



**NHS
CHARITIES
TOGETHER**

REMEMBERING HEALTH AND CARE STAFF

Friday 11 March 2022
National Memorial Arboretum



About the National Memorial Arboretum

The National Memorial Arboretum is the Nation's year-round place to remember; it helps people to reflect and to be inspired, providing a space to celebrate lives lived and commemorate lives lost.

Situated at the corner of the National Forest, the 150-acre Arboretum is home to around 25,000 young trees and over 400 memorials. People from all walks of life are represented, with memorials to the Armed Forces, emergency services and civilian organisations. The memorials are rich in design and symbolism with stories just waiting to be discovered. The Arboretum is part of the Royal British Legion and since it opened to the public just over twenty years ago in 2001, has grown into an inspirational living landscape, freely open to all.

Last year the National Memorial Arboretum and National Forest Company announced their aspiration to create a 25-acre living woodland memorial at the Arboretum to recognise service and sacrifice throughout the pandemic.

thenma.org.uk



Today, on the second anniversary of the World Health Organisation declaring Covid-19 a global pandemic (11th March 2022), NHS Charities Together is holding a remembrance service to reflect on the sacrifices of health and social care staff during this time. The event is also an opportunity to reflect on the impact of the pandemic for everyone.

Health and social care staff from across the nations are with us today at the National Memorial Arboretum, Staffordshire, and the service is also being live streamed across the UK for others to join in. Staff attending include those from ambulance, hospital, mental health, community, social care and primary care services.

ABOUT NHS CHARITIES TOGETHER

NHS Charities Together is the national, independent charity caring for the NHS. Working with a network of more than 230 NHS charities, we provide the extra help needed in every hospital, health board, ambulance, community, and mental health trust across the UK.

Thanks to generous support from the British public, NHS Charities Together allocated over £110 million during 2020, with millions more continuing to be allocated during 2021 and 2022. This has included over 400 new projects dedicated to NHS staff – such as helplines, counselling, and dedicated psychological support for post-traumatic stress disorder – and vital patient focused initiatives such as training for emergency responders, research into long COVID, and specialist equipment.

To find out more visit **www.nhscharitiestogether.co.uk**

WELCOME

Lord Crisp KCB, Patron of NHS Charities Together, introduces live broadcast.

THESE ARE THE HANDS

MICHAEL ROSEN ©MICHAEL ROSEN, 2008

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Read by Iain Glen; directed by Tim Langford and produced by EVCOM and the BFI.

Service led by Rev Dr Paul Nash, Rehanah Sadiq and Rakesh Bhatt,
Birmingham Women and Children's Hospital Multifaith and Belief Team

Welcome - **Rev Dr Paul Nash**

MINUTE'S SILENCE

The bell is rung by David Fitton, Community First Responder Governor,
West Midlands Ambulance Service

NELLA FANTASIA

Performed by Rhys Meirion, Classical Tenor

FROM ROLLING TIDE, FOOTNOTES ON LIFE

KATE FOX ROBINSON

Read by Dr Habib Naqvi MBE, Director, NHS Race and Health Observatory

The year came in like a rolling tide, in pounding waves that would not subside. So much so we could not fight it or hold it back. All we could actually do in the end was to take the surest and firmest position and stand resolutely in the sinking sand beneath our feet, letting the waves pummel us over and over. Sometimes being swept under by a waves' full force, tumbling, holding our breath until we resurfaced again, finding air and re-taking our stand.

The dawning realisation there is no boat coming to take us to a distant shore. Beyond the shore is not where we live out our lives. Our times are here in the frothing, crashing tumult of it all.

But we are not alone, we are battered for sure, but not alone. Looking down the shoreline we notice distant dots, also swaying, also bending, also enduring, but still standing. As fierce as the waves which roll in behind them.

TESTIMONIAL

Jason Morris QAM; Clinical Team Manager, London Ambulance Service NHS Trust and Flight Paramedic, London Air Ambulance

LOVE

DAVID BUCK

Read by Emma Watts, Clinical Nurse Manager, Birmingham and Solihull
Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust

Some say there are three things that last for ever
and I have sacrificed the greatest of all
love
I broke the Golden Rule giving
I emptied bringing light
I burnt out caring
I wearied
darkness came
I did not rest
I did not eat
did not sleep
arrived home late
time and again
argued over nothing
binged
lost myself
fell out of love with myself
and how can you love others care about anyone else when you do not
do so for yourself
but I had no choice
could not say no
some say there are three things that last for ever
two now remain
faith that we will better ourselves because of this
and hope that love will be rebirthed

THE ROSE

**Performed by Birmingham Women's and Children's
NHS Foundation Trust Staff and Friends Choir**

TESTIMONIAL

Felicity Pass, Oncology Nurse, Derby and Burton Hospitals NHS Trust

THE POEM FROM ROLLING TIDE, FOOTNOTES ON LIFE KATE FOX ROBINSON

Read by Professor Jacqueline Dunkley-Ben OBE, Chief Midwifery Officer,
NHS England

The losses came thick and fast,
death by a thousand tiny cuts.
Or if by not this,
then by the relentless sorrow
manifest in the lives of our friends.

Life-changing accidents.
Sudden death leaving
families reeling in its wake.
IVF again.
Cancer again.
Addiction again.
The odds stacking up against us
seared as we are by separation.

Losses, almost such that they
defined us completely.
Save, in the end they did not
They could not.

For silently, out of a banished corner
crawls kindness, on her knees
inching forward into the light
and in her shadow,
holding tightly onto her hand for safety
emerges a tiny but fierce creature
we recognise
as Hope.

WREATH LAYING

Accompanied by Birmingham Women's and Children's NHS Foundation Trust Staff and Friends Choir performing Keep You In Peace

Twelve wreaths will now be laid representing patients, the different caring professions, those disproportionately affected by Covid, and to reflect on global loss.

These will be laid by:

Wilfredo Cadelina, Charge Nurse; Shrewsbury and Telford NHS Trust

Lord Nigel Crisp KCB, Patron, NHS Charities Together

Reena Farrington, Call Supervisor Emergency Operations Centre, West Midlands Ambulance Service

Lorraine Galligan, Deputy Chief Nurse, NHS Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

Dr Ian Happs, Health Education and Improvement Wales (HEIW) Programme Director for GP Training in Wrexham & North Powys

Dr Habib Naqvi MBE, Director of NHS Race and Health Observatory

Ruth May, Chief Nursing Officer, NHS England

Trudy McLeay, NHS Tayside

Wanika Simpson, Acute Medicine Health Care Assistant, Sandwell & West Birmingham Hospitals Trust

Professor Deborah Sturdy OBE, Chief Nurse for Adult Social Care for England

Maura Tieger, Patient Governor Representative; Derby and Burton NHS Trust

Emma Watts, Clinical Team Manager, Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust

KEEP YOU IN PEACE

(SARAH MORGAN)

Warm be the sun that shines upon you
Soft be the winds as they breathe on you
Smooth be the roads that rise before you
Keep you in peace till we meet again.

May you have shelter in storm to hide you,
May you have stars in the night to guide you
May you have ever a friend beside you,
Keep you in peace till we meet again.

Warm be the sun that shines upon you
Soft be the winds as they breathe on you
Smooth be the roads that rise before you
Keep you in peace till we meet again.

May you not lack for good bread to feed you,
May you not lack for good hope to speed you,
And for your singing, a heart to heed you,
Keep you in peace till we meet again.

Warm be the sun that shines upon you
Soft be the winds as they breathe on you
Smooth be the roads that rise before you
Keep you in peace till we meet again.
Keep you in peace till we meet again.

Chorus inspired by a Celtic blessing:
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MAKING A DIFFERENCE

LEMN SISSAY

Read by Tim Diggle, Charity Operations Director, Derby & Burton Hospitals Charity and Deputy Chair, NHS Charities Together

We are shaking and waking and breaking indifference
We are quaking and taking and making a difference
We are working observing recording researching
Wherein we're conferring subverting referring
We're counting the minutes the moments the loss
Redressing the balance
Addressing the cost

We are citing and fighting it's all in the writing
The spark is igniting in dark we are lightening
We are breaking the brackets the fact is the planet's
In rackets and rackets of rackets in brackets
The systems the victims the damming the scamming
The biased predicting the beating and banning

We teach through closed doors when none listen we hear
When heads turn away we volunteer
To relentless censors the damned and defenceless
Our words are the action the louder reaction

We count the cells in illness
We name the unnamed we count the invisible
We make change
We work we stand tall
We rise up to be counted
We work above all
We climb mountains

The skills we exchange the breaking of chains
The actions sustained the makers of change
We are shaking and breaking and waking indifference
We are quaking and taking and making a difference

CLOSE

Reverend Dr Paul Nash

Thank you to everyone who has taken part in this moment of reflection on loss and to give thanks for the ongoing sacrifices of NHS and care staff across the UK. And our thoughts today continue to be with all of those around the world who are tragically facing sacrifices and loss.

We hope we have captured and honoured the breadth and depth of the multiple loss of our NHS and care staff as they continue to serve us and seek to keep us safe.

We know many of you continue to be busier than ever, caring for us all, with an inevitable huge backlog of people needing help. We know you continue to put your patients before yourselves, keeping on going despite the exhaustion you feel.

We come together today in solidarity, love and support and with a commitment that we will never forget the sacrifices that have been made by colleagues and the ongoing sacrifices that you are all making every day.

We will never forget and we will be forever grateful.

HOW TO STAY INVOLVED

To find out more about our work to help the NHS go further, visit www.nhscharitiestogether.co.uk



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