



# Impact Report 2021-2022

Together, we're driving  
life-changing health  
improvements for the  
people of East London



Thanks to your donations, we've helped modernise the Women's and Neonatal Unit at Whipps Cross Hospital so it can better support the 5,000 women and families who are expected to use it each year. Read more on page 10.



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## About Barts Charity

We're a charity dedicated to supporting improvements to healthcare and transformative research to benefit the health of the people of East London. We do this by funding high-quality research, innovative patient care projects and NHS staff wellbeing initiatives that would otherwise not be funded by the NHS or other funders.

We focus our funding on supporting Barts Health NHS Trust, which runs St Bartholomew's, The Royal London, Mile End, Whipps Cross and Newham hospitals, and on the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry at Queen Mary University of London, where there are six medical research institutes. We also support researchers at the School of Health Sciences at City, University of London.

### Vision

Life-changing improvements to health for the people of East London.



### Mission

A charity with its roots in East London, dedicated to supporting improvements to healthcare and transformative research for local health benefit.



### Our new five-year strategy 2022–2027

Over the last five years, we've invested over £145 million in transformative research and healthcare projects in East London. We're proud of the impact our funding has achieved in our community. We're now building on this with at least a further £150 million investment over the next five years in key areas of research and healthcare.

We've revisited and refreshed our vision and mission, which guide all of our activity, and have set ourselves five overarching strategic objectives. These will drive our work and allow us to measure our success over the next five years. We've also created a set of core values that will guide our approach to what we do.

Our partnerships with Barts Health NHS Trust (Barts Health) and the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry at Queen Mary University of London (Queen Mary) are central to our strategy. These relationships allow us to identify, develop and support transformational healthcare and research projects that will make life-changing improvements for the people of East London.

### Our new strategic objectives are:

#### 1. Research

We fund high-quality and innovative research that enhances our understanding of health and illness and has the potential to improve and/or save lives in East London.

#### 2. Healthcare

We facilitate transformation to patient care and support for our dedicated NHS staff, primarily focusing our efforts at Barts Health.

#### 3. Fundraising and Communications

We are transforming our approach to fundraising to significantly grow revenue and enable us to achieve the ambitions for our mission. We aim to inspire greater support by communicating about the people and projects we fund and the impact they make.

#### 4. Endowment

We manage our endowment to ensure we take full advantage of potential opportunities to deliver our mission, now and in the future.

#### 5. How we work

We set ourselves high standards for how we operate and aim to maximise the impact we make with our resources.

We work in partnership with the NHS, local research institutes and others who can help us achieve our goals and maximise our impact.

## A long-lasting impact on the health of East London

### A message from our Chair and Chief Executive

We're delighted to bring you our first ever dedicated impact report which shines a spotlight on the amazing people and projects that we're proud to support. These people and projects will leave a long-lasting legacy on the health of East Londoners.

The word "unprecedented" has been heavily used over the last two difficult years. It describes what the NHS has experienced during the Covid-19 pandemic. Since its inception nearly 75 years ago, the NHS has never before had to cope with such a devastating health emergency. Our partner, Barts Health, was very much in the eye of the storm. So, we're immensely proud to have played a small part in helping their staff to cope better under these challenging circumstances.

In 2020, we ran a successful £5.6 million fundraising campaign which helped to pay for important patient-focused initiatives. This included iPads for patients to contact their loved ones. Donations also paid for long-term staff wellbeing projects. For example, providing a dedicated wellbeing hub for each hospital and a new staff Psychological Support Service.

In the last year, these projects have come to fruition across all five of Barts Health's hospital sites. We're truly grateful to all of our generous donors that made this possible. You can read more about this work on pages 15-17.

In this report, you can also read about some of our recent investments in healthcare and research. This includes a £2.7 million grant to Queen Mary to better understand how metabolism can lead to obesity. On page 10, you will discover the impact that our previously funded work is already having on the health of people in East London, such as a £7 million investment in improving Whipps Cross Hospital's Women's and Neonatal Unit.

In 2021, a huge focus was defining our new five-year strategy which builds on our strong track record as a major healthcare and research funder. A key pillar of the plan is our commitment to invest around £150 million in projects that will deliver life-changing improvements to the health of the people of East London.

Looking ahead, we're excited to be playing our part in a momentous milestone – the celebration of the 900th anniversary of St Bartholomew's Hospital in 2023. To mark this wonderful anniversary, and in line with our strategic objectives, we'll aim to fund two new world-class medical centres in East London: a dedicated Breast Cancer Centre at St Bartholomew's and a state-of-the-art Clinical Research Facility at The Royal London Hospital. Read more about the Barts 900 Campaign on page 22 and find out how you can get involved at [bartscharity.org.uk/barts-900](https://bartscharity.org.uk/barts-900).

Finally, we would like to say a huge thank you to all the donors who make our work possible. You can find some of our wonderful supporters on pages 18-21. We are grateful to so many more. Thank you for helping people in our community live healthier, longer lives.

*Fiona Miller Smith / Andy Bruce*



**Fiona Miller Smith**  
Chief Executive

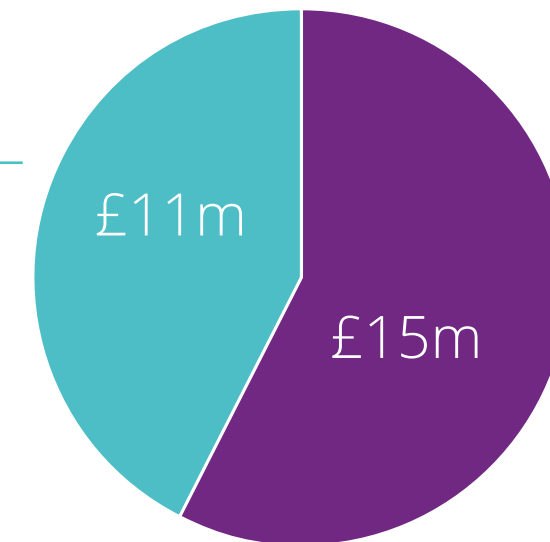


**Andy Bruce**  
Chair of Trustees

## OUR 2021-22 HIGHLIGHTS

We gave a total of £26m

For healthcare at Barts Health NHS Trust



For research at the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry at Queen Mary University of London and Barts Health NHS Trust



46

grants for healthcare improvement initiatives in East London



12

PhD students



68

research grants



5

training fellowships for healthcare professionals to undertake a PhD or MD in clinical research



373

scientific papers published from Barts Charity-funded research



Over

8,000

NHS staff have had contact with the Barts Health Psychological Support Service, improving their wellbeing. This was set up with donations to our Covid-19 appeal.



£1.3m

was generously left to Barts Charity in legacies, life-affirming gifts in wills that support future generations.



4,988

new supporters responded to our campaign for East Londoners to #WearTheBadge in support of their local NHS – the campaign has been shortlisted for a Third Sector Excellence Award.



5

All Barts Health Hospitals now each have a dedicated wellbeing hub for staff to relax, thanks to support for our Covid-19 appeal.



RESEARCH 



Professor William Alazawi, Dr Dunja Aksentijevic, Dr Sian Henson, Dr Li Chan and Dr Katuscia Bianchi.

**NEW FUNDING**

Understanding obesity

**Obesity is an issue in East London, with over a third of 11-year-olds living with the condition. For many people in our community, including those with genetic predispositions to obesity, weight loss is difficult to achieve and hard to maintain.**

The current lack of understanding of the factors that influence appetite, obesity and its complications leads to stigma and can affect people’s access to treatments and services.

Obesity isn’t simply about overeating or under-exercising. Metabolism – the chemical reactions in the body’s cells that change food into energy – along with our genes and the environment we live in, all contribute to developing the condition and the serious illnesses it can cause. Obesity increases the risk of type 2 diabetes, liver and heart disease, and cancer.

**Barts Metabolism Network**

To begin to tackle these inequalities, we recently awarded £2.6 million to establish a network of researchers and health professionals that will enhance our understanding of the role metabolism plays in obesity and the significant long-term health problems that it causes.

“Our vision is of a collaboration of scientists and clinicians dedicated to research that will improve our understanding of metabolism science. This will improve the lives of people living with metabolism-related disorders. We hope to create an internationally competitive programme that will positively affect the lives of people around the world.”

Professor William Alazawi, Consultant Hepatologist at Barts Health NHS Trust and Professor of Liver Medicine at Queen Mary University of London.

Professor William Alazawi, Dr Dunja Aksentijevic, Dr Katuscia Bianchi, Dr Li Chan and Dr Sian Henson are leading the Barts Metabolism Network. This network will strengthen Queen Mary’s existing expertise in metabolism research and train the next generation of researchers. It will promote collaboration between clinicians and scientists across the university, the NHS, pharmaceutical companies, patient groups and policymakers, helping to drive the development of new ways to tackle the issue.

By delivering cutting-edge metabolism research, the team will help to improve care and treatment for people with obesity-related illnesses.

**IMPACT**

Helping to diagnose more people with dementia

**In the UK, around 900,000 people live with dementia – a number that is expected to rise sharply in the coming years. Early detection and prompt treatment could help delay the onset of dementia, helping people live longer in good health.**

Historically, studies into dementia have underrepresented people from ethnic minority backgrounds and areas where people face more financial hardship. We need a better understanding of the risk of dementia in more diverse populations to develop ways to help everyone affected by the condition.

That’s why, in 2017, we awarded £1.5 million to establish a Preventive Neurology Unit (PNU) at the Wolfson Institute of Population Health, Queen Mary, to research brain and nervous system disorders.

**Changing policy**

Dr Charles Marshall is a consultant neurologist and dementia expert at Barts Health and leads a programme of dementia research at the PNU. His team recently conducted the first dementia study to adequately represent a diverse UK population, involving more than a million people across



**“Thanks to funding from Barts Charity, our work in East London has shown that people who are living in poverty and from minoritised ethnic groups are at higher risk of dementia. These findings are now influencing dementia policy. We have obtained substantial follow-on funding to develop a programme of work that will help people in deprived and diverse populations to get more timely and equitable dementia diagnoses.”**

Dr Charles Marshall, Honorary Consultant Neurologist at Queen Mary University of London.



Dr Charles Marshall

East London. They found that both ethnicity and socioeconomic deprivation are much more important risk factors for dementia than previously thought. This highlights the need to prioritise preventing dementia in these populations.

The findings are now influencing the commissioning of dementia services in East London. This is the process by which the NHS plans, agrees and monitors its services. This will help to address local healthcare inequalities so that people can get the care they need.

Our investment in the PNU has allowed Dr Marshall to develop a new cognitive neurology service at Barts Health. Dr Marshall also works as a consultant at the East London Foundation Trust Diagnostic Memory Clinic in Tower Hamlets. This brings specialist dementia diagnoses to a population that didn’t have access to these important services before.



## IMPACT

### Preventing strokes and heart attacks in East London

**Heart disease is still the biggest preventable cause of death in the UK, and there are gaps between the best possible treatment and what is delivered.**

With the help of £2.2 million funding from Barts Charity, a project called REAL-HEALTH is helping to close these gaps by developing lifesaving interventions for patients in our community.

East London’s healthcare system has a pioneering approach to collecting quality patient data and integrating GP and hospital health records. Led by researcher Dr John Robson at Queen Mary’s Clinical Effectiveness Group, the REAL-HEALTH Cardiovascular initiative is analysing this data. The aim is to develop tools to help doctors make better-informed decisions about treatment that could help prevent heart attacks and strokes.

These tools display data from the patient health records held at a GP practice. They list all patients with a particular condition and identify people who may not be receiving the best possible treatment. Each tool is accompanied by online educational resources and evidence-based guidelines to support doctors.

**“The three inner east London boroughs of Tower Hamlets, Newham and Hackney have some of the highest rates of ill health in the UK. Significant support from Barts Charity has allowed us to develop tools and resources that are supporting GP practices to improve cardiovascular health in East London. This is a considerable step towards more equitable population health.”**

Dr John Robson, Clinical Reader in Primary Care Research and Development, Clinical Lead, Clinical Effectiveness Group, Queen Mary University of London.



Dr John Robson

#### Lifesaving tool

Earlier this year, an initiative using one of the tools, called APL-AF, was nominated for an HSJ Patient Safety Award. It helps to prevent strokes in people with a heart condition – called atrial fibrillation – by increasing the use of life-saving

anticoagulant medications that can prevent blood clots. Anticoagulants reduce the risk of a stroke in people with this condition by more than half, but many patients still aren’t prescribed them.

The tool was first put into practice in Redbridge in 2016, helping an extra 290 people to receive the anticoagulants they needed. This prevented an estimated 30 strokes over five years and led to Redbridge becoming the second most improved area in England for anticoagulant use. Following its success in East London, the tool is now available to GPs across the UK and could prevent hundreds of strokes nationally in the next five years.



Woman having her blood pressure taken. Image courtesy of Queen Mary University of London.

## NEW FUNDING

### Improving research training opportunities for healthcare professionals

**Healthcare professionals care for patients every day and truly understand their needs. By equipping staff with research skills, they can help develop imaginative solutions to directly improve the health of people in our community.**

Our aim at Barts Charity is to boost the number of local healthcare professionals doing patient-focused research by enhancing and expanding their training opportunities. Our research training programmes are now open to professionals from across different areas of healthcare, including physiotherapists, psychologists, nurses and doctors.

With their unique perspectives and diverse approaches to caring for patients, these professionals will drive change and improve the health of people in East London.



Rosalie Magboo

**Rosalie Magboo is an award-winning cardiovascular nurse at St Bartholomew’s Hospital. She received a Barts Charity Clinical Research Training Fellowship in 2021.**

Rosalie is exploring the effects of living with Marfan syndrome. This is a rare inherited condition that commonly affects the heart, arteries, eyes and skeleton. Many people who have it develop heart abnormalities, so they have life-long monitoring and, usually, at least one major surgery.

Rosalie’s work will provide information to help design ways for patients with this condition to improve their mental health and quality of life before and after heart surgery.

Rosalie says:

“There is very little evidence about the health-related quality of life and psychosocial aspects of living with Marfan syndrome, before and after heart surgery. Through the support of Barts Charity, I will be able to report on this topic in a UK population for the first time, contributing to the clinical and scientific knowledge base.”

**In the last five years, we’ve awarded over 30 healthcare workers in East London with funding to train in research that will improve people’s health and wellbeing**



Art therapy for doctors



Megan Tjasink

**Megan Tjasink is an art therapist at St Bartholomew’s Hospital. She received a Barts Charity Clinical Research Training Fellowship in 2021.**

Megan wants to find out if art therapy sessions could improve the wellbeing and resilience of hospital staff, with a focus on those working in cancer and end of life care. Staff burnout is a serious and growing issue for the NHS, which was brought into sharp focus during the pandemic. Art therapy can be a powerful tool to reduce anxiety and help express feelings. By helping staff to combat the symptoms of stress and build resilience, they can continue to provide the best care to patients.

Megan says:

“There has never been a more important time to advocate for choice and access to a range of evidence-based interventions for healthcare staff. The Barts Charity fellowship provides me with the opportunity to produce high-quality, globally relevant research into the effective use of art therapy for staff support.”



# HEALTHCARE

## IMPACT

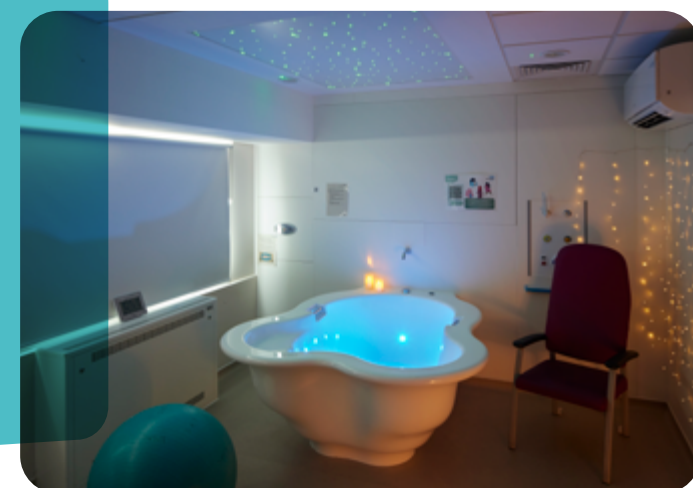
### Whipps Cross Hospital Women's and Neonatal Unit receives major upgrade

The Women's and Neonatal Unit at Whipps Cross Hospital hadn't been updated for almost 50 years. It was described as "cramped" and "ageing" by some mums, with many choosing to give birth elsewhere after visiting the hospital early in their pregnancy.

In 2018, we gave £6.8 million to modernise and expand the unit, creating a physical environment to match the high standard of care on offer. It's estimated that it will improve the experience of 5,000 women and families who're expected to use it each year.

Seven wards have been refurbished to include new clinical areas, birthing suites, extra room for partners to stay overnight, privacy rooms and dedicated space for researchers.

One mum says: "I had an amazing birthing experience. I wasn't expecting the birth centre to include everything from starry lights to a double bed. It's just 'wow!'"



"We have great facilities for involving parents in the care of their babies and have made it really easy for parents to stay around the clock. Now, some families stay for the entire admission. It's impossible to compare the new improved unit with the old one."

Christine Fogarty, Matron, Neonatal Unit, Whipps Cross Hospital

### Caring for more babies

One of the wards that was refurbished was the Neonatal Unit (NNU) which cares for some of the most vulnerable and premature babies and their parents. Thanks to a gift of £50,000 from the Garfield Weston Foundation, we were able to update this unit which was struggling to cope with increased demand from the growing number of patients. Staff in the new NNU are now caring for nearly half (47%) as many more babies as they were before the unit was refurbished.

The unit now has reclining chairs next to the cots for parents, as well as double ensuite bedrooms, kitchen and shower facilities. The modernised layout has also allowed staff to run a community nursery to re-admit families whose babies have feeding problems or jaundice in the first weeks of life. There has already been a huge demand for this unit in the community.



## NEW FUNDING

### Delivering the best care for premature babies

**On the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at The Royal London Hospital, monitors measure oxygen and carbon dioxide in the blood of premature babies. This allows clinicians to adjust the ventilator according to a baby's needs. Very small premature babies can rapidly decline in health, so these monitors are vital.**

Thanks to one family's fundraising for Barts Charity, brand new monitors are being used in the unit to make sure clinicians can provide the best care to premature babies.

Parents Thomas and Lauren donated nearly £12,000 to the NICU to fund the equipment. Their baby Luan was born two weeks premature in January 2021. Unfortunately, he was poorly from birth and doctors were unable to diagnose his condition. He had a short stay in NICU at The Royal London Hospital before he, sadly, died at nine days old.



Luan's life was short but his legacy will live on. "We wanted to raise money to help more babies in the NICU," says Lauren. "Hopefully our fundraising means more babies can come home. Luan brought so much happiness and love into the world. He was a true warrior."



## NEW FUNDING

### The UK's first air pollution clinic for children

**Inhaling polluted air can cause breathing difficulties for children who suffer from lung diseases such as asthma.**

This problem hasn't been fully addressed. It's why we're providing £500,000 of funding to create the UK's first NHS Children's Environmental Health Assessment Service to support young people with lung conditions in East London.



Professor Jonathan Grigg

Led by Professor Jonathan Grigg from Queen Mary, the clinic will open at The Royal London Hospital in early 2023. The unique project is an opportunity to improve the health of children living in our community, as East London suffers from high levels of pollution.

### Improving children's health

When they first visit the clinic, children and their parents will be asked about what indoor and outdoor sources of air pollution they might be exposed to. Staff will check children's level of exposure, including the amount of soot in their airway and their levels of exhaled nitric oxide. Special devices will be installed in their homes to measure particles, chemicals, mould and damp. Children will also receive portable devices to measure their exposure to pollution outdoors and at school.

The service will produce a detailed exposure report for each child which will be discussed with their family. These will recommend ways of reducing exposure, such as avoiding pollution hotspots and ventilating the home during cooking. The effects of the agreed changes will be monitored regularly.

This clinic will pioneer a novel and innovative way of tackling the effects of air pollution on children which could act as a model for future services nationally.

**"Currently no NHS clinical service has the expertise to address the environment that their patients breathe in. It is this major clinical gap that we propose to tackle by developing the first UK Children's Environmental Assessment Service."**

Professor Jonathan Grigg, Professor of Paediatric Respiratory and Environmental Medicine at Queen Mary University of London



## IMPACT

### Establishing a new cancer treatment

**In a small number of patients with cancer of the appendix, colon or rectum, the tumour can spread to the thin lining that covers the inside of the abdomen, called the peritoneum. Traditionally, this advanced form of cancer has been difficult to treat, leading to poor outcomes for patients.**

Evidence shows that a treatment that combines cytoreductive surgery (CRS) with hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy (HIPEC) is far more effective in this group of patients than standard chemotherapy. CRS involves a surgical procedure to remove all visible signs of the cancer. Then, to remove any remaining cancer cells, HIPEC is when heated chemotherapy drugs are washed around the abdomen. This combined treatment can help patients to live longer and reduces the chance of a tumour coming back. For some people, it has led to a full recovery.

### Specialised treatment

Previously, only a few centres in the UK offered this service – a number that lags far behind other European countries. With £260,000 funding from Barts Charity, leading colorectal surgeon Miss Annamaria Minicozzi has established an additional service that offers this treatment at The Royal London Hospital. Since it launched in late 2020, 12 people have received this highly specialised treatment at the hospital.

Plans are now in place to extend the service to people with mesothelioma, a cancer that usually starts in the lining of the lungs or abdomen.

By bringing this potentially curative treatment to East London, patients can now access it closer to home. This is improving outcomes for people living with cancer and maintaining Barts Health's reputation as a leading surgical and cancer care provider.







**IMPACT**

Equipping at-risk teens with lifesaving skills

Across the capital, violence amongst young people is a growing concern, and East London is no different. The YourStance project is empowering young people at risk of serious violence by teaching them lifesaving first aid skills, such as managing bleeding and how to resuscitate someone.

Set up with a £30,000 donation from the Charles S French Charitable Trust in 2019, YourStance aims to end needless deaths in London communities. It does this by having open conversations with young people. Also, by sharing knowledge and lifesaving skills with them.

Inspiring NHS careers

Through the project, healthcare professionals lead workshops with young people most at risk of getting involved in violence. The aim is to inspire these vulnerable young people to be proactive in their communities. The project also strives to encourage a new generation of people to consider a career as an NHS healthcare professional.

Of those who have attended the YourStance programme, six young people have completed work experience at The Royal London Hospital and three are now staff members. Also, 62% of the young people who attended sessions said they had developed a more positive opinion of the work of NHS staff.

Feedback from young people also shows that the project has helped them to feel empowered to put their skills into action. YourStance has offered a different approach to healthcare and education. Appreciating the abilities and potential of young people at risk of getting involved in serious youth violence has transformed their confidence and self-esteem.

Since 2019, through YourStance:

**1,500**

young people were taught in North East London

**241**

healthcare worker volunteers have been registered

**83**

workshops were delivered

**4**

awards have been won by the YourStance team

**90%**

of young people felt better prepared to respond to emergencies

**87%**

of young people learned something which would have been useful to them in the past

**87%**

of young people said they would recommend the project to a friend

STAFF WELLBEING

**NEW FUNDING**

Beating burnout with a focus on wellbeing

Data tells us that a large number of NHS staff in lower-paid non-clinical roles were experiencing a lot of stress, pressure and emotional trauma during the pandemic, and weren't accessing existing wellbeing support.

Ambulance Care Assistant, Carol Nelson, said it was hard for her team during the pandemic. "I didn't feel like I had much time to do anything about how I felt," says Carol. "There were times I woke up and felt I couldn't complete the day."

With the help of £49,000 funding from Barts Charity, Barts Health became a founding member of Well\_Lab's Beating Burnout programme. The programme focused on Newham Hospital's Patient Transport Team. Sadly, some members of the team died from Covid-19. There was a morale problem in the team and high levels of staff burnout.

Geraldine Cunningham, who was Associate Director of Culture Change and Trust Lead for Wellbeing during the peak of the pandemic, says: "We lost a number of transport colleagues to Covid-19 and the team felt they didn't belong and were unhappy with the culture."

Finding ways to improve team wellbeing

The eight-month project, called Drivers of Change: Barts Transport, embarked on groundbreaking work with Well\_Lab to tackle the problems at the root of the burnout. It supported employees by helping them to define "wellbeing" and ways to improve it at work. For example, through workshops ambulance drivers, control room and help desk staff came up with the idea to introduce a weekly department-wide activity dashboard to better appreciate the entire department's contributions. Together, staff created a process to continuously identify the root causes of poor wellbeing and test ideas and solutions to improve it.



Newham Hospital's Patient Transport Team became a team that could appreciate and empathise with each other and felt motivated to contribute ideas for improvements. This shift created a more inclusive and inspiring approach to wellbeing and positive staff engagement.

Martin, a driver who was involved in the workshops, was surprised at how quickly things were put into practice. "We got the department dashboard produced after the first meeting, that was something I did not expect to happen," he says. The dashboard has improved understanding of what all the teams do and created recognition for less visible work. "I didn't know we had a help desk that answered over 400 calls a day," says Martin.

The Well\_Lab initiative has seen the Transport team at Newham shortlisted for the Staff Wellbeing Initiative for the National Orthopaedics Association's Excellence in Orthopaedics Awards.

Barts Health aims to become an outstanding place to work by creating the conditions for all colleagues to thrive. To support this, staff wellbeing will remain a priority for Barts Charity well beyond the pandemic.

This project was a partnership between:

- Barts Health NHS Trust
- Barts Charity
- Well\_Lab
- The Wellcome Trust
- Brink
- Matter of Focus
- Well\_Lab Wisdom Board
- Martin Fischer, an organisational design expert and Kings Fund fellow





**IMPACT**

Two years on: Covid donations having long-term impact

**For NHS workers, the last few years have been some of the most challenging in history. During the pandemic, generous donations to our Covid-19 appeal allowed us to give £4.5 million to support the wellbeing of NHS staff across the five Barts Health hospitals. Each hospital now has a staff wellbeing hub and improved staff facilities, such as rest areas and secure cycle storage.**

The wellbeing hubs have been beautifully designed in consultation with colleagues and offer a tranquil haven from the hospital and clinical work environment. Recognised by the UK Property Awards as the 'Best Public Service Interior', they are spacious, decorated with muted tones, and have comfortable, modern furniture. Some hubs even include pool tables. Spaces like this, where staff can relax, connect and destress, are extremely rare within the NHS.

A Barts Health-wide Psychological Support Service was also established, with a dedicated psychologist at each site. More than 8,000 staff members have had contact with the service, which provides one-to-one sessions and support for teams.

**"Creating conditions for people to be at their best"**

Through staff surveys, their rest areas were identified as a vital area for refurbishment. As these areas aren't for patients or directly linked to clinical activity, they have historically been a low priority for renovation because of limited NHS resources. With our funding, 150 staff rest areas have now been improved, providing a more pleasant place to take a break, eat and socialise. Also, 34 overnight on-call rooms have been vastly improved with new beds, mattresses, flooring and redecoration.

To encourage staff to cycle to work, bike storage has more than doubled at St Bartholomew's, The Royal London and Whipps Cross hospitals.

Geraldine Cunningham, the former Associate Director of Culture Change and Trust Lead for Wellbeing, says: "We're very proud of what we have achieved and have really focused our attention on getting the basics right so that we can create the conditions for our people to be at their best when they come to work. We couldn't have achieved so much without the support of Barts Charity, they've been amazing."



**"We're very proud of what we have achieved and have really focused our attention on getting the basics right so that we can create the conditions for our people to be at their best when they come to work. We couldn't have achieved so much without the support of Barts Charity, they've been amazing."**

Geraldine Cunningham, the former Associate Director of Culture Change and Trust Lead for Wellbeing

This work was only made possible thanks to donations to our Covid-19 appeal. Please see page 18-21 for details of some of our generous donors.





SUPPORTERS 

## Donations making a difference

Philanthropic support is vital to achieving our mission of delivering life-changing healthcare to East London. We're so grateful for significant investment from corporate partners, trusts, foundations and individuals.



Andrew Wolfson

### The Cardiovascular Devices Hub and The Charles Wolfson Charitable Trust

Heart disease is the leading cause of death worldwide. In our East London community, the rates of heart disease are some of the worst in Western

Europe. London is home to several world-class centres of excellence in cardiovascular medicine. Despite this, the number of cardiovascular innovations from the English capital has been relatively low.

The Cardiovascular Devices Hub was created to rectify this. The only centre of its kind in the world, it was created at St Bartholomew's Hospital, thanks to the support of The Charles Wolfson Charitable Trust.

### Creating space for innovation

The Hub capitalises on the incredible expertise within London to invent and prototype new devices to treat cardiovascular disease and take these into clinics. It brings together academics, scientists, clinicians, engineers, business and industry leaders, and technology transfer specialists in a single physical location. These experts have one goal: to deliver new technologies that can revolutionise cardiac care.

**“When we were approached about this project, we could see the potential it had to develop innovative technologies here in the UK that could improve healthcare globally. We were delighted to work with the team at Barts Charity and help enable the delivery of a state-of-the-art Hub for the experts to carry out their work.”**

Andrew Wolfson, Chairman of The Charles Wolfson Charitable Trust

The Charles Wolfson Charitable Trust generously gave over £750,000 towards the Hub. This donation allowed us to transform an area next to St Bartholomew's Hospital, one of Europe's largest cardiac centres which treats 80,000 patients a year. The funding meant we could refurbish seminar rooms, offices, workspaces, and a break-out area for innovation development programmes, group initiatives, events and workshops.

Since the Hub opened in 2022, it's been home to several conferences and research pitch events and the team have begun researching new devices.

## The sensory room and Bank of Montreal

**Many of the children at The Royal London Hospital are long-term patients who would benefit from sensory areas, especially those with additional needs and mental health conditions.**

The hospital badly needed a sensory space for young patients like these to relax, heal, and reduce distress, anxiety and anger.

Thanks to a generous £50,000 donation from the Bank of Montreal, this year, The Royal London Hospital has been able to create a children's sensory room. The room offers a quiet, safe space to experience sensory stimulation and calming effects. It has a range of equipment to stimulate the senses, so things to touch, watch, push and pull. This includes fibre optic lights, bean bags, soft play cubes and an interactive floor projection. This offers young people living with illnesses a chance to escape the hospital setting and step into a different world for a while.



**“As a long-standing corporate partner of Barts Charity, we are proud of our association and the important work that the charity does in our community.”**

Bill Smith, Managing Director at Bank of Montreal



Bill Smith

The Bank of Montreal is close to The Royal London Hospital which sees over 170,000 children every year. This makes it one of the largest children's hospitals in the UK.

Bill Smith, Managing Director at Bank of Montreal, says:

“As a long-standing corporate partner of Barts Charity, we are proud of our association and the important work that the charity does in our community. During one of our volunteer tours to the children's ward at The Royal London Hospital, it was mentioned that there was a need for a sensory room where children could go for quiet play time. Bank of Montreal responded to the opportunity and made it the focus of our fundraising. We are extremely honoured to have Bank of Montreal's name associated with this important facility for The Royal London community.”

Over the years, Bank of Montreal has provided Barts Charity with incredible support totalling £600,000.





## Our community coming together

Donating in memory of a loved one, taking part in a physical challenge or thinking up creative ways of fundraising. These are just some of the ways that our supporters say thank you to the hospitals who've helped them and their families. We're thankful for every donation. Raising funds is vital so that we can continue to drive groundbreaking healthcare projects and research that transforms the health of everyone in our community.

### Donating to cancer research in memory of mum Raffaela

Over 70,000 people are diagnosed with squamous cancer in the UK. It affects the mouth, skin, lungs and cervix.

In 2017, East London resident Raffaela was diagnosed with squamous cancer of the mouth and there was no known cause for her diagnosis. Sadly, she died just before Christmas 2021.

Raffaela has two children, Luisa and David. "We remember our mum's strength and grace," says Luisa. "She was a very brave lady who always showed courage through her journey in the midst of her fear. Mum gave the best of herself to everyone and was forever thankful for the care and support she received from the excellent team at St Bartholomew's Hospital."



"She was a very brave lady who always showed courage through her journey in the midst of her fear. Mum gave the best of herself to everyone and was forever thankful for the care and support she received from the excellent team at St Bartholomew's Hospital."

### Barts Centre for Squamous Cancer

Raffaela's children have donated an incredible £20,000 to Barts Charity in her memory.

Their donation will support the Barts Centre for Squamous Cancer which was set up in 2021 with £2.6 million of funding from Barts Charity. The centre's mission is to work with patients, undertake research and build a human tissue bank to improve the knowledge and understanding of squamous cancer. The centre has a focus on mouth cancer which is a common problem in our East London community.



The centre, a home from home for kidney patients, will open next year funded by our investment, and will benefit those who can't use dialysis equipment at home.

### NHS worker's cycle around the world

This year, David and Caroline embarked on a six-month fundraising bike ride around the globe, racking up an impressive 29,000km.

Before they began their journey, the couple were living in East London and David was working as a registrar doctor at Barts Health NHS Trust. The pair decided to combine their love of cycling with their passion for the health of their local community. "Barts Charity is a charity local to us and, with the impact of the pandemic in this area of the UK, we wanted to support its ambitions to help with research and care excellence," says Caroline.

### Record breakers

David and Caroline made their way across five continents, visiting dozens of countries and making great friends along the way. The couple spent most of their days on their bikes so they could cover as much ground as possible, spending up to 10 hours a day cycling. They still made the most of the countries they visited, telling us they couldn't pick a favourite as each was so unique and special.

Arriving back in the UK in April 2022, David and Caroline set a new world record for being the fastest couple to go around the world on bikes. They raised a fantastic £4,418 for Barts Charity.

## Twenty years of support in thanks for kidney care

With the support of her friends and family, Julie has been dedicated to raising money for us ever since her kidney transplant 20 years ago. Julie is the oldest of four sisters, who all inherited adult polycystic kidney disease and have either had a transplant or dialysis at Barts Health.

Julie's fundraising supports research that will improve outcomes for future generations of kidney patients. She also shares a special connection with The Royal London Hospital. "I trained at the hospital as a nurse and a ward sister," says Julie. "Both of my children were also born at the hospital."

### Funding support for dialysis patients

As well as her annual football sweepstake, this year, Julie and her family completed a challenging trek along Hadrian's Wall to raise money for Barts Charity. In the past, she has put on a charity ball, and over the years, has raised over £13,000.

The money supports projects like the Renal Independent Therapies and Young Adult Centre at Mile End Hospital. The centre, a home from home for kidney patients, will open next year funded by our £3.8 million investment, and will benefit those who can't use dialysis equipment at home.



David and Caroline set a new world record for being the fastest couple to go around the world on bikes. They raised a fantastic £4,418 for Barts Charity.





## Looking ahead to a momentous milestone in 2023

**Barts Health is one of the largest trusts in the UK and has a proud 900-year heritage as a world-leader in healthcare. Its hospitals are in the unique position of sitting on the doorstep of London's major business and financial centres, while also serving people living in some of the most deprived areas in the country. Patients in East London develop long-term and life-limiting illnesses much younger, on average by 15 to 20 years.**

**This needs to change – and you can help make this happen.**

Join our Barts 900 Campaign, one of the most important appeals in our history, which coincides with the 900th anniversary of St Bartholomew's Hospital. Our goal is to raise over £30 million to fund two new world-class medical centres in East London that will support everyone in the area and have an impact globally.

We're looking for supporters to make these international centres of excellence a reality. How can you do this? You could make a donation, fundraise for us or raise awareness of the appeal through your networks or place of work. Whatever you do, you will be part of a legacy of improving healthcare for the next 900 years.

This is a unique opportunity to be part of a vision for the future of healthcare, benefiting over 2.5 million people in East London and around the world for generations to come.

### A new dedicated Breast Cancer Centre at St Bartholomew's Hospital: our vision

- Improve patients' experience by bringing dedicated breast cancer surgery teams together in one place. This will reduce waiting times for surgery, create more equal care and mean patients spend less time in hospital.
- Create a hub of surgical expertise that will attract the best surgeons and specialists to deliver outstanding surgical treatment to our East London community.
- Revolutionise research by giving researchers better access to tissue samples so they can get new treatments to patients more quickly. And give patients more access to cutting-edge clinical trials across treatments.

**You can find more details about these projects and how to get involved on our website: [bartscharity.org.uk/barts-900](https://bartscharity.org.uk/barts-900)**

### A cutting-edge Clinical Research Facility at The Royal London Hospital: our vision

- Local people will be better represented in important trials, including those living with long-term conditions like diabetes, kidney, heart and liver disease, and rheumatoid arthritis – with the goal of developing tailored and relevant interventions.
- Patients will benefit from the new facility, since those taking part in clinical trials generally have better experiences and outcomes than those who receive standard care packages. It will also benefit the wider population as research will be translated into clinical practice earlier.
- Vastly improved trial facilities, with large laboratories and room for patients to stay overnight, will mean the hospital can be part of a wider range of studies. This includes early phase trials, novel therapies, remote monitoring, genetics and medical devices.
- The world's best scientists will be attracted to East London because of our excellent facilities that will attract world-class trials. This will enhance the reputation and recruitment opportunities for our partners at Barts Health and Queen Mary.





## Thank You

We're so grateful to everyone who has contributed to Barts Charity in recent years, from community fundraising to philanthropic support. To all our major donors and those who wish to remain anonymous, thank you for your support during this particularly turbulent time.

The Adrian Swire Charitable Trust  
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Clare Parsons and Tony Langham on behalf of Lansons  
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The Worshipful Company of Fishmongers  
The Worshipful Company of Skinners

## Thank you to our Trustees and Advisors

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Includes all changes from April 2021 up to the date of publication of this report

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