

## SILVER STAR

# 50<sup>th</sup>

## ANNIVERSARY

### Silver Star celebrates 50 years Professor Chris Redman on the birth of the Silver Star Unit in 1970:

"In early April 1970, in the old Nuffield Maternity Hospital on Walton Street, I consulted with a young woman who had had multiple pregnancy losses for unexplained reasons. I was starting a new initiative as a very new Junior Lecturer. To signal her special needs to staff, a Silver-Star label was attached to the front of her notes. In the end, after heart breaking ups and downs, she was able to have a daughter and in due course become a grandmother.

I had no idea, and certainly no plan, that this would become a caring service, unique at the time, which would grow from that small seed to the large robust tree, which is now Silver Star.



Princess Diana with Professor Chris Redman, 1986

Many who helped during those early years have now passed on. Others are retired. But a new and wonderfully lively team of committed carers – midwives, obstetricians, and physicians – is continuing this important work.

Yet, more! For 30 years Silver Star has become a partnership between its families and the medical team - yet another aspect of its pioneering energy. These alliances now flourish in other specialties, but not so a generation ago, when the Silver Star Society started.

So today we should celebrate 50 years of achievement. Tomorrow there is more work to do."

The Silver Star Society formed in 1986-87 when a group of mothers, confined to hospital before having their babies, created a support group to raise funds for the Unit.

To begin with, the Society bought equipment for the Unit, particularly IT equipment that wasn't paid for by the NHS at the time.



Professor Ian Sargent & Professor Chris Redman

Nowadays, the Society, which is part of Oxford Hospitals Charity, raises money to make care for mothers better in every possible way, topping up NHS funding to make the important extras possible. It also funds ground-breaking innovations and research, including a world-first monitoring system.

**Maggie Findlay, Manager at Silver Star Society, said:** "We are so proud to support the Silver Star Unit and the team that work tirelessly to care for Oxfordshire mums-to-be.

"The 50th Anniversary of the Silver Star Unit in 2020 is a true celebration of what the NHS is so good at. The unit has helped so many Oxfordshire families over the last 50 years and, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our celebration of this achievement is not the one we had hoped for, but it remains so important to look back and recognise how far we have come."

The Silver Star team also includes an advanced and highly skilled team of scientists working behind the scenes to investigate the causes of these complications in pregnancy. The Research Team has become international leaders in their field which has led to an impact in the standard of care pregnant women receive in the UK, Europe, Canada, and the U.S.A.



Vibeka Mannion former Silver Star Midwife with Professor Chris Redman

## More comments for 50 year celebrations...

### Ali Cuthbertson, Head of Midwifery

'We are incredibly fortunate to have the Silver Star unit here at OUH, over the last 50 years countless families have been supported by care which is both innovative and compassionate. The dedicated team have worked hard to successfully improve care year on year in their endeavour to achieve the best possible outcomes for mothers and babies.'

Testimonies from our Patrons, past and present:

### Maggie Philbin OBE– (first patron)

'It was such a privilege to be involved with the Silver Star Unit as a patron for a newly formed support group of grateful parents. I'd felt so grateful for the care I received at The John Radcliffe and helping to raise funds to provide much needed equipment was a tiny way to say thank you to the brilliant, inspiring and immensely caring teams there. I've continued to follow the work done by both the unit and the associated charity, whose indefatigable fundraising has helped the unit become a world leader in their care for women with complications in pregnancy. It was also the incentive for something I still count as one of the most unlikely achievements of my life - running the London Marathon. When Prof Redman asked if I might do it for the unit, I'd never run further than 200 yards, so Silver Star also gave me (and I suspect over the years, many other non-running parents) a powerful life lesson in what can be achieved.'

A very happy 50th birthday to all the talented, hardworking and compassionate people who have made the Silver Star unit such a special place which has transformed outcomes for parents and children not only in the region but through their ground breaking research, all over the world.'

### Armando & Rachel Iannucci – (past patron)

'I owe everything to the Silver Star unit at the John Radcliffe Hospital. All three of our children were born there and my wife and I saw close-up the tremendous care and expertise from the team. Silver Star has saved and enabled the lives of many thousands of children and supported many mothers through difficult pregnancies. Its research and practise are unsurpassed, but now, in its 50th year, it faces deep challenges: the Unit has always relied on donations and fundraising for extra crucial equipment, but Covid has prevented many public fundraising events. That's why I can think of no better 50th Birthday present for The Silver Star unit than that we all donate as much as we can and help many more mothers and babies for years to come.'

### Clare Mackintosh – (current patron)

'Throughout 2020 I have been particularly concerned about the impact of the pandemic on maternity services. Attending appointments and experiencing early labour alone is a daunting process for a woman with a low-risk pregnancy; for high-risk expectant parents it is terrifying. The Silver Star Society works tirelessly to support staff, services and parents, and the equipment and training they fund has never been more essential.'

For fifty years Professor Redman and the Silver Star team have been protecting pregnancies and saving lives. I cannot thank them enough for my own Silver Star family, and we will all be raising a glass to wish the whole team a very happy birthday. Here's to the next fifty years!'

### Emma Bond

I cannot praise the Silver Star Unit enough. Without their expert care I would not be here today and chances are I wouldn't have two of my children in my arms. We are so lucky to have such a wonderful unique unit on our doorstep providing expert care by a great team of experienced obstetricians, physicians and midwifery staff. Thank you for all you do.

### Janet & David Goldsworthy

In September 1994 I was on my way to the Silver Star Unit in Oxford in an ambulance. It was strange, lying flat and unable to move as I was transported along familiar roads. I could see the treetops and the odd upside down building as we sped along, but mostly was relieved to keep my eyes shut. My blood pressure was far too high, I had a severe headache and nobody at my local hospital knew what to do. It was chaotic, frightening and such a relief to be going to Oxford.

We arrived at the JR and the world swooped and dipped as I was lifted out of the ambulance. Level 6 was white and cool with the sound of quietly hurrying feet. Blinds were drawn and curtains floated in the breeze from the open window. Moments later a quiet man arrived. He seemed to appear in the room rather than enter it. His shoes did not squeak and he wore a white coat. He was careful and precise in his words and movements. He introduced himself as Professor Redman.

'Hello, Janet, David,' he said, and shook our hands. He had taken the trouble to know our names. Instantly we knew we were in good hands. There followed information, clear and honest, given with care and common sense. What he said did not sound good, but it was infinitely better than no information at all. The relief was immense.

With excellent care and monitoring we managed to keep the pregnancy going until 28 weeks when a tiny baby girl was delivered by C-section. She weighed less than 1 lb. She was like Thumbelina. She cried before she was intubated, opened her black button eyes and kicked, wrapped in tinfoil and taken to SCBU. We called her Emma. She died 3 weeks later. I made a good recovery and went home to look after our other daughter Rachel, who was two.

Prof looked after us in the next pregnancy too when pre-eclampsia struck again. Our next baby girl, Jennie, was born by C-section at 32 weeks and weighed 3 lbs.3ozs. David and I had been on a long journey to have our girls and knew we were very fortunate to have Rachel and Jennie and our memories of little Emma.

This is why I became involved with fundraising for Silver Star and David became the Chairman of the Society. This is why I still compile the newsletters after all these years. This is why Silver Star matters. The dedication of the staff and the excellence of the care provided then and now is precious. Happy 50th Birthday Silver Star! We would not be where we are today without you!

[> Read about The history and the future of CTG monitoring on P7](#)

# Silver Star fundraisers

We know that 2020 is proving to be a difficult year for many and not everyone is able to support us by donating time or money. There is however one simple way you can help and that's by telling your friends, family and colleagues about our fab charity. Being tucked away in an office on Level 6 means that sometimes all the great support and work we do is missed by many and we want to spread the word about The Silver Star Society!

## Ways you can support the Silver Star Society:

- Let your family & friends know you are donating to us instead of sending Christmas cards
- Set up a Direct Debit (min £3 per month)
- Take on a challenge like Couch to 5K and ask friends to sponsor you
- Follow us on our social media pages and share with your connections. The more people that know about us the more good work we can continue to do! As always thank you for your support.



< Blackpit Brewery raised £4289.50. Thank you !

The Directors of Blackpit Brewery, Duncan, Oly & Ben host a good old fashioned 'knees up' with free beer and food for friends, family and members of the Brewery. They chose Silver Star, which is a charity close to their hearts.

**Sam Mallett**, former Planteria Manager at Notcutts, Oxford, has been gardening for others and raising money for Silver Star whilst she has been furloughed. Sam says:

*'I have been working in horticulture for 25 years. Two years ago I qualified as a horticultural therapist after a long passion believing plants and the act of gardening can improve our physical, social and mental well-being. I work with clients presenting with a wide range of conditions, and I develop programs and goals that support their needs. It's an incredibly rewarding job; to be in a garden setting, able to monitor a client's recovery and be part of a wider support network. I also work with people to help them connect and enjoy their own gardens because when we nurture a garden in turn will nurture us.'*

Sam is now a horticultural therapist running her own business Releaf. Ann Tomline (pictured), a grateful recipient of Sam's gardening skills, says: **'Thank you once again for the lovely garden you produced for me. The Silver Star Society gained and so did I in more ways than one'**.



## Georgia Lovett cycles 109 km during lock-down for Silver Star

Georgia's Mum Karen tells us: 'Georgia is a very keen cyclist and has been using her skill to stay positive while she is off school due to the Coronavirus. She has been cycling most days, making good use of the quiet roads and totalling 100 miles each week. She declared on a ride that she would like to cycle to the Silver Star unit in Oxford to raise funds.



Georgia was born in the Silver Star Unit on the 1st April 2010 and she is very proud of it. I have a rare disease, which at the time was known as Brownes Violetta Van Laere Syndrome (BVVL), but is now more commonly known as Riboflavin Transporter Deficiency (RTD). I have weak muscles, respiratory compromise and deafness as a result. It was believed that I was the first woman in the UK with BVVL to have a baby, so the progress of my pregnancy was uncertain. I was looked after incredibly well by the Silver Star staff. Although I was poorly in the last 5 weeks due to the strain on my already weakened muscles and respiratory system Georgia was born safely and healthy. We are always very grateful and thankful for the wonderful care we had.

55km. I drove the route as back up, nutrition supplier and photographer.

Georgia only definitely planned to cycle out to the Silver Star, but once there chose to ride back home too. She was over the moon to achieve a total distance of 109km, because it helped to bring in more wonderful donations for her cause.

Georgia's grand total raised for the Silver Star is £650! We are so proud of her!

We'd all like to thank the Silver Star for the support and shout-outs.'

We planned a route from our home near Swindon to Oxford with both safety and social distancing in mind and Georgia set out with her dad at 9am on Sunday 17th May. They enjoyed a lovely, sunny ride arriving at the Silver Star at lunchtime after



**Two of our team decided to take part and share their experience of the Virtual London Marathon on Sunday 4th October.**

Originally we had a London Marathon Team of 4: Josh Moultrie, Kate Forshee, Debbie Mcintosh and John Dingle. Our wonderful team have very kindly deferred their marathon experience to 2021 & 2023.

**Debbie Mcintosh:**

'It was supposed to be my first and only Marathon, a once in a lifetime achievement whilst raising much needed funds for the Silver Star unit.

When my Silver Star baby Alfie was 9 months old I completed my first mile run post-baby. After years of IVF, a miscarried twin, an emergency caesarean and exclusively breastfeeding, my body and mind had changed beyond recognition and I wanted to see what I was capable of. When Alfie was 20 months old, I was coping with my PND and felt my body was recovered enough to run the London Marathon. Then in March the real impact of Covid-19 was felt here in Oxfordshire and across the UK. As keyworkers in the Security and Electrical Industries, my husband and I were juggling working from home, home schooling 3 teenagers and entertaining a toddler. Understandably my training took a big hit!



**On the original Marathon date April 26th:**

I took part in the 2.6 Challenge on the original Marathon date of 26th April while the family was self-isolating. This involved a 26 station OneFitMama circuit, 26 squats holding Alfie, 26 laps of the garden and 26 pancake tosses to name but a few!

**Virtual Marathon October 4th:**

When it became a Virtual Marathon it was important for me to still complete the race in London. I planned a 14 mile route to run early in the morning around some of the landmarks that had personal significance to me. I knew I wouldn't be able to run the 26.2 miles in one go due to impact of Covid-19 on my ability to train, but thought if I could get more than half out of the way early then I would have until midnight to complete the distance!

When race day came along, I got up at 05:30am, had breakfast then set off just after 6am in the dark, wind and rain! It was strange running through the deserted City of London, having people waiting at bus shelters through Shoreditch and Hackney shouting my name and cheering me on. I ran along an empty Oxford Street with the Christmas lights up, and then saw lots of other runners in Hyde Park wearing their Marathon race numbers. I passed many of my customer buildings, my head office, and the London Eye before returning to the London Bridge Hotel by the Shard.



At 15:53 in the afternoon, 10 hours after I had pinned my race number on, I completed the 26.2 miles to the sound of crowds cheering and Paula Radcliffe and Steve Cram congratulating me on the TCS Marathon App! What a memorable day; and a Marathon like no other before or again. Huge congratulations to everyone else who ran the 2020 London Marathon race in their own way. I've smashed my personal goals and fundraising targets and am feeling pretty proud of myself.

Thanks Silver Star for giving me the opportunity to take part in this unique race.'

**John Dingle shares his experience of the Virtual London Marathon:**



'For my virtual marathon I ran 21 miles or so along the Kennet & Avon Canal towpath, starting in Hungerford and taking in Newbury and other towns and villages along the way, before running cross-country over the last 5 miles towards home in Pangbourne from Theale. I crossed the finish line around 4 hours after leaving Hungerford, with a total running time of approx. 3 hrs 55 mins. All despite the weather gods throwing some very cold and wet weather into the mix, meaning that large parts of the canal towpath were underwater, and whilst navigating the fishing



matches, cows, dogs, gates, closed paths, train and lock barriers, and various other obstacles along the way! Family and friends acted as support crew at various points along the route and I also had a couple of support runners – Chris S and Chris S – who joined me for the first half and also the last 5 or so miles, and kept me on the right track...as did raising money for the Silver Star Unit!

**LONDON MARATHON 2021**



Join the world's most popular marathon to raise money for the Silver Star Society. Along with almost 40,000 other competitors, you will run past many of the capital's most iconic landmarks while being cheered on by hordes of famously friendly and noisy spectators. You might be an experienced club runner or this could be your first marathon. Either way, we'd love your support. We'll help you prepare for this very special event and provide you with lots of fundraising ideas, along with a Silver Star running top and training tips.

**To register your interest and for more information please email [silverstar.society@ouh.nhs.uk](mailto:silverstar.society@ouh.nhs.uk)**

**Got your own place for 2021?**

If you were lucky enough to secure a London Marathon 2021 ballot place, do consider running for our cause. We will provide you with a Silver Star Society running top, help you set up your fundraising page, give you fundraising tips and invite you to a training seminar to help you prepare for the big day.

## SUPERSTARS SMASH THE STEPS FOR SUMMER 100 CHALLENGE!

This August we challenged our supporters to take part in our 'Steps for Summer' fundraiser where participants had 31 days to walk, run or cycle 100 miles.

We were overwhelmed by the number of you who 'stepped up' to the challenge and dedicated many hours of your time completing those steps. The challenge took determination to complete and it was fantastic to see many people of different ages and abilities taking part.

**Ashley Taylor** - "Huge thanks back to Silver Star - without your challenge I wouldn't have picked up my running by this amount. I'm fitter than I have been in a long time and mentally love the motivation of getting out more often".

**Emma Gammin** - "I completed the Steps for Summer Challenge in August in memory of our daughter Poppy who we sadly we lost in July 2018. Having seen first-hand the amazing work the Silver Star team do it was a pleasure to be able to give something back for all the support and care we received during an extremely hard time in our lives. It also helped me to enjoy the outdoors and share the miles with family and friends who supported me along the way! I would love to do it again next year!"

**Luke Gregory** - "The Steps for Summer Challenge was no mean feat! I went into it not at all used to running but I was quickly able to run 5k. I enjoyed the fact that it was every day (or there about) and although there were blisters and punctures along the way, I'm so glad I could complete it and raise lots of money for the wonderful Silver Star. A charity we are so grateful to, having helped us to get through my wife's challenging and high risk pregnancy. Thank you Silver Star!"

**Collectively this challenge raised over £4,000 which was a fantastic result and we cannot express our thanks enough to everyone who took part and donated.**



Who's up for 2021 summer challenge? To keep up to date on our future fundraising plans why not follow us on Facebook or Instagram!

## READ ALL ABOUT IT!

How did the incredible Silver Star Unit help your family?

Do you have a Silver Star journey that you would like to share or give thanks to the amazing NHS team?

Please email [silverstaremma@gmail.com](mailto:silverstaremma@gmail.com) if you would like to feature in our 'Real Life Stories' features on our website, social media and newsletters!

## Join the Silver Star Society

To become a member and receive the newsletter free of charge, please e mail Maggie on [silverstarsociety@ouh.nhs.uk](mailto:silverstarsociety@ouh.nhs.uk). Please be sure to inform us if you would like your baby's name to be included in the newsletter as this does not automatically happen.

## Contacts & Information

**Maggie Findlay – Manager**

Silver Star Society Office, Level 6, Women's Centre, John Radcliffe Hospital, Headington, Oxford OX3 9DU

**Office hours:** Monday, Wednesday & Thursday - 9.00 until 4pm

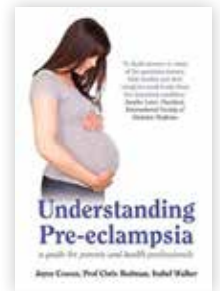
**Tel:** 01865 221718

**Email:** [silverstar.society@ouh.nhs.uk](mailto:silverstar.society@ouh.nhs.uk)

**Website:** [www.silverstaroxford.org](http://www.silverstaroxford.org)

The Silver Star Society is part of Oxford Hospitals Charity (reg charity no 1175809) [www.hospitalcharity.co.uk](http://www.hospitalcharity.co.uk)

**A great opportunity to receive the latest book from Professor Christopher Redman, leading expert in Pre Eclampsia.**



**Available from only £2.50** (to cover the cost of postage and packing)

We would be grateful if you could consider making a donation to the Silver Star Society, a charitable fund founded by Professor Redman and based in the Women's Centre at the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford which supports Maternity Services in Oxfordshire.

By doing this you will be helping us to support NHS frontline staff during the Coronavirus pandemic as well as in our ongoing work supporting the unit to care for women with high risk pregnancies.

**To receive a copy, please go to:**  
[www.silverstaroxford.org/book](http://www.silverstaroxford.org/book)

## Charlotte Frise, Obstetric Physician shares her experience of high-risk pregnancy care in the midst of a pandemic

It felt like a very slow-moving tsunami was approaching. Everyone knew it was coming, everyone knew it would do damage, and whilst we had to prepare for its arrival, there was not much that we could do to reduce the potential damage; we just had to prepare for the fallout.

### Anticipation

A huge change was seen in the hospital after it became clear that COVID-19 was reaching the UK. Structural changes (new doors, rearrangement of the Emergency Department) and staff/process changes in every department, at every level were required. All staff briefings started, recognising that each and every member of the staff team wanted and needed to be kept up to date with a rapidly changing situation. What was unusual about these changes was the speed at which they were instituted. Things that would usually take a long time to be introduced were expedited and happened unusually quickly.

From my perspective, this was mainly seen in the shift to video or telephone consultations. Although I miss the human interaction of face-to-face consultations (and I really do), this change was essential to

keep our pregnant patients safe at home, but also seemed like a very positive move for our patients in the longer term. No more leaving home at the crack of dawn to allow a long time to queue for a car parking space and no long waits with bored children in the antenatal clinic waiting room. Yes I recognise the technology sometimes let us down, but no system is perfect and the effort that went into us all learning a new system within days was impressive. The anticipation of what was coming however, coupled with the anxiety associated with seeing the stories emerge from Italy and the real concern that the situation in the UK could be worse, was exhausting, and this occurred before we had seen the first COVID-19 patients!

### Arrival

My first response to Boris' announcement that pregnant women should be included in the list of individuals who should self-isolate (prior to the main lockdown announcement) was that of surprise. Information from China had indicated that, in contrast to Influenza, pregnancy did not result in more severe COVID-19 infection. I quickly came to realise however that

this announcement was hugely beneficial to our pregnant women in Oxfordshire. The announcement came at a time when COVID-19 had not really reached Oxfordshire, unlike London which was at least a week ahead. I am certain this was a significant contributor to the small number of cases of COVID-19 we have so far seen in pregnant women in Oxford.

On a personal note, cycling to and from work in lockdown became my vulnerable time. Cycling away from my family, on deserted streets, whilst everyone else was at home really made me realise the enormity of what we, as individuals as well as a country, were facing. It sometimes made me upset that I was putting my family at risk of infection whilst others could simply close their doors on the outside world and protect their family in a far better way than I was able to.

I was struck by the strength of my colleagues and the way people worked as part of both big and small teams. In the preparation phase, everyone was working at full speed in their respective roles and going above and beyond their job role, to prepare

their departments to keep their patients safe. When COVID-19 increased in momentum, there was unequivocal and unrelenting support for colleagues, whether they were unwell themselves, needing to shield, needing to self-isolate because of unwell family members or having childcare problems as a result of school closures. I have also witnessed so many kind gestures, which I will always remember, be grateful for and try to emulate in the future. The public donations were amazing, but the individual support and acts of kindness offered by those around me made me feel truly fortunate to work in the team that I do.

### Recovery

It is with relief and trepidation that I have watched the reopening of schools and businesses. Whilst I crave a return to normality, this is a far-flung dream as COVID-19 is far from over. I share the concern about a second wave, but have a slightly less anxious approach to this. We have got through this once, we know what is involved and we can do it again. It would just be nice to get some personal recovery time in first.

## The Greatest Gift Ever! - A Letter from Yvonne Oloo

*"A baby fills a place in your heart that you never knew was empty" -Author unknown*

After a family tragedy, I became aware of a deep void which resulted in sudden loneliness. We then decided that we would like to expand our family. I was 35, married, with a son who was 8 and I was hypertensive. I developed high blood pressure when my first son was three. My dilemma was the hypertension and its link to maternal mortality. My GP referred me to Professor Redman who arranged a consultation. I will never forget how down to earth, genuine and reassuring he was. He said he would see me through pregnancy and birth as his team had expertise in maternal medicine. He suggested that I see him as soon as I conceived. Lo and behold, I was back in his office two months later with a positive result.

From then on I was under his committed team, Silver Star. I received dedicated round the clock comprehensive care with every single medical check performed in great detail to ensure that we were progressing well. Although I was in and out of level 6 as an inpatient, I felt safe and cared for. Never under estimate the value of maternal care, had I had peace of mind because Professor Redman not only assured me in my first consultation that I will carry and deliver safely but also the team cared for me tirelessly.

The best highlights were listening to my baby's heartbeat, seeing the scans and the very thorough medical checks I received. I will forever be indebted to the Professor because without that first conversation I would never have had more



children. I was scared for my life. Silver Star gifted me two absolutely beautiful children, and my job is just to love them. Did I mention after the birth of Linda in 2006, we were blessed with another in 2009? We named her Christina after the Professor himself. The pregnancies were very different but the medical care remained second to none, uncompromised.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Silver Star, Professor Redman, Dr Catherine Greenwood and the entire Level 6 team for giving us the best gift ever!

We can never thank you enough. Yvonne Oloo.

## Beth Albert and Professor Redman share the history and the future of CTG monitoring



On 2.11.20 Beth Albert, lead midwife and manager of the Silver Star unit and FMMU, will start a 6 month secondment working with Professor Chris Redman and Dr Manu Vatish developing an educational programme for the Dawes-Redman computerised CTG analysis. CTG stands for cardiotocogram the heart rate monitors that are well known to all Silver Star mothers. The Dawes-Redman analysis has been a special interest to Beth for many years. She says that "this is a fantastic opportunity not only to develop an educational package but to once again work alongside the world-renowned Prof Redman".

The Silver Star Society's 50th Birthday is a good reason to look back on what has been achieved in the last 50 years, and the profound influence that Professor Redman has had in this field.

Before 1960, the stillbirth rate was high, about 25 in every 1000 babies born. There were very limited ways of determining fetal health. These included the mother's perception of fetal movements, assessment of the fetal heart by listening, or by taking an x-ray.

Then in 1960-65 electronic fetal heart rate monitoring (CTG) was developed. When, ten years later, Prof Redman introduced the use of medication to treat the high blood pressure of women with pre-eclampsia it became possible to delay delivery. However, care of babies born very prematurely was very primitive and the babies did not do well. In the first two years of Silver Star practice, the entire small group of these babies died. They could not be identified to be able to know when to call it a day and to get them delivered.

In 1970 one electronic fetal monitor (the first) had arrived on Delivery Suite. At the start, the staff were reluctant to try something with unproven benefit and associated with 'research'. Although intended for use in labour and delivery, Prof Redman showed that it could identify problems before labour. Two years later it began to be used more routinely in this setting. Fast forward 50 years and on this same Delivery Suite, computerised CTG analysis is in routine use, as well as on the antenatal wards. Numerous other hospitals nationally and internationally have recognised the benefits of this system and are asking for help with training.



Beth will be greatly missed whilst she is away, but in her absence the leadership of the Silver Star unit is in the very capable hands of Jennifer Escudero Castro, a rising star who we are sure to hear more from in the future.

## NEWS FROM LEVEL 6

### Kristy Walton, L6 manager, on working in Covid pandemic

Level 6 has had to find new ways of working during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Staff have really come together and supported one another at work, physically and emotionally.

The midwives, MSWs, ward Clerks, domestics and doctors have gone above and beyond to deliver excellent care to all our patients. They have shown support and friendship to women when their partners have not been able to visit, all the while head to toe in PPE.

We have been very thankful of the donations of tea, coffee and food supplies from local companies and members of the public. It has really demonstrated the compassion people feel towards the NHS.



The lockdown began on 16 March 2020, when Matt Hancock told the House of Commons that all unnecessary social contact should cease. Restrictions had already started taking place in the Women's

Centre and the Silver Star Society happily gave up our office on Level 6 to be used by Doctors having to abide by social distancing rules. This was a tough time for everyone. We asked how we could help to support patients & staff.

Blood pressure monitors were required to enable some patients to self-monitor at home, reducing the footfall to the hospital. The Silver Star Society was able to purchase 60 monitors very quickly which helped staff manage outpatients care remotely.



In addition to this we stocked the staff wellbeing room throughout with refreshments to keep everyone hydrated and fed with fresh fruit and the occasional treat!

### Computerised CTG in the past 50 years

**April 1970** The first 'Silver Star' mother was reviewed by a young Dr Redman (aged 28)

**1971** The first cardiographic record (CTG) of a non-labouring mother was undertaken in Oxford by Dr Redman to see if it would help prevent Silver Star mothers from having stillborn babies – it worked.

**1975** The first CTG monitoring midwife was appointed in Oxford.

**1977** Dr Redman suggests to Prof Geoffrey Dawes, a top scientist in the study of the heart of the

fetus, that the CTGs could be computerised.

**1979** The move to computerised CTGs begins

**1990** The first Dawes-Redman computerised CTG system is marketed (a world first)

**2016** Beth Albert is recognised as the Oxford expert in the use of the DR-CTG

**2019** The system is endorsed by NHS England as the preferred system throughout the country. It is also the market leader world-wide.

**2018-2020** Beth re-organises the Oxford configuration into a hospital-wide, universal

system (the first of its kind in the world) and leads the training of all hospital midwives and doctors.

**2017-date** Beth and Prof Redman are overwhelmed by requests for education and training nationally and further afield.

**2020** It is recognised that training needs to be organised, structured, widely available and standardised, and there are online and offline methods to achieve this. The concept of an Oxford certificate in Dawes-Redman Cardiotocography is born.



## Baby Names from May 2019



**Eva Leach**  
Born on 13 th  
September 2019  
6lb 1 ½ oz

**Matilda Mary Tyrwhitt**  
Born on 18 th  
September 2019  
7lbs 1oz

**Alanna Rose Davies**  
Born on 17 th  
September 2019  
3.180 Kg

**Hope Eva Burns**  
Born on 21 st September 2019  
5lb 8oz

**Jacob Sidney Hardman**  
Born on 22 nd  
September 2019  
6lb 12 ½ oz

**Avyukt Agarwal**  
Born on 24 th  
September 2019  
2.7 Kg

**Barnabas Christopher Ellaby**  
Born on 4 th October 2019  
  
2.675 Kg

**Aneurin Ellis**  
Born on 8 th October 2019  
9lb 7 oz

**Riley John Tolmie**  
Born on 10 th October 2019  
8lb 3oz

**Albert Freddy Egan**  
Born on 23 rd October 2019  
7lb 9oz

**Sergej Ezra Bogojevic**  
Born on 27 th October 2019  
3.735 Kg

**Giorgia Torso**  
Born on 12 th November 2019  
3.515 Kg

**Oscar George Williams**  
Born on 12 th November 2019  
11lbs 13oz

**Claudia Jayne Major**  
Born on 29 th November 2019  
6lb 13oz

**Myles Ellis Castell**  
Born on 14 th December 2019  
8lbs 3 oz

**Kassandra Noelle Agtarap**  
Born on 15 th December 2019  
3.5 Kg

**Ariana Maryum Khan**  
Born on 16 th December 2019  
7lb 9 oz

**Julia Felmi**  
Born on 20 th December 2019  
9.6 Kg

**Rosanna Catherine Smith**  
Born on 21 st December 2019  
7lb ¾ oz

**2020**

**Molly Evelyn Truby**  
Born on 25th January 2020  
6lb 5oz

**Colby Anthony Rose-Johnson**  
Born on 31 st January 2020  
8lb 5oz

**Nola Evelyn Moran**  
Born on 1 st March 2020  
6lb 14.5oz

**Louis Cooke**  
Born on 23 rd March 2020  
7lb 14oz

**Orla Marie Marshall**  
Born on 27 th March 2020  
10lb 3oz

**Primrose Antonia Velasquez**  
Born on 4 th april 2020  
3.02 Kg

**Kheng Fu Leong**  
Born on 12 th May 2020  
2895g

**Riley Noyce**  
Born on 17 th May 2020  
7lb 15oz

**Albert (Bertie) Owen Clatworthy**  
Born on 18 th May 2020  
6lb 8oz

**Florence Hope Payne**  
Born on 19 th May 2020  
7lb 12oz

**Yuri Andreevich Starinets**  
Born on 23 rd May 2020  
3400g

**Emma Rusu**  
Born on 8 th June 2020  
3470g

**Alexander John Shepherd**  
Born on 17 th June 2020  
7lb 11oz

**Henry Wintle-Gregory**  
Born on 21 st June 2020  
  
3.66 Kg

**Remy Robert Edward Eley**  
Born on 22 nd June 2020  
9lb 3oz

**Arlo James Mazey-Harris**  
Born on 4 th July 2020  
7lb 9oz

**Emily Joan Martinez-Wyatt**  
Born on 7 th July 2020  
3.65Kg

**Elijah Jonathan Simcock**  
Born on 2 nd August 2020  
8lb

**Oscar William Rothwell Lowe**  
Born on 6 th August 2020  
8lb 15oz

**Maddie Sienna Byrne**  
Born on 15 th August 2020  
10lb 11oz

**Persephone Inaya Alimi-Doggett**  
Born on 16 th August 2020  
2515g

**Otto Alexander Harris**  
Born on 24 th August 2020  
6lb 12oz

**Margot Rachel Karen  
Barbara Joyce Matthews**  
Born on 25 th September 2020  
3.935 Kg

**Reggie Reynolds-Ratcliffe**  
Born 11 th October 2020  
3.5 Kg

## Thank you to all our generous supporters

Thank you list of supporters who have either sent in items for us to sell or have donated financially. We thank you so much especially this year when Covid has prevented so many fund raising events to take place.

Mrs Brigitte Gant,  
Leighton Buzzard  
St Andrew's Church,  
Headington  
Mrs Joyce Harvey  
Blackpit Brewery,  
Silverstone  
Margaret Pearce  
Jean Ancliff in memory  
of Grandson James  
Helen Twidle  
Jo Cleobury  
Ruth Darley

Gemma Wheeler  
Kerri Swaby  
Semina Kayani  
Simon Wintersgill  
(Chess ICT Ltd)  
Nicola Bromby  
Lemon Zest  
Leanne Lumsdale  
Adam Rawkings  
Rosemay Rawlings  
Helen J  
SJ Smith

### Ways to make a donation

Regular monthly or annual donations are a simple way to enable us to continue to provide our unique care and research. This will allow us to plan ahead and support long term projects, which are doing so much to uncover the root causes of illness in pregnancy. You can donate as little as £3 per month.

The easiest way to donate regularly is to set up a direct debit or standing order. Remember to quote fund number 0347-Silver Star. Please find instructions on the website.

It is easy to make a one-off payment at:  
[www.justgiving.com/silverstarsociety](http://www.justgiving.com/silverstarsociety)

By telephone - **01865 743444** and quote fund number **0347-Silver Star**

Send a cheque made out to: **The Silver Star Society** and post to our address above.

**Thank you for all your on going support.**