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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Chief biomedical scientist retires from Trust after 46 years**

A chief biomedical scientist has retired from the Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust after 46 years' service.

Dudley born Richard Taylor, 64, who steps down from his post on Christmas Day, joined the Trust straight from school.

He began his career as a junior pathological technician in 1965 at the Guest Hospital earning just £450 a year.

He qualified as a technician in 1970 becoming a chief technician five years later. Richard is in charge of a section in the clinical biochemistry department at Russells Hall Hospital where his work involves analysing blood and urine tests and ensuring the smooth running of the laboratory.

Chemistry-mad Richard was destined for a life in the lab – he was forever making horrible smells in the kitchen with his chemistry set as a young boy!

He has seen many changes during his time with The Dudley Group.

“Back then it was all test tubes and pipettes. Now 95 per cent of what we do is automated. We've gone from doing 50 tests per day to 2500,” said Richard, who admits to being reluctant to retire.

“I have worked alongside some of my colleagues for 40 years – they're my friends. We go out for meals together, visit the opera and go to each other's weddings.”

Richard plans to spend his retirement following his interests in steam trains, visiting National Trust properties and tying the knot with medical lab assistant Bernadette McGourty.

\*\*\*ENDS\*\*\*

For more information, please call Jackie Dietrich, Communications and Engagement Officer, The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust on (01384) 456111 extension 1423.