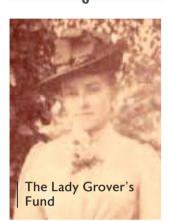


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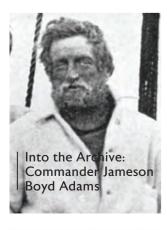
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on King Edward VII's Hospital



Dear Friends

am both honoured and excited to introduce myself as the new CEO of King Edward VII's Hospital. With over 30 years of experience spanning healthcare, government services, and various industries across the globe, I am deeply committed to continuing the extraordinary legacy of this institution as we approach our 125th anniversary.

This summer edition of our Friends Newsletter arrives at a time of reflection and growth. We are privileged to share the powerful story of a veteran who has benefited from our Pain Management Programme – a testament to the life-changing care we provide. You'll also read about fellow veteran charity, Lady Grover's Fund who we are spotlighting for their important work.

We are incredibly proud to have received the NHS Veterans Aware accreditation, a milestone that underscores our dedication to those who have served. Our commitment to the Armed Forces Covenant and Employee Recognition Scheme further highlights our ongoing support for veterans.

I am also pleased to introduce you to Lul, our Imaging Service Manager, whose passion and expertise continue to enhance the quality of care at our hospital. In this edition, we delve into our rich history, spotlighting the remarkable contributions of Sir Jameson Boyd Adams. His legacy was recently commemorated with a plaque under the stained-glass windows in the main hospital, a fitting tribute as we draw closer to celebrating 125 years of excellence.

As I step into this role, I am inspired by the dedication of our staff, the resilience of our patients, and the generosity of our supporters. Together, we will continue to build on our proud heritage, ensuring that King Edward VII's Hospital remains a beacon of hope and healing for all who walk through our doors.

Thank you for your unwavering support.

Warm regards,

Kell

Ken Anderson CEO, King Edward VII's Hospital



Personal testimony

Lucy Holt had lived in pain for years. What started on the netball court was followed by multiple surgeries and a medical discharge. While her mysterious ankle injury was solved, the pain never ended. Her ankle is still on the road to recovery, but the Veteran's Pain Management Programme has helped her reclaim her life. This is her story.

A sports injury

In 2016 Lucy sustained an injury while playing netball. "I went over on my ankle. It hurt but I thought it was just a sprain. I took a break from netball and hoped that it would get better on its own." But it didn't.

Lucy was sent for scans and tests, but the x-ray revealed that the foot wasn't broken.

"I was up on crutches, but no one knew what was wrong."

"My ankle was still giving way on a regular basis, and no one could work out why, or why it wasn't healing," explains Lucy. The mystery persisted and Lucy returned to base and was put on sedentary duty – away from service, behind a desk – from March until May 2016.

"In 2018 I went back to Headley. I was told I was unfit for service and was medically discharged," says Lucy, the emotion clear in her voice as she describes what happened. "You told me there's nothing wrong with me because you don't know what's wrong with me. But you're also saying I'm unfit. It didn't make sense. It was a tough pill to swallow.

"I was sent home for a second time, so I sat at home doing nothing for two years. I was PO Non-Effective – a medical status that is given to personnel who are no longer able to do their jobs within the military and are sent on long-term sickness before going to a medical board."

A mystery solved

In a final attempt to find out what was wrong, she was referred to a consultant in Basingstoke.

"He did loads of x-rays and scans in the morning," says Lucy. "Then, in the afternoon he said: I don't know what it is, but I know it's bad. We need to operate... tomorrow'."

They opened up Lucy's ankle on either side. Only now was the damage clear.

"It turned out I had a 7.5cm tear in my peroneal tendon and three out of four ligaments were completely ruptured. There wasn't much holding onto my ankle."

An operation that October seemed to be successful, but the access wound itself failed to heal, so Lucy was yet again in surgery. But the wound would not heal, and she



was left with a two-centimetre-deep hole in her ankle. And so, Lucy was again referred, this time to a major trauma centre in London where she saw a major trauma surgeon.

This surgery revealed that the reason that the wound would not heal was that the blood supply to the ankle was damaged and not functioning properly. This was due to the long delay in having it properly diagnosed and treated.

Pain management

"In 2019, the big surgery severed many of the neural pathways which left me in a lot of pain. I had..." Lucy pauses as she describes the condition. "It's hard to explain. I get different sensations in my foot. If you touch my skin graft, I feel it in my foot. It's horrendous and the pain was constant."

Lucy's orthopaedic consultant knew about King Edward VII's Hospital and told her about our Veterans' Pain Management Programme. "He told me that the programme was funded by the Centre for Veterans Health and that I could apply for the free programme. He explained that applications were judged by a panel and that it wasn't guaranteed, but I had a good case. I was desperate. I'd try anything that might be able to help – I was always in such pain.

Taking back control

"Their aim was to help me manage pain in the moment."

"The course isn't about fixing you," says Lucy. "It arms you with a set of tools for coping with pain – managing it day to day. The course helps you set goals and build towards them. On day one you can't get out of bed. And maybe you can't on day two. But by day 20 you can. And it's all because you have that toolkit.

One of Lucy's goals was to walk around the golf course with her son. And did she reach that goal?

"I did!" she beams. "The course helped me remove the psychological walls that chronic pain puts up between you and things you want to do. The course helped me build resilience and take back control of my life."

And take control she has, getting involved with the Invictus Games through which she hopes to gain teaching qualifications so she can work with disabled children.



The Lady Grover's Fund

Supporting Military Officers and their Families Since 1911

The Lady Grover's Fund, founded over a hundred years ago, continues to operate as a successful Friendly Society. Open to all serving, Reservist and former officers of the three military services and the Royal Fleet Auxiliary - for a small annual fee, members can access financial grants towards the costs of unexpected illness or injury for the family.





The Story of Lady Grover and how the Fund was established

In 1911, an exceptional initiative took root – conceived by the visionary Lady Grover, a trailblazing young woman who recognized the pressing need for a program to assist military spouses with their medical expenses. Helen Grace Lawrence, born in Avoch on the Moray Firth, Scotland, in 1868, crossed paths with her future husband, Captain Malcolm Henry Stanley Grover, in India, where her father served as a civil servant. In 1891, Helen became Lady Grover through her marriage to Captain Grover, who reached the rank of Lieutenant General and was knighted in 1911. Together they had a son, Major General John Grover, who led the 2nd Infantry Division in Burma between 1941 and 1944.

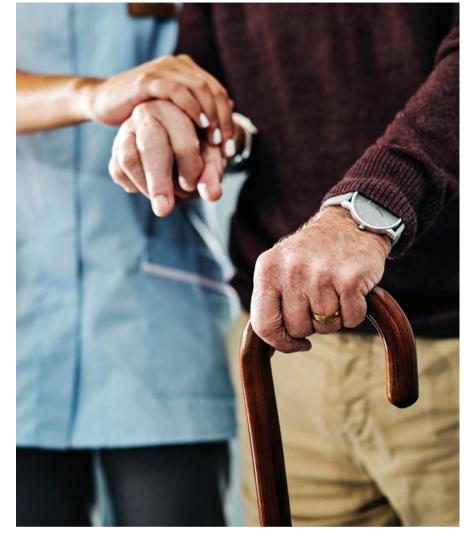
Stationed in India in the early 1900s, Lady Grover quickly recognised a glaring disparity in the financial assistance provided for British officers' medical expenses compared to the lack of support for their wives or female dependants. The inception of the UK's National Health Service (NHS) in 1948 aimed to deliver healthcare services free of charge at the point of access. However, prior to its establishment, British officers stationed in India, who typically sought medical treatment in the UK, were responsible for covering their own medical expenses. Despite existing schemes to aid officers with these costs, similar provisions were notably absent for their wives or female dependants.

By 1911, Lady Grover had established the Officers' Family Hospital Fund. This subscription



scheme provided sufficient funds to reserve hospital beds at the Florence Nightingale Hospital for Gentlewomen in London. Two hospital beds were reserved at 40 shillings per year, with plans to reserve more beds as the fund grew. By paying an annual subscription of 10 rupees (13s 4d), members were entitled to a subsidised rate of £2 10s per week for a room or £1 5s for a cubicle. The payment covered all the treatment and medicines, but patients were required to pay for their own laundry and for surgery an extra guinea was payable.

Only a year after establishing the fund, Lady Grover sadly died on 24 April, 1912. Her husband, General Sir Malcolm Grover – then the Army Department Secretary to the Government of India – was invited to become president in her place.



The committee renamed the fund the Lady Grover Hospital Fund for Officers' Families in her memory. In the years that followed. the fund developed and grew. Regiments were able to subscribe on behalf of their ladies, and the fund was opened to Chaplains and Naval officers in India. In 1923, it was extended to retired officers and widows. Even after General Sir Malcolm Grover's retirement from the Army in 1919, the fund retained its significance to him. He took upon himself the task of enhancing its resources and expanding its reach to encompass officers serving across the globe.

Lady Grover's Fund and the King Edward VII's Hospital

Today, the Fund - a Friendly Society - owned and established for the sole benefit of its members, is thriving. Its long friendship and association with King Edward VII's Hospital feels all the more relevant today as the Fund embarks on this next chapter: opening up its benefits to serving and former military officers, as well as maintaining its support for their family members and dependants. King Edward VII's Hospital was established in 1899 to provide care to service personnel and veterans of the UK's Armed Forces. In 2018 the Hospital reaffirmed its commitment to the veteran

community by establishing the Centre for Veterans' Health, which now coordinates all healthcare for service personnel, veterans. their spouses, widows and civil partners. By building stronger relationships with several Service charities, the hospital has been able to award grants for complex medical treatment to Service and ex-Service personnel. King Edward VII's Hospital also offers an award winning, free Veterans' Pain Management Programme and a discount to any service personnel, veterans, their spouses, widows and civil partners.

Coupled with a membership of the Lady Grover's Fund, serving or former officers from the military community and their families, can access support to help cover the cost of recovery following surgery or treatment at the King Edward VII's Hospital. By joining the Lady Grover's Fund, members can apply for grants to help cover some of the costs of nursing home and hospital accommodation (including the King Edward VII's Hospital), home nursing, expenses relating to convalescence, and home help including cleaning, shopping, and other household chores.

For more information about the Fund and to find out how you can join, visit: Ladygrover.org.uk



An interview with Lul Khalif Imaging Service Manager

King Edward VII's Hospital is renowned for its quality of care. What do you believe sets us apart?

At King Edward VII's Hospital, we've always put patients' experience and safety at the forefront of our care. Their well-being is at the heart every procedure and decision made within the hospital.

How long have you worked for KEVII, and why did you choose to build your career here?

I have been at the Hospital for 4 years now, and I choose to work here as it aligned perfectly with my career aspirations. I've had a great opportunity to work with some wonderful colleagues who strive to deliver innovative care to our patients.

What are the highlights of working in your department?

Our incredible team. This may sound biased, but they are genuinely the most compassionate, kind, and collaborative group I have ever worked with. They bring a wealth of knowledge and experience, evident in their exceptional patient care. Many of our patients recognise and appreciate the high standard of care they deliver so effortlessly. It truly is a pleasure to be part of the Imaging Team at King Edward VII's Hospital.



What has been one memorable story that sticks out to you during your time working here?

It's hard to choose just one moment, but my favourite times involve building working relationships with multi-disciplinary colleagues. I also thoroughly enjoy establishing good rapport with patients. Getting to know people is always interesting, and it's a wonderful way to help patients feel comfortable.

What are you most looking forward to in terms of the hospital moving forward?

I think this is a really exciting time for us, especially in Imaging. The recent introduction of new software for our 3T MRI scanner is a great example, it allows us to scan faster, deliver images with extraordinary clarity and has given overall a better experience to our patients. I'm looking forward to KEVII being a leading hospital in Imaging technology and the opportunities to develop this service would be greatly rewarding. I think we will make a great impact in healthcare and to patients who use our services.





King Edward VII's Hospital Achieves NHS Veterans Aware Accreditation

King Edward VII's Hospital is proud to announce that we have been awarded the prestigious NHS Veterans Aware accreditation, a significant milestone that reaffirms our commitment to providing exceptional care to the men and women who have served in the Armed Forces.



This accreditation is part of the Veterans Covenant Healthcare Alliance (VCHA), an initiative dedicated to ensuring that veterans and their families receive the best possible treatment and support within the NHS.

Receiving the Veterans Aware accreditation is a testament to our long-standing dedication to the military community, a relationship deeply rooted in the hospital's history. Since our founding in 1899, King Edward VII's Hospital has been synonymous with providing the very best medical care to serving personnel, veterans, and their families. This latest recognition is a continuation of that proud tradition, ensuring that our services are tailored to meet the unique needs of those who have served.

As a Veterans Aware accredited hospital, King Edward VII's is committed to several key principles:

- **1. Personalised Care for Veterans:** We understand the specific health challenges that veterans may face, from physical injuries to mental health conditions. Our healthcare teams are trained to recognise and address these unique needs, ensuring that veterans receive the compassionate, specialised care they deserve.
- 2. Priority Treatment for Service-Related
 Conditions: In alignment with the Armed Forces
 Covenant, veterans are entitled to priority access

to NHS care for conditions related to their service. Our hospital is dedicated to upholding this principle, ensuring timely and effective treatment.

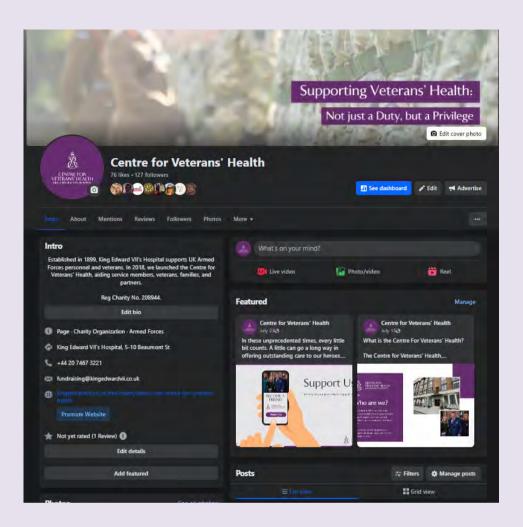
3. Signposting and Support: We actively provide information and signposting to veteran-specific services through our partnerships with other veteran charities and support groups. Our goal is to offer a comprehensive support system that extends beyond medical treatment, helping veterans reintegrate into civilian life.

This accreditation also coincides with our recent signing of the Armed Forces Covenant and our participation in the Employee Recognition Scheme. Together, these initiatives reinforce our dedication to the military community, both as a healthcare provider and as an employer.

At King Edward VII's Hospital, we are deeply honoured to be recognised as a Veteran Aware facility. This achievement reflects our ongoing commitment to serving those who have served our country. We look forward to continuing this important work, ensuring that veterans and their families receive the outstanding care and support they deserve.



Alex Le Vey
Director of Strategy
and Philanthropy
alevey@kingedwardvii.co.uk



Introducing Our New Centre for Veterans' Health Facebook Page

We are thrilled to announce the launch of the dedicated Facebook page for our Centre for Veterans' Health at King Edward VII's Hospital! This new platform is designed to build on our long-standing commitment to the armed forces community by enhancing support, raising awareness, and fostering engagement with veterans and their families, and of course encouraging more and more loyal supporters like yourselves to help us with our mission.

Through this page, we aim to create a vibrant online community where veterans can stay informed about our latest programmes, services, and events. We'll be sharing valuable resources tailored to the unique needs of veterans, highlighting inspiring stories of resilience, and keeping you updated on the latest developments in veteran healthcare.

Our new Facebook page will also serve as a space for veterans and their families to connect with us directly, share their experiences, and find support from others in the community. We believe that by amplifying these voices and experiences, we can further strengthen the bond between our hospital and the military community we proudly serve.

We invite you to 'follow' our new Centre for Veterans' Health Facebook page and join us in this important mission. Together, we can continue to ensure that those who have served our country receive the care, recognition, and support they deserve.

We look forward to connecting with you!

Into the Archive

Commander Sir Jameson Boyd Adams KCVO, CBE, DSO, RD

On the 9th of January 1909, Captain Sir Jameson Boyd Adams, the charismatic and brilliant former Head of the Hospital's Appeals office, attempted to reach the South Pole with famous explorer, Ernest Shackleton. After meeting Ernest Shackleton, Adams became the first man to volunteer for the British Antarctic Expedition in 1907. Its main target, among a range of geographical and scientific objectives, was to be first to the South Pole. This was not attained, but the expedition's southern march reached farthest south latitude of 88 ° 23' S, just 97.5 nautical miles (180.6 km; 112.2 mi) from the pole. Adams led the Hospital's fundraising efforts between 1949 and 1962 and was phenomenally effective. He was never deterred by convention from saying what he thought and preferred to be known by all, from porters to the Royal Family, simply as "The Mate".



Sir Jameson Boyd Adams (right) aged 28, on board the Nimrod, with Shakleton (second from the left).



Celebrating Sir Jameson Boyd Adams

We had great pleasure in hosting a reception at the Royal Society of Medicine in memory of Commander Sir Jameson Boyd Adams KCVO, CBE, DSO, RD. Vice Admiral Sir Tim Laurence KCVO, CB, CSM, ADC joined us for the private unveiling of the plaque at King Edward VII's Hospital. The Reception at the RSM honoured Sir Jameson's amazing philanthropic contribution to the Hospital and marked the launch of a specifically funded 'Sir Jameson Adams Pain Management Programme', building on the success of the Pain Management Programme since its inception in 2017 to support even more veterans in 2024, the year of the Hospital's 125th anniversary.

A brief summary of Sir Jameson's remarkable life and legacy can be found in the accompanying archive article, however this occasion marked his contributions to King Edward VII's Hospital. After his retirement, Adams served as the honorary appeals secretary for King Edward VII's Hospital for Officers in Marylebone, London. During his tenure at the hospital, he successfully raised funds equivalent to £16 million in today's money. This significant amount greatly supported Armed Forces veterans, a mission and ethos that remain integral to our organisation today.

"He possessed a magic touch for money-raising, born of a conviction that the special care of the retired officer in illness was a paramount duty of all who had benefitted from that officer's courage and valour in time of war."

In 1963, Prince Henry, Duke of Gloucester unveiled a memorial window which was erected by the council of King Edward VII's Hospital or Officers, to perpetuate the memory of Adams. The ceremony was brief and attended by a small number of people, but the window was later placed in the entrance hall of the hospital's Beaumont House.

Until recently, the memorial window bore no mention of Sir Jameson Boyd Adams. However, this changed on Tuesday, June 11th 2024, at the suggestion of Mrs Miranda

Seel and with the enthusiastic support of the extended family, Sir Jameson's direct descendants. The ceremony was an intimate event, reminiscent of the original unveiling and was attended by Adams' grandchildren, great grandchildren and their children – three generations of his direct family. The Plaque was unveiled by Vice Admiral Sir Tim Laurence and installed beneath the stained-glass window in the main reception of King Edward VII's Hospital, ensuring Adams' legacy is rightly honoured.

You can read more about Sir Jameson's life on our website: www.kingedwardvii.co.uk/about-king-edward-vii/news/commander-sir-jameson-boyd-adams



You can donate to the 'Sir Jameson Adams Pain Management Programme' by scanning this QR code.



From left to right: Tim Adams (Grandson), Miranda Seel (Granddaughter), Vice Admiral Sir Tim Laurence KCVO, CB,CSM, ADC, Hermione Grassi (Granddaughter), Caroline Cornell (Granddaughter), Peter Adams (Grandson)

Prostate cancer treatment: what are the options?

A diagnosis of prostate cancer can be frightening and overwhelming. There are many treatment options and while this might feel bewildering, the wide range of options represents a chance to choose the right one, along with your medical team, to successfully treat or manage your cancer.

In this article, King Edward VII's Hospital consultant urologist Professor Caroline Moore has helped put together this comprehensive guide to the different prostate cancer treatment options available. Read on to learn more about each option, when they might be suitable and how you can expect them to affect you.

Why are there so many treatments for prostate cancer?

Cancer that is contained within the prostate can be treated in lots of different ways, and can also be monitored closely without treatment, in some men.

Prostate cancer is often a slow developing cancer that may not display any symptoms for many years. It's the most common cancer among British men

The symptoms which men might be worried about include:

- Passing urine more frequently than normal, especially during the night
- A more urgent need to pass urine
- Difficulty in starting to pass urine, even though you feel the need to
- Needing to strain to pass urine
- · A weak trickle when passing urine
- Struggling to empty your bladder fully when going to the toilet
- Blood in your urine or semen

Having some or all of these symptoms does not necessarily mean that you have prostate cancer. But you should speak to your GP about your symptoms. It is possible to ask your GP for a blood test to check your prostate cancer risk, this is called a Prostate-Specific Antigen (PSA) test.

In many circumstances, men do not need to begin treatment for prostate

cancer straight away. This is usually because their cancer is at a very early stage and watchful waiting or active surveillance is recommended instead. (We discuss both in more detail below.)

If your prostate cancer has become more advanced, or it's been diagnosed at a later stage, then treatment may be advised. This can involve surgery to remove the prostate, with an aim to completely remove the cancer.

Prostate cancer surgery can be 'nerve sparing' where the nerves that supply the prostate are left behind, reducing the chance of side effects such as erectile dysfunction and urinary incontinence.

In cases where a specialist doctor thinks that prostate cancer cannot be cured because it's spread to other parts of the body or is very advanced, they will offer treatment that will help to relieve the symptoms and prolong life.

Which treatment option is right for me?

Not all prostate cancer patients are suitable for all prostate cancer treatments. What treatments are suitable for you will depend on a



Professor Caroline MooreConsultant Urological surgeon

combination of the following factors:

- Whether or not your cancer has spread outside of your prostate
- How far your cancer may have spread or grown, referred to as the 'stage' of your cancer
- How advanced your prostate cancer is
- What the cancerous cells look like under a microscope, or the 'grade' of your cancer
- Your age
- Your overall health, fitness level and well-being
- You current sexual function and how important this is to you
- Whether you have any trouble passing urine

Depending on your personal circumstances, your doctor will discuss your options with you.

Focal therapy for prostate cancer

Focal therapy is suitable for men who have medium (intermediate) risk prostate cancer, ideally in one part of the prostate. As it treats only the cancer, and a small area around the cancer, the side effects of treatment are much less than those for traditional prostate cancer surgery or radiotherapy. It requires a careful assessment of the prostate using MRI and biopsy information.

For men who are suitable, it is done as a day surgery procedure. Follow up is similar to being on active surveillance, and includes MRI scans and sometimes biopsy.

It allows some men to continue to have good sexual and urinary function, while treating the cancer. As it's a small treatment, it can be repeated, and if necessary, surgery or radiotherapy can be used at a later date.

There are a number of different energies used in focal therapy for



prostate cancer, including ultrasound (High Intensity Focussed Ultrasound, or HIFU) and electroporation NanoKnife (passing an electrical current across the tumour to kill it). King Edward VII's hospital is one of the few hospitals to offer these treatments.

Prostate cancer surgery

Surgery for prostate cancer involves the removal of the prostate and the cancer, in a surgical procedure called a radical prostatectomy.

This kind of surgery is offered to men with prostate cancer that hasn't spread further than their prostate, or that has only spread a short distance. It aims to cure prostate cancer by completely removing the prostate and all of the cancerous cells.

Surgery to remove the prostate is usually offered to younger men with prostate cancer that is growing quickly.

Prostate surgery can also involve the removal of the lymph nodes close to your prostate to help prevent any cancerous cells that may be in the lymph nodes moving elsewhere in your body.

It may also involve removing the nerves that supply the prostate. These nerves are very close to the tissue of the prostate and leaving them behind can mean that some cancerous cells are left behind. Losing these nerves can lead to erectile dysfunction and urinary incontinence.

However, your surgeon may think you're suitable for nerve sparing

surgery that will leave the nerves behind, reducing the chance you'll experience side effects. Nerve sparing surgery is only carried out if your prostate cancer is growing away from the nerves.

The surgeon often uses a robotically assisted approach to remove the prostate, although it can also be done using other approaches.

Radiotherapy for prostate cancer

Radiotherapy can be used to treat prostate cancer that hasn't spread outside of the prostate. It uses radio waves that are similar to x rays to directly target and kill cancer cells and cure prostate cancer.

It can also be used in patients who have prostate cancer that has spread to help manage the symptoms rather than curing the cancer.

There are two types of radiotherapy for prostate cancer — external and internal radiotherapy.

External radiotherapy involves your doctor directing radiotherapy beams towards your prostate from outside your body. It's usually carried out over four to eight weeks in an outpatient clinic. Most men will have some hormone treatment to prepare the prostate for radiotherapy both before and for some months after the radiotherapy.

You may experience side effects including:

- Diarrhoea
- Tiredness
- Cystitis
- · Pain around your bottom
- Bleeding from your bottom

Brachytherapy

Brachytherapy is a type of internal radiotherapy that involves your surgeon placing radioactive 'seeds' inside your prostate using a long, thin hollow tube and ultrasound to guide it.

These seeds then release radiation into your prostate to kill cancerous cells. The seeds are placed close to your cancerous tumour, so that the level of radiation that reaches non-cancerous cells is low.

These seeds may be temporary and need to be removed afterwards, or you may have them there permanently.

If your surgeon recommends permanent brachytherapy, the radioactive seeds will release their radioactivity over a couple of months. This treatment is usually offered to men with early stage prostate cancer that hasn't spread.

Hormone therapy for prostate cancer

Hormone therapy is used to help shrink prostate cancer tumours in men with a high risk of their cancer returning, and is often used prior to radiotherapy treatments for prostate cancer.

It cannot cure cancer, but it can help to relieve the symptoms of prostate cancer and slow down its rate of progression. In some older men it may be the only treatment that they need.

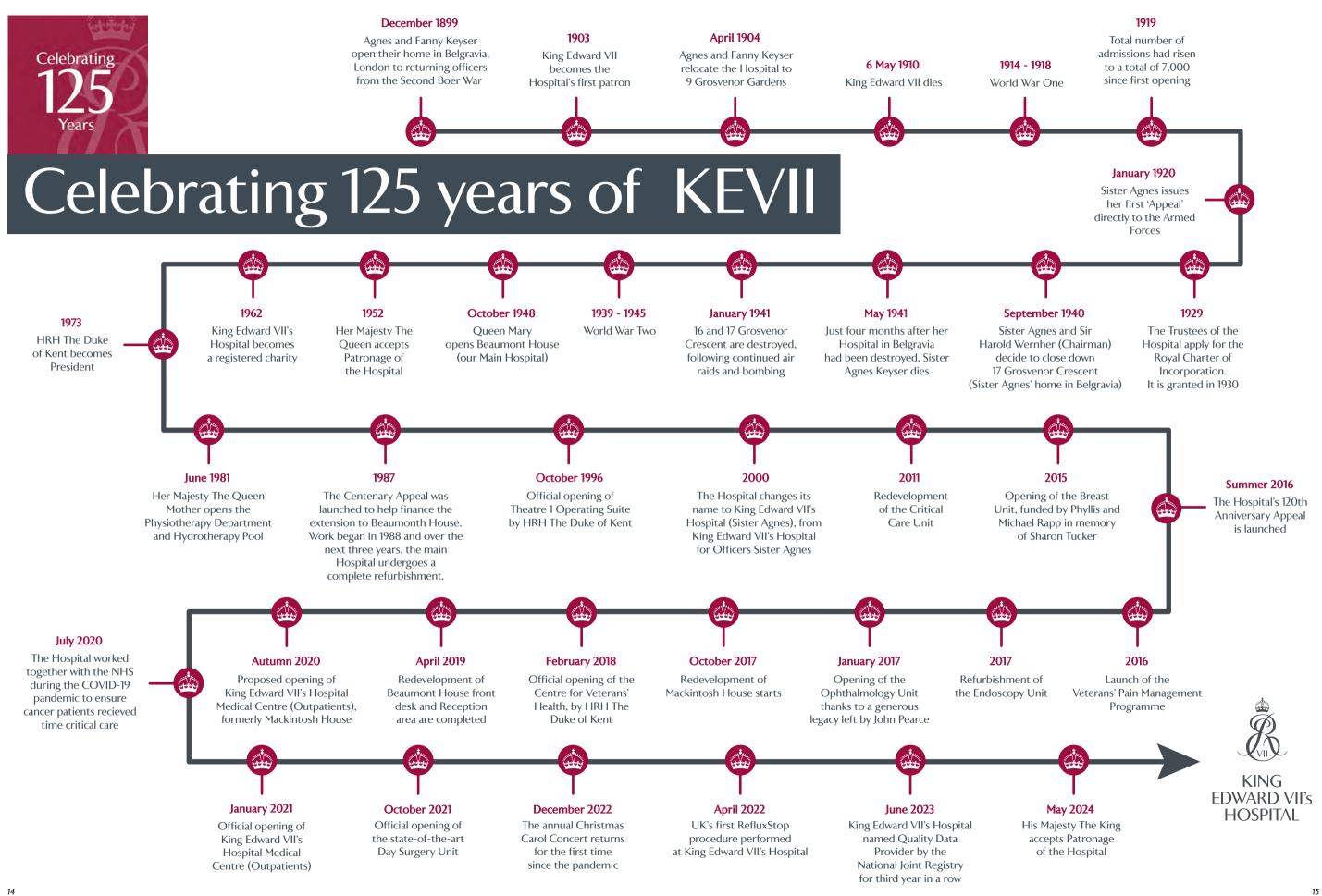
The male hormone testosterone helps prostate cancer cells to grow. Using hormone treatments blocks the activity of testosterone, helping to slow down the growth of prostate cancer.

Your doctor may offer hormonal treatment for prostate cancer in the form of injections, tablets, or a mix of the two.

More information

Your surgeon and medical team will talk you through your options and any side effects, so that you can make the best decision in terms of your treatment.

Contact our Urology Department if you'd like to make an appointment to speak to one of our expert urology consultants.



The Lord Mayors Big Curry lunch



The 17th edition of the Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch unfolded on April 18th at London's Guildhall, graciously hosted by The Rt Hon. The Lord Mayor of the City of London, Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli. An annual tradition, this event is orchestrated by our esteemed partners at The Army Benevolent Fund, bolstered by the unwavering support of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity, as well as the RAF Benevolent Fund.

We were privileged to welcome HRH The Princess Royal to the Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch, as she stood in solidarity with our Armed Forces veterans. Her Royal Highness engaged with veterans and beneficiaries from all three services, including those whose lives have been transformed through the invaluable programs sustained by this annual gathering.

Since 2019, the Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch has been a proud advocate of the Lord Mayor's "A Better City for All" strategy, channelling its proceeds towards aiding Armed Forces veterans in securing meaningful employment opportunities. This year, the aspirations soar as the Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch Committee aims to sponsor the enrolment of up to 16 veterans into the Pain Management Programme at the King Edward VII Hospital's Centre for Veterans' Health, alongside supporting 65 veterans through the Lifeworks programme, equipping them for successful transitions into civilian employment.

With a remarkable attendance of 1,650 guests this year, they anticipate a substantial addition to the £3.3 million already amassed by the lunch since its inception in 2008, further fortifying the commitment to supporting the well-being and livelihoods of UK Armed Forces veterans.

















As a charity supporting the Armed Forces, we've been fortunate to collaborate with the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust, receiving grants for our crucial work through the Centre for Veterans' Health. We are honoured to further cement this commitment.

Furthermore, we are officially part of the Employer Recognition Scheme endorsed by the Armed Forces Covenant, having been awarded the Bronze Award.

The Armed Forces Covenant and Defence Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS), for organisations that demonstrate exceptional support for the Armed Forces community, continues to grow and the government is working to encourage more organisations to engage with the scheme and sign the Covenant.

- We pledge to support the armed forces, including existing or prospective employees who are members of the community.
- We have signed the Armed Forces Covenant.
- We promote being armed forces-friendly and are open to employing reservists, armed forces veterans (including the wounded, injured and sick), cadet instructors and military spouses/partners.

Members of the Armed Forces community bring a wealth of transferable skills and experiences to employers across the United Kingdom, and at King Edward VII's Hospital we are honoured to have received The Armed Forces Covenant and Defence Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS).



King Charles III Becomes Patron of King Edward VII's Hospital

We are deeply honoured to announce that His Majesty King Charles III has graciously accepted the role of Patron of King Edward VII's Hospital. This marks a significant and historic moment for our institution, further strengthening our long-standing connection with the Royal Family.

For over a century, King Edward VII's Hospital has been synonymous with providing exceptional care, particularly to those who have served our country. This prestigious patronage from King Charles III not only reaffirms our commitment to excellence in healthcare but also continues a royal legacy of support that has been an integral part of our hospital's identity since its founding.

King Charles III's relationship with our hospital is built on decades of dedication to public service and a deep understanding of the importance of quality healthcare. His commitment to charitable causes, particularly those related to health and wellbeing, is well known, and we are incredibly fortunate to have his patronage as we continue to evolve and expand our services.

As we approach our 125th anniversary, the timing of this announcement is especially meaningful. King Charles III's patronage will guide us into this new chapter, inspiring us to uphold the values of compassion, innovation, and excellence that have defined our work since 1899.



We look forward to the exciting opportunities this patronage will bring, allowing us to further enhance our care for veterans, serving personnel, and all our patients. Under the guidance of King Charles III, we will continue to honour our rich heritage while advancing our mission to provide the highest standard of medical care.

We extend our deepest gratitude to His Majesty King Charles III for this remarkable honour and look forward to a bright future under his patronage.

Celebrating Christmas **Carol Concert**

At St. Marylebone Parish Church with King Edward VII Hospital

Save the date







Get in touch

For more information on anything included in this newsletter, or to discuss how to best support the Hospital, please contact:

Fundraising Office fundraising@kingedwardvii.co.uk



kingedwardvii.co.uk

King Edward VII's Hospital 5-10 Beaumont Street Marylebone, London, W1G 6AA

Registered Charity No. 208944

