‘Paintings in Hospitals’, Em’s aim is to install a collection of artworks throughout the building.

According to the Paintings in hospitals website: “Art helps keep us well. It can aid our recovery from illness and support us to live longer, healthier lives. Art can transform stark clinical environments into compassionate care spaces filled with inspiration.

“There is a growing body of evidence showing that art improves health and wellbeing.”

Em shares that her hopes are for the artworks in the collection to ‘create a safe, clinically appropriate space that uses the arts to provide visual appeal, but that importantly offers a recovering well, and inspiring environment which aims to address some of the wider challenges faced by young people through acknowledging the role that creativity and originality has to play in all of our lives.’

She wants to invest in the arts from diverse external sources across the whole region, and to identify and commission Yorkshire-based artists. She has engaged key members of Red Kite View staff plus service users and young people from West Yorkshire to contribute to and support this work.

- The images show Em, top, discussing the space where one of the commissioned murals will be installed with Leeds artist Nick Dixon, well known as one of the UK’s most recognisable abstract artists, and below, a sample of artworks which will be installed around the building.



## ‘Thought and imagination’ earn tours a big compliment

We held extremely successful site tours for stakeholders in September, and were delighted to receive this compliment from Armley Councillor Lou Cunningham:

“It was fantastic to see the progress that has been made on site at Red Kite View, and hear about the thought and imagination which has been put into creating a welcoming therapeutic environment for our children and young people.

The pictures show clockwise, from top left, the internal courtyard, one of the bedrooms, which are all en suite, and a tour group in one of the outside areas.



## See our stunning Red Kite! The latest aerial footage

You can see the latest views from above [on our YouTube channel](#), plus stunning new images of the site which show how the building is progressing.

With thanks to [Mark Zaccaria Aerial Photography](#)



## And a view from the ground - How work is progressing

[Read all about it!](#) Here's the latest news from our construction partners Tilbury Douglas with updates on their work on site in their October newsletter and great new pictures.

Find out more about Red Kite View and CYPMS [on our website](#).

Do you have a question? Would you like to subscribe to our bimonthly newsletter? Please email us at [communications.lypft@nhs.net](mailto:communications.lypft@nhs.net)