

We engaged with patients and the public...

We ran a **conference** for people with arthritis and chronic pain, and information days in Psoriatic Arthritis, Lupus, and Scleroderma & Raynaud's – all aimed at patients, with their active involvement, and including talks from experts on clinical research, trial updates and medications



We set up 2 ongoing **monthly hubs** for informal patient information exchange and support



Behind the scenes, we...

Started our new **Research Assessment Group** and **Patient Liaison and Fundraising Group**, alongside the pre-existing Finance and Investment Group and all reporting into the Council of Management

Appointed **public members** to our sub groups to ensure greater patient involvement

Made **92 applications** to Charitable Trusts and Foundations for **grants** to support our work

Moved **offices** and overhauled the **website**

Appointed a **Director of PPE**



Thanked the 9 people who gave us **donations** and the families of those who left us **legacies**

Our year at a glance



Bath Institute for Rheumatic Diseases

In 2016-17 BIRD provided grants and professional development opportunities to scientific researchers and health professionals and set up the new Patient and Public Engagement (PPE) programme to support patients and their families and carers and get them interested in research and giving feedback.

In a nutshell, we...

Awarded grants totalling **£125,485**



Welcomed over **500** attendees at our meetings and events for consultants, clinicians and academics



Patient and Public Engagement

Welcomed over **250** patient attendees to our information days and hubs



Developed a patient network with a reach of over **1000 patients**, families and carers



Received **excellent feedback** from attendees on the quality of learning and engagement we offer



We exist to support arthritis research, education and patient inclusion. In the long term, our work helps almost everyone because **only one person in fifty** escapes some form of **rheumatic complaint in their lives.**

We gave research grants for...

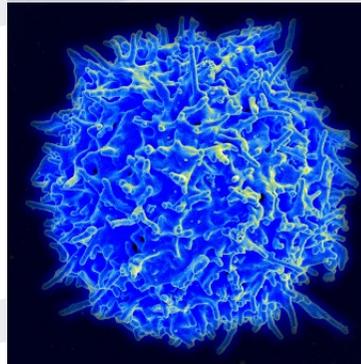
three summer **studentships**, as part of the Arthritis Grand Challenge at the University of Bath, in collaboration with the Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases (RNHRD)

work into the epidemiology of **systemic sclerosis** and its association with cancer in the UK

the study of complementary and alternative medicines use in **axial spondyloarthritis**

work on characterisation of **T-cell populations** in psoriatic arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis and rheumatoid arthritis

research into **ankylosing spondylitis** and work: a biomechanics approach to inform self-management



Bath Institute for
Rheumatic Diseases

We assisted with these education events...

4 Arthritis **Grand Challenge** meetings attended by clinicians and academics

the Arthritis Research UK CSG **study day**

2 Integrated **Think Tank weeks**, in which academic, industrial, and other commercial partners present problems and work with students to identify new research needs

2 South West Connective Tissue Disease Vasculitis **group meetings**

the Bath Bristol **Bone meeting**



the Bath, Bristol & Weston **Axial Spondyloarthritis meeting**

a **Joint Injection training session** for local GPs

a programme of **PACES courses** for rheumatology trainees (part of a practical examination to assess doctor's skills involving real patients)

a **Rheumatology Afternoon** for local GPs with the local rheumatology consultants

