Spotlight on our new state-of-the-art mortuary services

SEE PAGE 3
**Staff on the starting blocks for Games**

A TEMPORARY “polyclinic”, the equivalent of a modern health centre, will be the first step for treatment for any athletes injured during next year’s Commonwealth Games in Glasgow. Based in the athletes’ village in the east end of the city, the polyclinic will be staffed by volunteers, including nurses, doctors, physiotherapists, primary care and other specialist staff, many from NHSScotland and throughout the UK. It will also be where members of the “games family”, made up of teams doctors, coaches, technical support and officials, receive any medical treatment they require.

A total of 4,500 athletes will be attending the 2014 event, competing in 17 sports, with five para-sports integrated into the Games. In the event of a competitor suffering an injury that the polyclinic is not able to treat, Glasgow Royal Infirmary, the designated hospital. Irene MacKenzie, our games and civil contingencies co-ordinator, said: “The focus of the polyclinic is to treat athletes and get them back to the point of being able to carry on competing. Volunteers are currently being recruited and we are encouraging managers to be flexible in authorising annual leave for staff where they can, taking into account the extra demands on services while the Games are taking place.”

Planning has been a real team effort, with NHSScotland working in partnership with the Scottish Government, Police Scotland, Glasgow City Council, Health Protection Scotland and the Games’ organisation committee. Dr Linda de Caestecker, director of public health, added: “Our clinical staff aren’t the only ones involved, while procurement staff have played an important role by giving advice and support to the organising committees about the purchase and hire of medical equipment. Health improvement staff have worked with the organising committee to make the Games smokefree and are also ensuring that healthy food choices are available at venue and local eateries.”

Irene said: “The Games are a wonderful opportunity for Glasgow, but they will have a big impact on our hospitals, clinics and health services. Preparation is the key to ensuring our services cope while the city hosts this massive sporting event.”

> For more information on the Games, visit www.glasgow2014.com

**Diary Dates**

**NHS GGC Board Meetings 17 December, 9.30AM Boardroom, JB Russell House**

**Staff Newsletter**

Staff Newsletter is written by staff for staff with the full support of the Area Partnership Forum.

Please send articles, letters and photographs to: NHSScotland Communications, Staff Newsletter, JB Russell House, Gartnavel Royal Hospital Campus, 1055 Great Western Road, Glasgow G12 0XH

Email: staffnewsletter@ggc.scot.nhs.uk Telephone: 0141 201 4558

Staff Newsletter is designed by Connect Publications www.connectpublications.co.uk

### Give your views on the Alert Line

**NHSScotland** staff should be able to raise concerns about patient safety or malpractice with their line manager, HR department or trade union representative. However, if there is doubt about whether or how to raise a concern, or you worry about doing so, confidential advice and support is available via the NHSScotland Confidential Alert Line on Freephone 0800 008 6112.

The service has now been in operation since April 2013 and the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing is keen to find out the value of this service to NHSScotland staff. The Scottish Government is therefore undertaking a confidential survey to gather staff’s views of the Alert Line service.

**More than 12,000 staff have so far been vaccinated against flu and, while the four-week vaccination programme has finished, appointments are available at the occupational health (OH) hub in the Victoria Infirmary and the OH satellite clinics at Glasgow Royal Infirmary, Gartnavel General, Royal Alexandra, Inverclyde Royal and the Vale of Leven Hospitals. Make an appointment with Occupational Health on 0141 201 5600. Anyone who wishes to run a peer immunisation programme should contact Public Health, visit StaffNet > Applications > Flu Vaccination.**

Rona Wall, occupational health service manager, said: “We would encourage staff who have direct clinical contact with patients to get vaccinated to protect themselves, the vulnerable people in their care and, of course, their families.”

**MORTUARY IS SHINING EXAMPLE FOR ALL**

The state-of-the-art mortuary at the Southern General Hospital in a world-class service, not only by members of the public, but the majority of staff.

SN was granted special access to the facility, which is part of a new multi-million pound laboratory landed him the overall Diagnostic Facing the Future Together award. Complementing this is high-tech equipment is sensitively designed areas for bereaved families coming to the unit, with its decor of pastel colours and adjustable lighting, offering glowing relatives a soothing environment at a difficult time.

> For more information on the Games, visit www.glasgow2014.com

**More Dates**

**WORLD AIDS DAY**

1 December

www.worldaidsday.org

**HUMAN RIGHTS DAY**

10 December

www.bihr.org.uk

**BiHR**

Bringing rights to life

**NHSScotland**

Boardroom, JB Russell House

9.30AM

17 December, 2013

**NHSScotland Board Meetings**

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> Please take the time to fill in the confidential survey by 14 December 2013.

> Visit www.scotland.gov.uk/alertlinesurvey

> **To staff on the starting blocks for Games**

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Extra special staff rewarded for going that extra mile

STAFF across NHSGGC have excelled in receiving awards both internally with our Chairman’s Awards and Facing The Future Together Awards and externally with a wealth of external recognition.

Below we feature some of our most recent winners.

Top awards go to GGC healthcare heroes

Three members of staff scooped top awards at the Scottish Health Awards.

Jennifer Rodgers, lead nurse at RHSC, was awarded the Nurse Award for developing a system that engages children in activities seeking out their innermost hopes and fears in order to uncover the things that are most important to them when they are in her ward.

Gillian Mackinnon and Linsey McLaren, district nurses from Drumchapel Health Centre, received the Top Team Award for the dedication, humanity and compassion they show their patients and the positive impact they have on them.

GRI rheumatology team honoured in House of Commons

The rheumatology team from GRI were among 10 winners from across the UK at the National Rheumatoid Arthritis Society (NRAS) Healthcare Champions Awards. The team were honoured at a special reception in the House of Commons for their professionalism and excellence of care.

Top honour for specialised national paediatric heart and lung support service

The Royal Hospital for Sick Children’s ECLS (Extracorporeal Life Support) service received a coveted ELSO Award for Excellence in Life Support by demonstrating “extraordinary achievement” against stringent standards.

New Stobhill one of 30 most architecturally impressive hospitals in the world

In a ranked list published by Online Masters in Public Health, the £100 million New Stobhill Hospital, which opened in 2009, is one of only two UK hospitals to make it on to the list.

The hospital, which treats about 400,000 patients a year, was assessed against a number of factors ranging from originality and aesthetics to patient comfort and engineering sophistication.

Chief executive Robert Calderwood, said: “This ranking is a huge accolade and I am absolutely delighted that the hospital has been recognised in this way. Services at the hospital and at its sister hospital, The New Victoria on the city’s south side, have been designed around the needs of patients to enhance the quality of care and speed up diagnosis and treatment.”

A UK first for Norman and Ruth

Two of our senior pharmacists are among the first in the UK to become Fellows of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society Faculty, which was launched earlier this year.

Professor Norman Lannigan, acting head of pharmacy and prescribing support unit, and Ruth Forrest, lead clinical pharmacist, theatres, anaesthetics and critical care at the Western Infirmary, are two of 75 fellow professionals, nine in Scotland, to achieve the honour, the highest credentialed level.

Record success at Chairman’s Awards

Sixteen teams or members of staff picked up a prestigious Chairman’s Awards at our recent Annual Review in the Thistle Hotel, Glasgow.

The Chairman’s Awards present an opportunity to celebrate and recognise our staff who go just that little bit further to deliver a first class service to patients. This year saw a record number of entries reflecting the huge depth of dedication and professionalism among our staff.

Further information on each of the winners is available, visit: www.nhsggc.org.uk/chairmansaward

Facing The Future Together Awards

Two additional directories from the acute sector have celebrated their achievements at our Facing The Future Together Awards.

The Overall winner for Rehabilitation and Assessment (RAD) was Dr Margaret Roberts who picked up her award in recognition of more than 30 years of tireless work and inspired leadership.

The Enhanced Recovery Programme for colorectal patients was the Overall winner for Surgery and Anaesthetics.

The contribution that this multi-disciplinary team has made to improving the patient experience both pre and post procedure and the reduction in length of stay is considerable.
Hard core of smokers still dragging us down

The air is clearing at hospital entrances but staff must continue to play their part

THE no smoking on hospital grounds campaign has been so successful that the presence of smoking wardens patrolling some of our largest sites has been extended until March of next year.

Our hospital managers have reported a significant 57 per cent reduction in the number of smokers lighting up at hospital entrances, and a significant reduction in complaints about smokers polluting doorways.

However, wardens are still encountering resistance from a hard core of smokers who refuse to adhere to our policy, and some of those individuals are NHSGGC staff.

Since the campaign’s launch, a 47 per cent reduction in staff smoking at hospital entrances has been achieved. However, this means that staff are still accounting for a significant proportion of the number of smokers at our entrances.

“We still have a hard core of smokers who ignore the signs and the wardens and who refuse to adhere to our policy, and that includes some members of staff, which is disappointing.”

March of next year.

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competing with other staff for funding, visit: StaffNet > Info

appeal application forms (one per person per month)

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ONE of our consultants has recently returned from Malawi, where he trained local medical staff how to use badly-needed equipment donated by NHSGGC.

Dr Adrian Stanley, a consultant gastroenterologist at Glasgow Royal Infirmary (GRI), spent several days at the Mzuzu Central Hospital in northern Malawi before travelling on to Blantyre to help run a UK approved therapeutic endoscopic training course for regional endoscopists.

Endoscopy equipment, no longer used by NHSGGC but still fully functional, had already been shipped out courtesy of Glasgow City Council.

This was Adrian’s second training journey to Malawi and forms part of an ongoing endoscopic training programme.

His trip was funded by a grant from the Davies Fund of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons Glasgow.

This time, he trained senior surgical clinicians and endoscopy nurses in Mzuzu on arranged training lists, including many patients with cancer.

Adrian said: “Senior staff and hospital management told me that the donation of endoscopic equipment and the on-site training was greatly appreciated. They had already worked hard to improve the local unit and their service since my previous visit.

“Over the next 12 months, there are plans for further hands-on training of local clinicians, and their attendance at other regional endoscopic basic skills and therapy courses.”

In Blantyre, Adrian helped to run a therapeutic endoscopy training course at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, along with two colleagues from Liverpool and Belfast.

This was co-ordinated by the Malawi-Liverpool Welcome Trust, with support from the British Society of Gastroenterology.

Seven Malawian endoscopists attended, two to help with training, three to complete the full course and the remainder to observe and gain basic endoscopic experience.

The first two days were spent in the local clinical skills unit with tutorials and endoscopic training on models and the final day involved practical live endoscopy on a prearranged list of 16 patients.

Adrian summed up: “The ultimate aim is to train local staff to provide a fully functional and sustainable endoscopy service and I am delighted to have the opportunity to be playing a part in making this a reality.”

Think before you drink too much

WITH the festive season almost upon us, and Christmas nights out being planned, all too often we drink more than intended.

To help you be more aware of how much you are drinking, the Staff Health Strategy has brought you a ‘Drink Aware’ alcohol awareness campaign. The campaign provides information resources, including a wallet-sized alcohol guidance and sensible drinking information card and alcohol measure cups.

If you are planning an alcohol awareness raising event, contact Liz.Donaghy@ggc.scot.nhs.uk to request the information cards and measuring cups. Please note the cards are available in packs of 25 and the cups in packs of 48. These resources are in limited supply and will be distributed on a first come, first served basis.

>> For more information on being ‘Drink Aware’, visit: www.drinksmarter.org