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Communications Department

Royal United Hospital
Combe Park
Bath
BA1 3NG

Tel: 01225 826230 / 821459
Mobile: 07557 756658 (office hours)

Ruh-tr.communicationsteam@nhs.net

www.ruh.nhs.uk

<https://twitter.com/RUHBath>

Media Release

Blue sky thinking for RUH patients

Radiotherapy patients at the Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust can now enjoy relaxing views of a sunny blue sky while they wait for their appointments, thanks to a new 'window' which has been installed in the ceiling of the outpatient waiting area.

Instead of a real window, the sunny scene is actually created by using a series of light panels that create a realistic image and is all thanks to patient Allan Sinclair, who donated them to the department.

Allan, who has just completed radiotherapy treatment for prostate cancer at the RUH, said: "It was just my way of giving back something to the staff here who have looked after me so well.

"I just can't thank the staff enough. From the reception staff, to the radiographers and the consultants, the care I've received has been second to none.

"At the RUH you are treated like an individual, you're not just a number, and that's what makes the staff here so special."

Allan owns the company Sky Inside, which provides sky ceilings and artificial windows to healthcare companies and NHS Trusts throughout the country.

The Radiotherapy department isn't the only one at the RUH to have such eye-catching features - departments including intensive care and cardiology also have similar windows.

Allan said: "It's a very simple and effective way to brighten up a waiting room or gloomy corridor and can really help lift your mood."

In addition to being donated the new window, the light panels were installed free of charge by electrical contractor Electrico.

Lisa Tolson, Radiotherapy Service Manager, said: “We’re so grateful to Allan for such a wonderful gesture. The new window really brightens up the waiting area and it’s already receiving lots of positive feedback from our patients and staff.”

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Notes to Editor:

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

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

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

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

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