

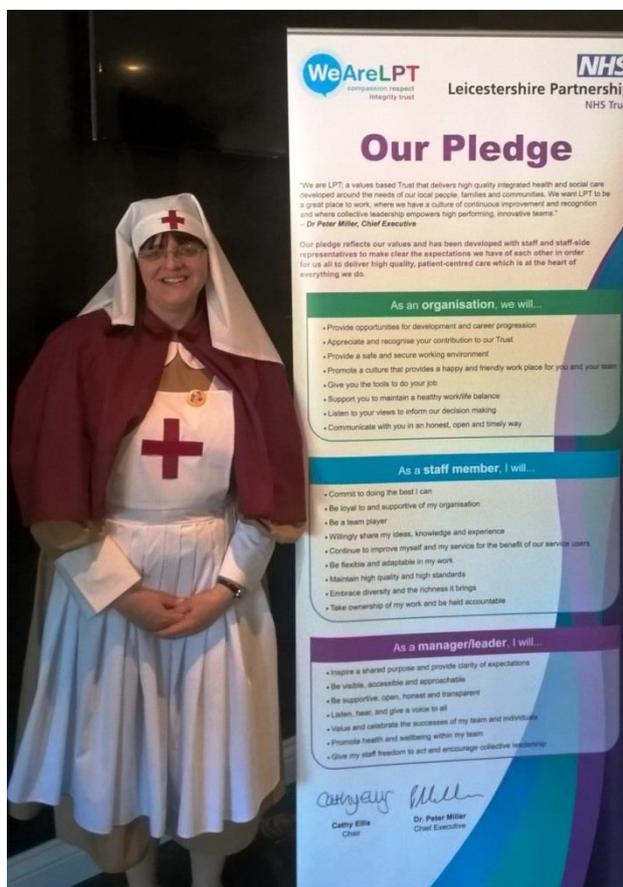
MEDIA RELEASE

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LPT's nursing 'super heroes' in Twitter takeover for Nurses Day

Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust is paying tribute to its 'superhero' nursing force on Friday – International Nurses Day – and giving the world a nurse's eye view of the day.



A 'social media' takeover by nursing staff from LPT's adult mental health, community health services and families, children's and young people's services is just one of the features of a day packed with activities to celebrate International Nurses Day.

Jo Wilson, lead nurse for families, young people and children's services, and Bradgate ward matron Rachael Shaw will be celebrating the work of their nursing colleagues on Twitter and Facebook with updates from services including mental health inpatient services, community hospital wards, school nursing and eating disorders services.

Nurses from community health services will be describing through social media

the everyday heroics they will be carrying out on Friday to relieve pain, treat wounds, and provide other care for their patients.

The theme of this year's Nurses Day is nurse heroes and some of the staff at the Bradgate mental health unit on the Glenfield site will be dressing in period nursing costume to pay tribute to Florence Nightingale, the inspiration behind the annual event, on the anniversary of her birth.

Nurses across the Trust have ordered masks and capes and selfie frames from the Royal College of Nursing to take 'superhero selfies'. Special 'thank you' walls are being displayed across LPT sites where public, patients and colleagues can write their own messages to their personal nursing super heroes.

At the Trust headquarters in Thurmaston International Nurses Day cupcakes and nursing themed 'mocktails' such as 'Florence (Nightingale)'s Fizz' will be sold to raise funds for the Trust's charity Raising Health. All money raised will support the LPT Leicestershire Round challenge in which staff are walking, running and cycling the county perimeter to buy specialist respiratory vests for very ill children. You can find out more about the appeal in this short film: https://youtu.be/waqBDKRUV_w

Other activities include a bed-making competition and 'create a nursing superhero' challenge on wards at the Bradgate Unit.

Dr Peter Miller, the Trust's chief executive, is leading the tributes with a signed message to nursing staff on the walls of thanks.

He said: "We are tremendously proud of our nursing staff who are skilled, dedicated, supportive and compassionate and demonstrate this 365 days a year. Many of them go above and beyond the call of duty to support our patients, service users and their families, and Nurses Day is a wonderful opportunity for all of us to say a public thank you for all that they do."

Members of the public will be invited to join the celebrations, by following the day's events on Twitter @LPTnhs and Facebook – Facebook www.facebook.com/LPTnhs and posting messages with the hashtag #LPTnurseheroes.

We are always looking to recruit nurses who can demonstrate that they can match our ambition to provide great care to join our team.. Details can be found at <http://www.leicspart.nhs.uk/jobs>

Photo caption: Michelle Churchard-Smith, lead nurse for LPT's adult mental health and learning disability services in vintage nursing uniform.

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Note to editors

Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust (LPT) provides a range of health and wellbeing services mainly for people living Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. The Trust serves a population of one million. We have a budget in excess of £275 million and employ approximately 5,500 staff. For more information visit: www.leicspart.nhs.uk.

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