

FRONT NEWS



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

NHS70

THE National Health Service
celebrates its 70th birthday
on 5 July 2018.



It's an opportunity to appreciate the vital role the service plays in our lives, and to recognise and thank the NHS staff – the everyday heroes – who are there to care for us every day.

5 JULY 1948 – THE NHS IS BORN

Aneurin Bevan, the health secretary, launched the NHS at Park Hospital in Manchester. It was the climax of a huge plan to bring good healthcare to all. For the first time, hospitals, doctors, nurses, pharmacists, opticians and dentists were brought together in one organisation.

The big idea was that the NHS would be available to everyone and be entirely paid for by taxes, meaning people would pay into it according to what they earned.

The NHS has had a rich history. A big development for children came in 1954.

1954 – DAILY HOSPITAL VISITS FOR CHILDREN INTRODUCED

Before then, children in hospitals were often only allowed to see their parents for an hour on Saturdays and Sundays, and

were usually placed in adult wards. Often they didn't know why they were there or what was going to happen. But, children's doctors Sir James Spence in Newcastle and Alan Moncrieff at Great Ormond Street decided to change this. As a result, daily visiting began to be brought in.

Today, the NHS is massive. It costs more than £120 billion to run it each year. That's just under £2,000 for every single person.

The NHS employs 106,430 doctors, 285,893 nurses and health visitors, 21,597 midwives, 132,673 scientific, therapeutic and technical staff, 19,772 ambulance staff, 21,139 managers and 9,974 senior managers.

There are lots of plans to celebrate the NHS's 70th birthday.

HEALTH HEROES

MPs are nominating 'health heroes' in their areas. Many will be invited to a national awards event on Wednesday (4 July), the day before the NHS's 70th birthday.

The Royal Mint has launched an NHS 10p coin. Have you found one yet?

And, on and around 5 July, people up and down the country will raise a cuppa to the NHS in the **Big 7Tea** and raise funds for NHS charities. You can invite your friends round for a cuppa, brew up for your family, or take over the village hall. Maybe you could even raise money for an NHS charity helping out near you. Find one at nhsbig7tea.co.uk.

Doctors and other NHS staff are giving up their time to visit secondary schools and colleges in England this month to help recruit the workforce of the future – including dentists, doctors, nurses, midwives and paramedics.

NHS chiefs particularly want to know what young people feel about the NHS and to help them learn more about what it does – including the challenges it faces. They want to make sure the NHS is responding to your needs – now and for the next 70 years. So, see below...



Wish the NHS a happy birthday and leave your comments about it at first.news/nhs70 Ambulance service

Questions on: 'Happy Birthday NHS 70'



GLOSSARY

Health – The condition of your body.

Healthcare – The maintenance or improvement of health via the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of illness.

Health Secretary – The MP in the Government who has responsibility for the NHS and social care.

Optician – A person qualified to test a patient's eyes, look for eye diseases and advise if they need glasses.

Paramedic – A person trained to give emergency medical care to people before they are taken to hospital.

Pharmacist – A person trained to prepare and provide drugs and other medicine.

1. When does the NHS celebrate its 70th birthday?

A 1 August 2018

B 5 July 2018

C 7 July 2018

2. What is the NHS an acronym for?

A National Health Service

B National Healthcare System

C National Health Supplies

3. Why is the NHS so different to what had come before it? Choose the correct answers from the options below.

1	For the first time, all healthcare became one big organisation.	
2	You had to pay for your treatment when you went to see the doctor.	
3	Taxes would pay for healthcare.	
4	Parents were only allowed to visit their sick children in hospital at the weekends.	
5	It would be free to everyone at the point of use.	

4. The journalist writes: "people would pay into [the NHS] according to what they earned".

What does this mean, and do you think that this is a fair way to pay for the NHS?

5. Why is the NHS organising the Big 7Tea?

6. The journalist writes that the NHS costs "more than £120 billion to run each year" and that there are "285,893 nurses" employed. Why do you think she includes these statistics?

7. Why do you think the journalist uses the phrase "everyday heroes" to describe the people who work in the NHS?

8. Do you think that the awards night for NHS workers, the 'NHS Heroes Awards', is a good or bad idea? Give reasons for your point of view.

9. Why do you think the article has the following subheadings?

5 JULY 1948 – THE NHS IS BORN

1954 – DAILY HOSPITAL VISITS FOR CHILDREN INTRODUCED

HEALTH HEROES

10. Why are doctors and other NHS staff going into schools to talk to pupils?