

Wash away those germs

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Hundreds of NHS jobs on our new website

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Taking services to the people

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New Beatson Cancer Centre set to open

THE new world-class West of Scotland Cancer Centre in Glasgow is set to launch a new era in cancer care for thousands of patients.

HAVE A LOOK INSIDE THE NEW BEATSON
SEE PAGES 5,6,7 AND 8.



2006 - a year of major progress

LAST year saw major progress in the development of health services with the landmark start to works on two new long awaited hospital developments at the Victoria and Stobhill.

Bringing Clyde services into Greater Glasgow brought new security to key services at Inverclyde Royal Hospital.

Two major mental health developments took major strides forward - The Rowanbank secure care centre started to take shape at Stobhill and plans were approved for Skye House which boasts purpose built facilities for young people.

We also saw the delivery of inpatient and day case waiting time targets a full year early.

LOOK BACK AT A YEAR OF CHALLENGE AND SUCCESS
PAGES 2 AND 3

Fast forward with pride

ALL SYSTEMS GO FOR BETTER HEALTH IN 2007

THIS year will see further major developments in NHS services in Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

These include a number of exciting projects:

- Major initiatives to improve

child health and protection

- The unveiling of plans for a new South Glasgow Hospital and Children's Hospital in Govan

- Ambitious health improvement developments delivered at local level

This will be a significant year as we progress the

modernisation of NHS services both in acute hospitals and locally with powerful new local organisations.

And as we set out to meet the challenges that 2007 will bring, we remain committed to informing and involving patients and the public in general

through Health News, our newly re-designed public focussed website, Our Health events and community engagement activity.

This edition of Health News sets out some of the key areas of activity for the year ahead - starting on page 4.



GOOD NEWS TRAVELS SO FAST...

DURING 2006, the realisation that something really exciting was happening to NHS hospitals in Glasgow brought welcome headlines...

Major newspaper editorials welcomed news that work was at last beginning on the new Stobhill and Victoria Hospitals, marking the start of significant service redesign and patient services across the entire city.

Rapidly changing hospital practices mean far more patients can be seen more quickly and efficiently without overnight hospital stays – in purpose-built diagnostic hospitals.

The two hospitals – each representing an NHS investment of more than £100m in the north and south of the city – will help redraw the NHS patient map of Glasgow, freeing up inpatient and A&E specialist sites to more efficiently deal with patient needs.

The Daily Record, Evening Times, The Herald and weekly newspaper titles including the Glaswegian and Kirkintilloch Herald, all carried bold headlines marking the start of a positive



new future at the two sites.

They carried large images of how these new hospitals will look when they come into service early in 2009.

And in December this year, the Greenock Telegraph splashed with the headline "SAVED" as NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde announced that the threat that had been hanging over their local hospital's A&E and major inpatient activity had been lifted. The following day, the newspaper ran with the story that the future was indeed looking bright for the hospital now that a future of key services had been secured.



Builders move in to start work on £100M new Stobhill Hospital



Revealed: the Victoria 'hospital in the park'

Infirmary's £100m successor

JAMIE HENDERSON... an architect to the level... described by architects as... "hospital in the park" which... will deliver a unique... "park environment".



MAKING THE NEWS... the new hospitals at Victoria and Stobhill and the saving of the IRH accident and emergency service all provoked positive editorials.

A year for pride and progress

Professor Sir John Arbuthnott, Chairman NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, reviews a host of activity in 2006

If anyone were to ask me to sum up the past year, I would have to say it's been one of great challenges and success.

Although this was a challenging year it has not quelled the desire of staff to maintain the head of steam in reshaping and improving our services for patients. Thanks to them, we've met all our financial and waiting times targets.

In April last year, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde was established via the incorporation of the 'Clyde' area of the former NHS Argyll & Clyde within NHS Greater Glasgow, with 'Argyll' becoming part of NHS Highland. One of our main priorities has been to work towards ensuring as equitable services as possible across the new NHS Board area.

There is a significant challenge with services in Clyde. We inherited a recurring £30.5million deficit from the former NHS Argyll and Clyde.

We want to return to financial balance within three years and we have now identified plans for more than half of the deficit, with a number of other service reviews under way during 2007.

The past year has also been an exciting time for all of us, with health services undergoing a radical transformation to meet the changing health needs of our population. We are building new hospitals and redesigning the way we deliver patient services to provide modern health care in fit-for-purpose buildings. This will greatly improve the



NEW FOR OLD... the Victoria Hospital is being rebuilt at a cost of £100million.

experiences of patients and staff working environments.

One of the key events last year was the completion of the brand new West of Scotland Cancer Centre at the Gartnavel Hospital site. This state-of-the-art, £105million centre is the most advanced in Europe and its opening heralds a new era in cancer care in the West of Scotland.

The new Beatson will house the most specialised of the region's non-surgical cancer services under the same roof for the very first time. It replaces existing facilities at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow Royal Infirmary and Gartnavel General Hospital.

Some of the 800 staff have already started relocating to the new centre from sites across the city and I look forward to seeing the majority of them settled in to their new surroundings by April.



HEALTH Minister Andy Kerr cuts the first sod at the new Victoria Hospital.

We've also seen the start of building work on the new Victoria and Stobhill Hospitals. Each costing £100 million to build, the new hospitals will open in 2009 and treat around 800,000 patients per year. Their modern treatment rooms, advanced day surgery theatres and fresh, comfortable waiting areas will totally change the experience of patients for the better.

Our new £18million forensic psychiatric care unit, Rowanbank Clinic on the Stobhill Hospital site, is currently being built and is expected to be operational by May this year. This unit provides secure care for the small number of patients with mental health problems who have committed an offence or are at risk of committing an offence because of their illness.

We're also working hard with our



THE new £100million Stobhill Hospital will bring patients the best of health care.

plans for a £550million development of the Southern General Hospital campus, which will eventually see the creation of a new children's hospital and one of the most advanced specialist inpatient acute care hospitals in 2012, as well as a major upgrade of the existing maternity hospital. The children's hospital will be built alongside maternity and adult hospital services to ensure immediate access to specialist services of all kinds and therefore the highest quality and safety standards for mothers, children and babies alike.

At the end of last year we announced new proposals to secure the long-term future of both Inverclyde Royal and Royal Alexandra Hospitals. The proposals, developed following an extensive review of acute services across Inverclyde and Renfrewshire, recommend that the vast

majority of hospital services should be retained locally.

Under the proposed new arrangements, which are now subject to public consultation lasting until February, Inverclyde Royal Hospital would retain its A&E department and core inpatient services such as emergency medical receiving, trauma, orthopaedic and general surgery. The proposals would also see A&E and core inpatient services retained at the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Paisley.

In the remaining year of my Chairmanship, I look forward to seeing the new hospitals, health centres and other facilities that will provide modern health care taking shape. In addition, we must constantly work towards enhancing local community-based care.



CLEAN modern design in this artist's impression of the new Stobhill Hospital.

Waiting time targets are met ahead of schedule

OUR staff made major efforts last year to meet targets set for waiting times.

And all their hard work paid off... by December 2006, there were no patients waiting more than 18 weeks for inpatient or day case treatment without an ASC code, a year ahead of target.

However, in common with other NHS Boards in Scotland, we didn't do so well on cancer waiting times.

We have made major strides in breast cancer, and both lung and colorectal are heading in the right direction, but there is still a lot of work to be done on other cancer waiting times.

Tom Divers, Chief Executive, said: "Tackling cancer waiting times and ASC codes will be a challenge for 2007.

"In particular, a number of significant improvements have already been implemented to help tackle colorectal and urology cancer waiting times. These include fast track clinics and additional trans urethral ultrasound sessions for urology.

"The introduction of nurse endoscopists to increase the availability of colonoscopy appointments and speed diagnosis for colorectal cancer, additional staff and a patient focus booking system in day surgery have also contributed to improvements.

"The challenges of achieving ever-better waiting times targets has been enormous, but we continue to build up capacity to ensure we continue to meet targets.

"We are also using this additional capacity to tackle ASC codes. Our priority is to treat those patients with a service-driven ASC code and in particular those patients with a highly specialised treatment identified at the time of placing the patient on the waiting list."

Germs... wash your hands of them!

THE most ambitious National Hand Hygiene Campaign ever seen in Scotland has just launched with the aim of changing the culture of hand washing across Scotland.

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde ran its own campaign last year encouraging everyone to wash their hands and to always be aware of germs they may be carrying around. The national campaign will revisit many of these messages such as reminding hospital visitors to wash their hands before visiting family and friends in hospital. Many of the messages are also designed for staff as well.

The new national campaign has two parts. The first is a public media campaign to inform and encourage the general

public to improve their hand hygiene practice. It will explain the importance of washing your hands thoroughly throughout the day to remove germs and reduce avoidable illness.

This part of the campaign will run for four to six weeks

The second part of the campaign is to raise awareness among NHS Staff, patients and visitors to NHS healthcare settings of the importance of washing your hands.

A website has been developed with more information on hand hygiene as well as useful links to other websites. The plan is that the website will develop over the next year and should have lots of useful information. Visit: www.washyourhandsofthem.com



Big changes at Southern General

AS 2007 begins, the second phase of NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde's modernisation programme will see significant investment in the continued redevelopment of the Southern General Campus site.

The new South Glasgow Hospital will be one of the most advanced acute hospitals in the UK, with facilities including 1000 beds, and the biggest critical care complex in Scotland catering for an estimated 110,000 A&E attendances per year.

These new facilities will sit alongside retained existing facilities including the National Spinal Injuries Unit, the Institute of Neurosciences and the Maternity Unit, which have been, or will be, upgraded.

This will provide some 1500 beds to meet the healthcare needs of the local, regional and national population that the hospital campus serves. New laboratories are also planned.

The new hospital will house inpatient services that are currently located at the Victoria Infirmary. This will allow the Victoria to close, as the outpatient and day-case activity will have already transferred to the New Victoria Hospital, opening in 2009. There will be a transfer of a number of the smaller, specialist inpatient services such as renal, vascular and ENT from the Glasgow Royal and Gartnavel General sites to allow the centralisation of these services on the new Southern site. Finally, there will also be a number of specialties, associated with the reduction in A&E departments and the centralisation of the smaller specialties, transferring from the Western Infirmary.

A new children's hospital will also be built on the site and will be integrated with maternity and adult hospital services to ensure immediate access to specialist services of all kinds and therefore the highest quality and safety standards for mothers, children and babies alike. The adult and children's hospitals will be built as a single integrated building to be opened in 2012/13.

The children's hospital will provide a large number of specialist services to the West of Scotland and the wider population of Scotland in addition to the full range of services to the people of Greater Glasgow and Clyde. Specialist services include: cardiology and cardiac surgery, renal and bone marrow transplantation.

The maternity hospital building will remain with an upgrade and redesign already underway. This will meet all the challenges of leading edge, clinical care in a safe and family-friendly environment.

Shaping up in Clyde for 2007

IMPROVING SERVICES AND BALANCING BOOKS ARE THE CHALLENGES AHEAD

THIS year will present major challenges to the NHS system in Clyde.

The challenges include the need to achieve modern services and to get closer to balancing the books by developing a plan to address an underlying deficit of £30.5million.

We aim to return to financial balance within three years. We have now identified plans to address more than half of the deficit and a number of other service reviews will be taken forward this year.

Virtually all services are being reviewed to ensure that they are delivered as cost effectively as possible.

This includes prescribing practice, laboratory and laundry services, mental health and maternity services.

During the early part of the year a wide range of patient and public engagement will take place.

- We are working with community interests to assess and evaluate the health and services needs of the population north of the River Clyde in the area previously run by Argyll and Clyde Health Board

- And then there's the issue of bringing mental health provision in the whole of the Clyde area up to the more modern levels of service models currently delivered to the

former Greater Glasgow population

To keep fully up-to-date with developments and opportunities to get involved in your modernising NHS, log onto: www.nhsggc.org.uk

Click on "Involving People" to become registered as a member of the NHSGGC Involving People Network and receive direct mailings of service development activity and copies of our patient/public focussed Health News newspaper.

Or, if you'd rather, call NHSGGC Communications, tel: 0141 201 4443 and we'll be happy to take your details over the phone and register you on the Network.

We'll be smoke free by April 2007

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde is going totally smoke free by the spring of this year.

There will be absolutely NO smoking anywhere on any of our sites or in our vehicles... not even external designated smoking areas, which will be removed by March 31.

The exception will be for inpatients within our mental health units where

external designated areas will continue until March 2008.

This is the final part of NHSGGC's smoking policy, which came into force in March last year and banned smoking in buildings, vehicles and outside areas, with the exception of designated smoking areas.

Turn to page 9 for information on how to receive help to give up.

New-look website

OUR website has undergone a facelift and is now even better than before.

It's packed full of useful information for anyone using our services, including information on everything from hospitals and GPs to new developments such as the new Beatson. Go to: www.nhsggc.org.uk

We'd also love to hear your comments on the new site. Email: webcomments@nhsggc.org.uk

SPOTLIGHT ON THE NEW BEATSON CANCER CENTRE



PROFESSOR Alan Rodger inside a CT simulator, just one of the many state-of-the-art pieces of equipment that will help to provide the highest standard of care at the new Beatson.

THE most advanced cancer centre in Europe is opening soon in Glasgow.

The new £105million Beatson West of Scotland Cancer Centre heralds a new era in health care for the city and its surrounding area.

Nearly 800 staff have already started relocating from 12 sites at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow Royal Infirmary and Gartnavel General Hospital, and the majority of staff will be in place by April.



A new era in cancer care

£105MILLION CENTRE GETS SET TO WELCOME FIRST PATIENTS

A NEW era in cancer care will begin with the opening of the new Beatson.

The new £105 million centre - the most advanced in Europe - will provide patients and cancer staff in the West of Scotland with the most advanced and therapeutic cancer care.

Officially known as the West of Scotland Cancer Centre, the commissioning (get ready) stage for the new building is just about complete, ready for the first patients.

Nearly 800 staff have already started relocating from 12 buildings on the Western, GRI and Gartnavel sites, but it's going to take until April before the majority of staff are in and settled.

A small team will remain on the Western Infirmary site until the last two linear accelerators are taken out of use around August/September 2007.

The £105million cancer centre replaces existing facilities at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow Royal Infirmary and Gartnavel General Hospital.

Latest technology promises the highest level of treatment

THE most modern cancer centre in the country, an unprecedented amount of state-of-the-art technology has been installed throughout the new building.

This includes:

- Image guided radiotherapy (IRGT) equipment on three linear accelerators that can treat tumours with more accuracy and safety than ever before

- The very first PET-CT scanner in West of Scotland - the machine is a combined CT scanner (which shows structure, such as the organs, tumours and where they are) and a PET scanner (which shows where, in the body, injected radioactive chemicals are concentrated). The PET-CT scanner allows the structure and chemical activity to be matched to allow better diagnosis. It will be available for use by August this year and will work with the Aberdeen PET-CT as a virtual service for Scotland

- An additional MRI scanner with another to follow (as part of a replacement programme) in a couple of years; the additional CT scanner has already been installed in the revamped radiology department in Gartnavel General

- A total of 11 radiotherapy linear accelerators

- New equipment for brain radiotherapy

- Intensity modulated radiotherapy (IMRT)

for the treatment of (initially) prostate and (soon) head and neck cancers - this state-of-the-art technology allows cancer specialists to concentrate radiation more finely than before meaning that less healthy tissue will be affected by the treatment

- Three CT simulators and one acuity simulator

- Three special radiation treatment machines (brachytherapy) using radioactive materials for internal treatment, for instance for treating cancers in the cervix and prostate

Beatson Medical Director, Professor Alan Rodger, said: "In addition, we have been able to invest in extra technology in the form of



MEDICAL Director, Professor Alan Rodger, flanked by his expert team of dedicated health professionals outside the new hospital in the city's West End, as they prepare to move in to the hospital.

stereotactic radiosurgery from a company called BrainLAB. This will allow the Beatson to deliver, for the first time, very small beams of radiation to small areas of the brain and the base of skull in patients with a variety of malignant and benign tumours of these areas."

The new centre is also home to a bone marrow transplant ward (servicing the region for allogeneic transplants and nationally for volunteer unrelated donor transplants) and the North Glasgow haemato-oncology (blood cancers) ward; a pharmacy, which has been set up to deliver gene therapy in the future; and outpatient areas with state-of-the-art scanning equipment.

There is also a clinical trial and research unit, which has been much enhanced from the current unit to enable cancer specialists to continue and expand on the range of clinical trials for new treatments. Of the 8500 patients who attend the Beatson, around 15% agreed to take part in these trials leading to the provision of new cancer treatments for all.



THE most modern of equipment will ensure that patients receive the highest standard of care at the new Beatson.



SOFT, relaxing colours throughout help create a welcoming ambience for patients and staff.



SENIOR radiographer Stephen Livingstone with one of the new linear accelerators that will be used in the new Beatson.

World-class team to match facilities

IN addition to the world-class new facilities and leading-edge equipment, the new Beatson will be staffed by the highest number of specialist cancer staff that Glasgow has ever had.

For a number of years a huge amount of work has been going on behind the scenes to attract specialist staff from all over the world to come to the Beatson and be a part of the West of Scotland's new era in cancer care.

There were a number of problems that needed to be tackled. Firstly, a worldwide shortage of clinical and medical oncologists, radiotherapy physics specialists (individuals who plan radiotherapy) and therapy radiographers (individuals who deliver radiotherapy) meant that we had to compete against other major cancer centres throughout

the world to attract these highly sought-after staff.

Also, more locally, we needed not only to recruit, but retain staff and Scottish graduates.

Our enormous national and international recruitment efforts have now paid off and by June 2006 we had successfully recruited an additional 104 whole-time equivalent staff.

We have now filled the majority of our hard-to-fill specialist international posts; we have been able to attract many specialist oncology nursing staff; and we have recruited and retained radiotherapy students, oncology pharmacists and many of our own Specialist Registrars are staying with the Beatson as they become Consultants of the future.

Patients enjoy comfort, service and care

PATIENTS will stay in either single, twin or four-bed, en-suite bedrooms and there are six overnight stay rooms with en-suite facilities for relatives.

A cafe - staffed in-house - has been created at the main reception for use by patients, visitors and staff and will offer a range of beverages and food. It is next door to a special patient and family information service, which has access to computers and is close to the centre's sanctuary (a multi-faith room for quiet reflection).

Other facilities for patients include the new £800,000 Friends of the Beatson complementary therapy centre, providing a relaxing therapeutic environment with complementary non-medical services. The centre includes chill out spaces; art music rooms; aromatherapy/massage rooms; a 12-seater cinema, a sound and light room, a hairdresser, beautician and a tea and coffee area.

The new Teen Cancer unit - funded by the Teenage Cancer Trust - has also been created within the

centre. There is internet access, Plasma TV with satellite access, DVD players, Playstations and state-of-the-art sound systems. The new unit will also have a chill out zone packed with the latest board games and a fully fitted kitchen so the teenagers can make their own snacks or hot drinks.

There are also a number of therapy rooms available in the centre, which will house Occupational Therapy, Dietetics, Physiotherapy and other therapy staff.

The entire building is fully air conditioned to keep the internal temperatures even to ensure a relaxing atmosphere for patients and a good working environment for staff. Patients also have their own garden and access to outside space via balconies. The patient garden courtyard has been generously funded by the Trades House of Glasgow.

FACTFILE

- The new Beatson covers a floor-space of approximately 22,000 square metres (which is around 40% more space than current facilities), the size of the new building is equivalent to three average-sized football pitches or 84 tennis courts

- The five storey building has three floors of inpatient wards and more than 1000 rooms

- There will be 171 inpatient beds (for people staying overnight) and 45 day case beds (for day treatments)

- There are eight rooms with en suite facilities for patients undergoing brachytherapy treatment

- Around 800 staff will be relocating from 12 buildings on three sites (the old Beatson at the Western, the Royal Infirmary and Gartnavel General) to work in the new Beatson

- Around 1000 phone numbers have been allocated to the new Beatson, with around 800 phone lines being installed initially

- 13,000 new items of equipment will be delivered to the hospital during its commissioning phase including everything from sick bowls and computers to X-ray machines and linear accelerators (radiation machines)

WHAT'S WHERE

LEVEL 0 - includes radiotherapy services and paediatric (children) area and the education suite and library

LEVEL 1 - includes main reception, patient information area, cafe and courtyard, pharmacy, sanctuary for people requiring quiet contemplation, day case and outpatient departments, Clinical Apheresis Unit (stem cell) and Clinical Research Unit

LEVEL 2 - includes general cancer wards, brachytherapy, office suites, relatives' overnight stay area, seminar and meeting rooms

LEVEL 3 - includes general cancer wards, office suites, seminar and meeting rooms

LEVEL 4 - includes Haemato-Oncology (blood cancers), bone marrow transplant, teen cancer unit, office suites, relatives' overnight stay area, Friends of the Beatson complimentary therapy centre, meeting and seminar rooms

Better by design...

IMAGINATIVE USE OF COLOUR AND STYLE MAKES THE NEW BEATSON A SPECIAL PLACE



THE innovative design of the new Beatson has already inspired new names for parts of the building. For instance, general manager Isabel Neil stands amid the wavy lines of the corridor nicknamed 'The Raspberry Ripple', while a section of the new roof has been dubbed the 'Toblerone'.

CREATING the right ambience for patients was a key part of the design of the new building.

Professor Alan Rodger said: "The whole feel of the new Beatson has been carefully thought out. Relaxing colours, modern and exciting lighting and comfortable furnishings have been used throughout to create positive surroundings for both patients and staff."

The decor has been created by the Beatson's own art group, led by Coordinator Jane Kelly. Jane is funded by Macmillan Cancer Relief, which has so far raised more than £1.1m to make the day chemo unit especially calm and relaxing for patients - including installing mood lighting - as well as working to enhance the decor in other areas.

Professor Rodger said: "Jane and the group have been working to ensure the ambience of the building is correct. Every floor is colour coordinated in relaxing tones to make the new Beatson feel more welcoming and pleasant for patients and staff. A 'West of Scotland' theme has been used throughout.

"Artwork including a wall hanging and other pieces of art have been commissioned for various parts of the building and the Tom Scott stained glass panels currently in the Western



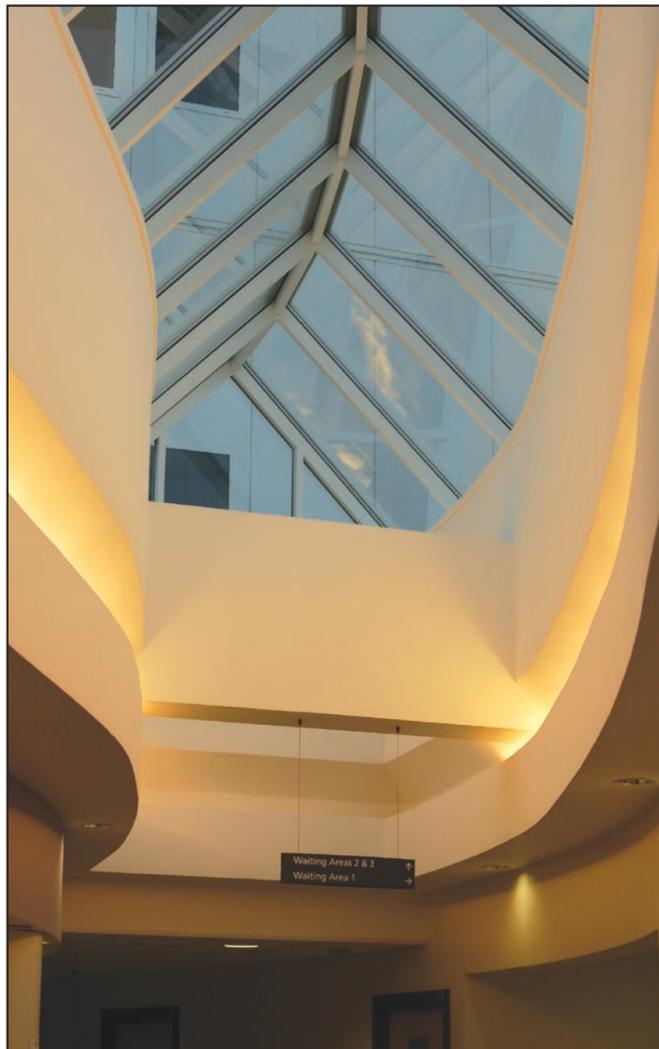
COMMISSIONING manager Margaret Welsh admires the colourful mural created by the in-house art team.

Infirmery will be relocated to the new centre. Lighting in the day case area is also a special feature.

"These, some landscaping, design and furniture enhancements have been made possible thanks to generous donations made by Macmillan Cancer Relief, the Teenage Cancer Trust, the Friends of the Beatson and Trades House of Glasgow.

"We've also created staff and patient gardens where both can relax in the better weather and many rooms and offices overlook landscaped heather gardens on rooftop spaces, which further add to the feeling of serenity."

Other facilities for staff within the new hospital include rest areas, an education suite with video-conferencing



Upgrade for Tom Wheldon facility

IT'S NOT just the new building that's getting all the state-of-the-art equipment.

Last year, the Tom Wheldon Building (phase 1 of the new Beatson site) saw the upgrading of the five existing treatment machines.

One of these machines has been upgraded to provide image-guided radiotherapy (IGRT), which allows radiographers to take an X-ray or CT image of the affected area before using the same machine to provide treatment.

There are very few such facilities in the UK and the Beatson's IGRT facility, which costs almost £500,000, is one which will be used for treatment AND research.

A second machine, which features stereotactic radiotherapy, will treat patients in the very near future. A first in the West of Scotland, the new equipment will treat brain cancers, brain abnormalities and benign brain conditions. It can provide single or multiple treatments and is also designed to cut down on the amount of healthy tissue - in this case in the brain - which is affected by the treatment.

The entrance to the Tom Wheldon building is also being enhanced through Macmillan funding to provide an improved reception and waiting area.

facilities, an education seminar room on each floor and rooms for the radiography school. Adjacent to the main education suite is the medical library.

Professor Alan Rodger continued: "There's no doubt that both staff and patients are going to see a big difference between the old and new facilities."

Security is also a key part of the new building which has intercom-controlled doors throughout so that anyone wishing access to certain areas has to buzz to be allowed in. The intercoms are fitted with cameras, enabling staff to see who is there from the comfort of the staff stations.

Staff will utilise a swipe card system and have access to a secure locker area.

The DIRECTORY

NHS 24 08454 24 24 24

Confidential telephone health advice and information service for people in Scotland.

NHS online health guide: www.nhs.gov.uk and click on the link or visit www.nhs24.com

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

ADDICTIONS

Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services

National Alcohol Information Line

0800 917 8282

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)

0845 769 7555

www.aa-uk.org.uk

Alcoholics Anonymous, 50 Wellington Street, Glasgow

0141 226 2214

Al-Anon (for families of people with alcohol problems) 020 7403 0888

www.al-anonuk.uk

Al-Anon Information Centre, 22 Mansfield Street, Partick

0141 339 8884

For information on your local Community Addiction Teams

0141 276 6602

BEREAVEMENT

Family Bereavement Service

The Family Bereavement Service based at the Sick Children's Hospital works with parents, siblings and carers of children who have died. They can be contacted by phone, tel: 0141 201 9257, or via email at: yfbs@yorkhill.scot.nhs.uk

CRUSE Bereavement Service

0141 248 2199

or contact the national office for a local contact, tel: 01738 444 178.

CARERS

A special information and support line is available for carers. Tel: 0141 353 6504, email:

carerssupportline@crossroads-scotland.co.uk or go to:

www.nhs.gov.uk and click on Health in the Community for more information for carers.

Inverclyde Carers Centre

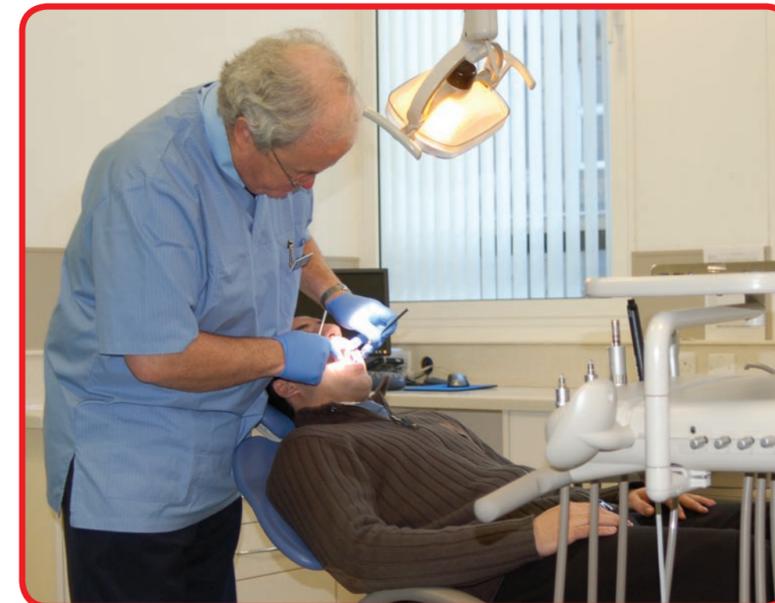
01475 735 180

Renfrewshire Carers Centre

0141 887 3643

West Dunbartonshire Carers Centre

0141 941 1550.



Dental treatment centre reopens

ORAL Health is a major project for NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde this year with numerous initiatives to improve dental health continuing to take place across the city.

January saw the official opening of the new Dental Treatment Centre based at Glasgow Dental Hospital and School.

The new centre means people no longer need to suffer with toothache if they're not registered with an NHS dentist as emergency treatment is available to all.

The centre provides an important emergency treatment daytime service for patients who are not registered with a NHS dentist, and an out-of-hours evening service for all patients who require urgent dental treatment outwith normal practice hours.

The major refurbishment and extension programme has seen a significant investment of £900,000 increasing the number of surgery rooms from three to eight, including a special needs surgery, and equip the centre with state-of-the-art dental and digital x-ray equipment.

Claire Dodds, Treatment Centre Manager said: "We

are currently seeing around 100 patients a day (rising to around 130 at maximum capacity). That's around 2600 patients since reopening in late September. Typically, we see people with facial swellings, toothache, broken teeth, and dental pain. We also see many dental phobic patients who have avoided seeing a dentist for several years.

"As well as offering emergency dental treatment, staff help patients to get back into mainstream dental services by providing a list of dentists where they can register for NHS treatment."

The centre is staffed by a dedicated team of dentists and dental nurses, and is open from 8.30am - 5.15pm, for patients who are not registered with a dentist and require emergency treatment, and between 7.00pm - 9.30pm for all patients who require emergency dental treatment including those who are registered at a dentist."

Access for the daytime service is by appointment only, tel: 0141 232 6323. The evening service can only be accessed through NHS24, tel: 08454 24 24 24.

EXERCISE - FIRST STEPS TO A FITTER LIFESTYLE

The Live Active Exercise Referral Scheme

The scheme may be appropriate for you if...

- You are not currently regularly physically active and you are thinking about becoming more active
- You are doing some activity but would like to do more and feel additional advice and support would help you
- You have been advised to become more active, eg by your GP or Practice Nurse, but you don't really know where to start.

Contact your GP, Practice Nurse or Physiotherapist for a

referral to this scheme which offers advice, support and encouragement to help you exercise more. Information: Fiona Hamilton - tel: 0141 201 4756.

First Steps Programme

This is an eight-week rolling social support programme for people who are new to physical activity and require some support and motivation to become more active. This programme takes place in ten leisure centres across Greater Glasgow and allows people to taste a variety of local physical activities in a friendly and supportive environment. Information: Hugh McNish - tel: 0141 287 0238.

DATES FOR THE DIARY...

Next Board Meeting

Next date for the NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Board, Dalian House, 350 St Vincent Street, Glasgow - Tuesday, February 20, 2007 at 9.30am.

SEXUAL HEALTH

IN Greater Glasgow and Clyde we've got a range of sexual health and wellbeing services available.

In Glasgow, the Sandyford Initiative provides sexual and reproductive health services for women, men and young people. This includes Well Women clinics, contraception and specialist clinics for health issues such as menopause and vasectomy.

It also provides a range of counselling services and other specialist services, including services for women experiencing physical, mental and emotional problems.

For more information, contact: The Sandyford Initiative, 2 Sandyford Place, Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow G3 7NB.

Tel: 0141 211 8600

Web: www.sandyford.org

Email: helpsandyford@glacomen.scot.nhs.uk

Information on sexual health services is available at: www.yoursexualhealth.org.uk

For people living in the Clyde area, there is a range of sexual health services available at the following healthcare centres:

Russell Institute, Paisley

0141 889 1649

Inverclyde Royal Hospital

01475 504 978

Dumbarton Joint Hospital

01389 812 001 / 034

Barrhead

0141 880 6161

STOP SMOKING

There's lots of support available for people who want to stop smoking:

Starting Fresh is available in more than 160 pharmacies throughout Glasgow, where trained staff can offer one-to-one support with Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT), on a drop in basis, once-a-week for up to 12 weeks. For more information about participating pharmacies tel: 0800 389 3210.

Stop Smoking groups also meet in most areas of Glasgow once a week, offering one of the most effective ways to quit. Details about these groups are available by contacting 0141 201 9825, or log onto: www.smokingconcerns.com.

If you live outside the Glasgow area, there are a number of places you can go to for help. Please call the relevant number for your area:

Paisley

0141 842 4829/4833

West Renfrewshire

07810 832 167

Barrhead, Renfrew and Erskine

0141 314 0815

Inverclyde

01475 724 477

Dumbarton, Vale of Leven and Lochside

01389 812 344



WELL INFORMED... pupil Chloe Cuthill "really enjoyed" the course and said it made her think about the dangers of alcohol abuse.



ROLE playing is a vital part of the course and these youngsters at Blairtumnock Primary School discovered.



A CLASS ACT... GAEAAP Prevention and Education Officer David Kelly gets the message across during his visit to Blairtumnock Primary.

Helping kids get the message in a bottle

THERE'S no doubt that alcohol abuse is a major problem for many communities across Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

And it's one that affects many people from all walks of life and backgrounds.

This year, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (NHSGGC) will continue working with councils, the police and other organisations to try and change our heavy drinking culture.

One way we are doing this is through a unique anti-alcohol misuse project that's been a huge success in Glasgow's East End schools.

NHSGGC's Greater Easterhouse Alcohol Awareness Project's (GEAAP) Prevention and Education project sees trained Prevention and Education Officers go into the classroom to teach youngsters

about the dangers of underage drinking.

They teach pupils about a range of issues surrounding the misuse of alcohol including:

- Health and how alcohol affects your body
- How alcohol affects the way you act
- How personal safety can be jeopardised when drunk
- How alcohol can impact on your life chances (eg getting a job or going to college)
- Crime and violence when under the influence of alcohol
- Peer pressure

The youngsters not only work from a specially written workbook, but also get to take part in role-playing scenarios involving the misuse of alcohol, are taught ways of avoiding potentially dangerous situations and learn how to be assertive and say no when being pressurised into taking a drink.

Twenty primary and

secondary schools in the Greater Easterhouse area take part in the project, which has been running for 14 years to complement Glasgow's Health Primary Drug and Alcohol Education pack, which is produced by NHSGGC, Glasgow City Council and Strathclyde Police.

GAEAAP Prevention and Education Officer, David Kelly said: "We see the kids in Primary 6 and 7 and First Year of secondary school. In some cases, we see the kids right through until they finish.

"We deliver a serious message in a fun and non-preachy way and the kids seem to enjoy it.

"We talk to them about the dangers of underage drinking of alcohol and deliver the education package from a harm reduction perspective. We know that, at some point, most of them will want to try alcohol. What we're trying to do is equip them with the right

type of information so that they can make sensible decisions about drinking.

"One of the most worthwhile parts of this job is knowing that our messages are reaching the kids. We know through working with them over several years that they do take in the advice and information we give them and, hopefully, put them to good use."

And it seems to be working. The project gets great feedback from the schools and the young people themselves.

It also recently won a Mentor UK Misuse Prevention Award (Primary Schools category) for the work it does in Greater Easterhouse.

Recently David was teaching a P6/7 class at Blairtumnock Primary School.

Pupil Chloe Cuthill (11) really enjoyed the course, saying: "It makes you think about things that you hadn't thought of before."

Adolescent mental health ward approved

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde's commitment to improving services for those with mental health problems continues this year.

Plans for a new purpose-built inpatient facility for young people with mental health problems have been approved by Glasgow City Council.

The new 24-bed facility will be known as Skye House, will provide services for young people from across the West of Scotland and will be built on the Stobhill Hospital site.

The £7million development has been specially designed and purpose-built to meet the needs of young people.

Treatment will be provided at Skye House for young people aged between 12 and 17 who are suffering from conditions such as severe depression, eating disorders and obsessive compulsive disorders.

The development will comprise three buildings in total: ward accommodation, treatment space and a third purpose-built space for the provision of education.

Building work is due to start within the next few weeks and is expected to be completed by summer 2008.

The facility will form part of a range of new services at the redeveloped Stobhill Hospital site.

Addressing inequalities in health

NHSGGC has introduced a new Single Equality Scheme that aims to promote equality in the way that people can access health care in Greater Glasgow and Clyde. The new laws add to those already in place that cover black and minority ethnic groups and now will cover disabled people and men and women of any sexual orientation.

Various groups have been established to review how services are accessed and used by these groups. By understanding how current services are accessed and looking at the specific needs of these groups we can ensure that everyone receives the care that they need.



CHALLENGES AND REWARDS... log on to our website or visit us at one of our recruitment events to find out all you need to make 2007 the year you find a great job with NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

Online job shop

A HOST OF HEALTH CAREERS... ALL UNDER ONE NEW WEBSITE

MATCHING the right people to the right NHS jobs is a top priority for us in 2007.

And now, thanks to the introduction of a new one-stop service, applying for jobs within NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (NHSGGC) has become even easier.

One phone call or a single visit to our website at www.nhsogg.org.uk will get you all the information and recruitment packs you need, no matter how many jobs you want to apply for.

The change is the result of our recruitment teams coming together under one department.

John McCarthy, NHSGGC's Head of Resourcing, has been instrumental in setting up the new service, which now amalgamates the previous five recruitment departments and practices.

He said: "It is Recruitment's role to be the interface that gets people coming into the organisation. If managers are trying to encourage people into their teams, they want those people to have a good, professional recruitment experience. The manager's aim is to get an advert to the recruitment team, and get applications back for short-listing as quickly as possible."

One of the other tasks of the new set-up will be making the public aware of the huge range of jobs available within NHSGGC, both medical and non-medical. The new site also has links to Careers Scotland and Information Scotland.

Noelle Norman, Advertising and Marketing officer, said: "We employ people from all sectors, from graduates to people who are returning to work."

"We have around 250 posts each week. In the past, because NHSGGC used to be split into different Trusts, if you were interested

in one or two jobs in different hospitals or healthcare settings, that used to mean a lot of phoning around. Now you can do it with one phone call or one visit to the website."

As part of the new recruitment policy, NHSGGC will be appointing a Recruitment, Retention and Redeployment manager. That person will work directly to Mr McCarthy in the implementation of the new structure and wider policy.

Noelle added: "The recruitment changes are part of a restructuring to fit into the new Community Health and Care Partnerships and to help all departments both in the Health Service and other care sectors, such as social work, operate an efficient co-ordinated approach."

For NHSGGC, go to the recruitment section on our website: www.nhsogg.org.uk

Fostering and adoption bring wonderful rewards

ANOTHER major challenge we face this year is improving the health and well-being of children and young people in Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

The newly appointed Director of Public Health Linda de Caestecker said: "I do believe that unless you focus on children in their early years, you will not make a substantial difference to health."

That is one of the reasons why NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde is supporting a Renfrewshire Council scheme to encourage more people to consider fostering and

adoption as a way of helping to give children a better start in life.

Renfrewshire Council is hosting a Fostering, Adoption and Throughcare open evening at Paisley Town Hall on Thursday 22 February, between 6.30 and 9.00 pm.

The drop-in event will be open to people of any age, single or married, unemployed or working, to find out more information about Fostering, Adoption and Throughcare (supporting a young person once they leave the care system). Anyone who cares about children and is interested

in a rewarding career working with children or young people is very welcome to come along to find out more.

Fostering can be very flexible from very short periods of occasional respite care, to short term care (up to two years) right through to permanent care. There are also increasing numbers of children leaving the care system who need a home in the community as the first step towards living independently.

To find out more about any of these services, tel: 0141 842 5158/9.

Fancy a career with us?

THERE'S never been a more challenging or rewarding time to be part of NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

And it's never been easier to make that positive career move.

As well as the new recruitment section on our website, NHSGGC recruitment staff will be attending a number of Job Fairs and Career Information Days, and hosting Job Days throughout 2007.

Why not come see us at one of the events to discuss career and employment options, including those at the new Rowanbank Clinic at Stobhill?

One of the biggest events will be the Hot Jobs - Daily Record Jobs and Careers Fair sponsored by the Scottish Executive Health Department from Thursday, February 1 to Saturday, February 3, at the Kelvin Arena, Glasgow. Times are:

- Thursday: 12.30pm - 7.30pm
- Friday: 10.00am - 5.00pm
- Saturday: 10.00am - 4.00pm

This event will also feature careers in teaching and social work as well as in the NHS.

The Hot Jobs event is a major part of the second NHS Awareness Week (22 to 28 January) which highlights the range of different jobs within NHS Scotland. It also aims to encourage more people to consider a career with the organisation and help people understand the scale of amazing work that is carried out by the 150,000 staff across the country to deliver quality healthcare to the people of Scotland.

The NHS Careers Roadshow includes a careers truck which will be visiting towns at key locations across Scotland. The truck will be filled with information on the different jobs within the NHS. You will also have the opportunity to talk to people about a career in the NHS and search for jobs that are available in your area at the moment.

There will also be an interactive exhibition in the shape of a human body that highlights different jobs in the NHS, new ways of working, the current health issues affecting people in Scotland and how staff are working to make people live healthier, longer lives.

This career fair on wheels will then culminate in the central belt with the Daily Record's Hot Jobs fair at the Kelvinhall in Glasgow. You can come along and talk to NHS staff and find out more about training and experience and how to apply for certain roles.

For further information on a career in NHS Scotland, visit: www.infoscotland.com/nhs

For more information on the events in 2007, visit the recruitment section of www.nhsogg.org.uk or contact Noelle Norman, Advertising & Marketing Officer tel: 0141 211 3610.

Close to you!

FUTURE FOCUS ON LOCAL SERVICES PROMISES BENEFITS FOR ALL SECTIONS OF THE COMMUNITY

THIS year, a far greater focus is being placed on local health services to make it easier for you to get the care and support you need in your local area.

In the past, too much emphasis has been placed on the centralisation of specialist hospital-based services despite the fact that the vast majority of health care is delivered at a local level.

This new focus on improving local health care will help redress the balance by shifting services and resources into local communities so that even more of your care can be delivered closer to home.

More resources are being made available for local health improvement and health education services. This will help reduce the number of people who go on to develop major health problems and prevent existing health

problems from getting worse.

We recognise that health isn't just about the NHS, as many other factors such as housing, education, employment and access to leisure facilities also have a major impact on an individual's health and wellbeing. With this in mind, we are continuing to work very closely with local councils, employment agencies and even organisations like Scottish Women's Football to take forward health improvement plans at a local level.

Our key priorities include providing greater support and advice to families and parents, improving children's dental health and developing services for people with chronic disease.

Much of this is being taken forward by the new Community Health Partnerships (CHPs) that are responsible for delivering local health services and, in the case of Community Health and Care Partnerships (CHCPs), also local social care services.



Supporting parents

MANY parents have already benefited from a wide range of initiatives designed to offer practical help and support. These include the Parents and Children Together Team (PACT) and the Triple P parenting programme.

Work is now underway to develop and expand these initiatives across Greater Glasgow and Clyde so that more families can access support in their local area.

Research shows that focussing on health early on not only gives children a better start in life but also improves their future mental health, employment prospects and reduces their likelihood of developing addictions.

In the long-term, the aim is to see attendance at parenting classes becoming the norm for anyone raising a family and as routine as attendance at ante-natal classes.

Improving dental health

IMPROVING dental health remains a key priority as long as we hold one of the worst dental health records in Europe.

The statistics for children are particularly poor, which is why a number of dental initiatives are being taken forward in local schools and nurseries across Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

Many of these initiatives are being taken forward in partnership with local

parents and community groups. For example, in the East End of the city more than 40 parental volunteers have been trained to supervise and assist toothbrushing schemes in local primary schools.

Local Oral Health Action Teams across Greater Glasgow and Clyde are also working with local schools, parents and businesses to promote better oral health, healthy eating and physical activity amongst youngsters.



Tackling chronic disease in over 45s

PREVENTION 2010/Keep Well, a major new health-screening project that looks at the health of those aged 45 to 64 years, will be rolled out at a number of general practices over the next few months.

The project, which focuses on cardiovascular disease, blood pressure and diabetes, will invite individuals in the target age group to attend GP practices for a health check. Individuals will then have access to a range of other services

supporting lifestyle changes including exercise and weight management, smoking cessation, stress centres, literacy and employability.

Practices in North and East Glasgow are already inviting patients to attend while GP practices in other parts of NHSGGC will come on board later in the year. The project also aims to identify where barriers exist that may prevent the target age group from going to their GP.

Supporting carers in the home

WE recognise the vital role that carers play at a local level in maintaining the health and wellbeing of thousands of patients in their own homes. We will therefore continue to support a variety of carers initiatives run by local councils and other organisations over the coming year.

That includes a brand new drop-in service for carers of people with dementia living in the Clydebank area at the West

Dunbartonshire Carers' Centre.

This gives carers the chance to share information and speak to a range of health and social work professionals, as well as staff from Alzheimer Scotland and the Carers' Centre, about any issues they have regarding their caring situation.

For further information on local services and support for carers visit: www.nhs.gov.uk/carers

OUR PARTNERS -

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde works with a number of partner local authorities, charities and other organisations such as Strathclyde Police and NHS 24. Our main partners are:

