



Introducing:

Gerry Lowe
Clinical Scientist



What do you enjoy about your role?

Most people working in hospitals are doctors and nurses, but there is a lot of physics involved as well – all the modern scanners rely on physics to function, and radiotherapy simply would not happen without physicists, radiographers and engineers.

We use advanced machinery such as Pet-CT scanners, which image tracers that have been injected into the patient and accumulate in areas of disease, as well as other medical machinery such as the LINAC (pictured).



I've worked for more than 30 years within the NHS as a clinical scientist



The linear accelerator produces electrons or photons (x-rays) to conform to a tumour's shape and destroy cancer cells, while sparing surrounding normal tissue.



What do you enjoy about your role?

It's been so exciting to see the improvements to treatment over the time I've been working.

Advances in technology have transformed both imaging and radiotherapy, and as a hospital scientist, I've been able to use some of the most advanced equipment in the world.

It is exciting to be a small part in this development, and to see ideas that I've had get adopted and really make a difference to peoples' lives.



Working in the NHS can be tough, it's true - but for me, it's when I recognise our patients coming back for check-ups, months and years after we treated them – I know that if we'd not done our job, they simply wouldn't be alive. That is more rewarding than anything – and why I turn up each day for work.