

## 'My proudest moment in nursing in the last year'

'Lots of memories and lots of reflections of Covid in 2021. Some made me laugh, some made me cry. Could I have done anything different? Would I have made a difference? Well actually yes, one patient and his family had a roller-coaster journey that affected each of them, requiring different sets of skills at each consultation. I felt proud that I had been their advocate and support, making part/some of their journey less complicated. Their journey started one morning, following telephone consultation. Knowing the patient, I was able to quickly identify that his lower back pain was more than: "I just need pain killers". He was brought in for face to face appointment, PR examination, irregular prostate contour. 2-week referral confirmed prostate cancer. Three weeks later had PR bleeding, another 2-week referral for Bowel Cancer confirmed cancer. Prostate treatment delayed, as waiting for colorectal treatment to start as bowel primary site. Contacted both consultants, CNS's arranged joint MDTs, became the patient's advocate. Kept the patient and family updated with emotional support in weekly, face to face appointments. Treatment finally started and is ongoing. Bringing both teams together was time consuming and challenging yet necessary.'

Debbie Brown, Queen's Nurse