2014 First Foot
Make the choice

Lump of coal or ecosmart?
WHEN it comes to introducing energy efficiencies, at work and at home, Alan Gallacher and his energy team are on a mission.

As NHSGGC energy and carbon lead, Alan believes that every member of staff can play a part in reducing the Board’s annual utility bill of an eye-watering £33 million.

He said: “I believe that the vast majority of staff are very energy conscious and aware of the impact of climate change. If everyone takes very basic steps every day, we can cut costs and carbon emissions, making NHSGGC both lean and green.”

The experienced energy team – including Alan, are Gillian Brown, Sam Selwyn and John Keenan – they may be small, but they have already identified ways of making estimated annual savings of £170,000 for the Board by educating staff on how to be more energy efficient.

Alan went on: “It is a popular myth that it is cheaper to leave a light on and that’s just not the case. We should all switch off lights in empty rooms and ward areas and use natural light to illuminate rooms for as long as possible especially during the spring and summer months. It’s not only free but also more pleasant than artificial light.

“I would also urge people to switch off printers, photocopiers, computers and monitors when they are not in use not just the monitors as this is an area where energy is at its highest.”

Another commonly held belief is that equipment left on standby mode is energy efficient, but in fact it continues to use up to 70 per cent of normal consumption. The energy team is looking for more innovative ways of working. A workshop is being held this month by the Sustainability Planning and Implementation Group where members will “brainstorm” ideas looking at different approaches to carbon management and sustainability.

Alan said: “We want to draw up an action plan looking at new ways of carbon management and sustainability. This could include looking at how and why some sites are performing better than others and then spreading good practice to take to directors and managers to help them make improvements. Any potential ideas from staff would be great as they are the eyes of the organisation. These should be emailed to the energy team at any of the email addresses at the end of this article.”

During visits across 40 sites, Alan and his team promote cash and energy savings by pointing out that office temperatures should be set no higher than 19 degrees centigrade and in wards it’s 22 degrees centigrade. Corridors and storerooms should be set to lower temperatures at around 16 degrees.

At home staff can slash their own bills by replacing old fashioned bulbs with low energy equivalents, setting washing machines to wash at 30 degrees centigrade, carrying out or topping up loft installation and boiling only the amount of water you need in a kettle.

The energy team have become familiar faces thanks to regular site visits and their success was recognised in this year’s Chairman’s Awards when they picked up the Using Resources Better award.

“We were delighted to win the award,” said Alan, “but our advice and initiatives can only work with the full support of our clinical colleagues, facilities staff, managers, visitors and even patients by supporting our way forward to reduce energy consumption by encouraging each other to become more eco aware.”

Staff should send energy saving ideas to: Alan.Gallacher@ggc.scot.nhs.uk; Gillian.Brown2@ggc.scot.nhs.uk; Samuel.Selwyn@ggc.scot.nhs.uk; or John.Keenan@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

Pictured above, the Energy team from left: Samuel Selwyn, Alan Gallacher, John Keenan and Gillian Brown.
Your handy ecosmart guide

A HANDBOOK is now available for our growing network of ecowarriors, filled with practical advice about how to be “green” and promote the sustainability campaign to colleagues.

It gives our current 50 ecowarriors the tools to minimise waste, involving materials energy and water to protect the environment, reduce our carbon footprint and save money which can be channelled to other areas.

The five sections include information about the role of an ecowarrior and how this can be developed and key action areas. These cover energy, water, travel and waste and have been flagged up because not only are they part of the Carbon Management Plan, but changes can be tracked in kilowatts, tonnes and litres.

Importantly each have the most impact on our carbon emissions and combined together have a tremendous cost to the Board each year.

Energy manager Gillian Brown, who compiled the handbook, said: “These maybe actions which are now part of our everyday lives but they are helping us play our part at home and in the workplace to reduce the carbon we emit and help to slow down climate change.”

The final pages of the guide include an end of night checklist, which ecowarriors can use to make sure that lights, printers and PCs which aren’t needed are switched off, an implementation log and an energy walk round survey sheet.

There is also a list of websites for further information and the energy team, contact Gillian, tel: 0141 314 6994 or email: Gillian.brown2@ggc.scot.nhs.uk for any questions.

The handbook can be found on the new look sustainability website by visiting: StaffNet > Corporate Services > Sustainability

Add the ecosmart logo to your signature!

Highlight how ecosmart you are to your colleagues by downloading the ecosmart logo to your email signature.

It can be found on StaffNet, visit: StaffNet > Corporate Services > Sustainability

Reducing our carbon footprint

NHSGGC is committed to becoming ever more ecosmart in the face of challenging national energy and carbon targets.

Since the Carbon Management Plan (CMP) was introduced in 2010, 91 carbon reduction projects were completed between then and 2012.

By the end of this financial year projects, ranging from installing LED lights to upgrading boilerhouse and plantroom equipment, will produce savings of £338,300. We have also allocated £500,000 of capital for more energy efficiency projects including LED lighting and equipment upgrades.

Additionally we also have funding from the Carbon Reduction Programme (CRP) funded by the Scottish Government, of approximately £3.5m for converting equipment using oil to gas in Gartnavel Royal Hospital; installing a biomass boiler at the Royal Alexandra Hospital and improving theatre ventilation at various acute hospital sites.

Highlight how ecosmart you are to your colleagues by downloading the ecosmart logo to your email signature.
Progress report on Health and Social Care Partnerships

LEGISLATION to change the way health and social care services are delivered is making its way through the Scottish Parliament. MSPs have unanimously agreed the general principles of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Bill at Stage 1 which will create integrated Health and Social Care Partnerships (HSCPs) between NHS Boards and local councils in 2015.

The Bill sets out nationally agreed outcomes for health and social care and for delivery of services which health boards and local authorities are equally and jointly accountable for to Scottish Ministers and the public.

In Greater Glasgow and Clyde our existing three integrated community health and care partnerships (CHCPs) closely mirror the proposed new structures. This will enable the three of them (West Dunbartonshire, Inverclyde and East Renfrewshire), to move to “shadow” HSCPs as from April this year.

The Health Board is working with Councils in the other three areas (East Dunbartonshire, Glasgow City and Renfrewshire) to agree how shadow integrated arrangements can be put in place during 2014.

The Partnerships will take full effect when the Bill becomes law, from April 2015.

All will be run as a “body corporate” which means that the functions, resources, and staff will be delegated to a new Integration Joint Board (IJB), similar to existing management arrangements, and integrate adult services.

NHS staff involved in the transfer will remain in the employ of the NHS and retain their own terms and conditions of employment. Social work staff will likewise retain their own local authority terms and conditions.

Information briefings and updates are already being issued at a local level to staff within the existing local partnership organisations but here SN gives a high level overview of what’s happening in each organisation across our system so that all staff can see how things are shaping up thus far.

To read more about what is happening in your local area go to page 5.
## Progress report on Health and Social Care Partnerships

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<tr>
<th>East Dunbartonshire CHP</th>
<th>East Renfrewshire CHCP</th>
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<td>East Dunbartonshire Community Health Partnership (CHP) and their local council have agreed to prepare an Integration Plan based on the “body corporate” model. This means that the functions, resources and staff will be delegated to a new Integration Joint Board (IJB), similar to existing CHP arrangements, and integrate adult services. Their next move is to appoint an interim chief officer, likely to be current CHP director Karen Murray, who will lead the development of the Integration Plan and the establishment of the IJB together with Council director John Simmons.</td>
<td>East Renfrewshire Community Health and Care Partnership (CHCP) will take on joint responsibilities as a shadow Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) in April. Julie Murray, CHCP director will take on the additional role of chief officer designate of the shadow organisation Integration Joint Board. This follows meetings between council chief executive Lorraine McMillan and Board chief executive Robert Calderwood. Over the next few months officers of the shadow HSCP will work on plans for locality working and bring them before the committee.</td>
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<th>Glasgow City CHP</th>
<th>Inverclyde CHCP</th>
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<td>The Board’s chief executive Robert Calderwood has been working with George Black, chief executive of Glasgow City Council, supported by Anne Hawkins CHP director and David Williams, director of social work to develop proposals for integrated service delivery for the City. The aim is to make proposals to the Council and Board to establish a shadow partnership in the first half of 2014 with a joint chief officer. Eight workstreams have been identified looking at issues around topics such as quality, care and professional governance, finance and locality planning.</td>
<td>Inverclyde Community Health and Care Partnership (CHCP) will take on joint responsibilities as a shadow Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) in April. CHCP director Brian Moore will take on the additional role of chief officer designate of the shadow organisation Integration Joint Board. This follows meetings between council chief executive John Mundell and Board chief executive Robert Calderwood. Over the next few months officers of the shadow HSCP will work on plans for locality working and bring them before the committee.</td>
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<th>Renfrewshire CHP</th>
<th>West Dunbartonshire CHCP</th>
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<td>Board chief executive Robert Calderwood and council chief executive David Martin are leading a small group, which includes CHP director David Leese, to work through how Renfrewshire Council and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde can move forward to establish a Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) in the area during 2014. Proposals for the new partnership will build on the established partnership working in Renfrewshire.</td>
<td>West Dunbartonshire Community Health and Care Partnership (CHCP) will take on joint responsibilities as a shadow Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) in April. Keith Redpath, CHCP director will take on the additional role of chief officer designate of the shadow organisation Integration Joint Board. This follows meetings between council chief executive Joyce White, and Board chief executive Robert Calderwood. Over the next few months officers of the shadow HSCP will work on plans for locality working and bring them before the committee.</td>
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I.T.’s everyone’s business

A HUGE amount of activity has been taking place across NHSGGC to develop our Health and Information Technology (H&I&T) systems and although much has already been achieved we must realise the opportunities for further developments resulting from the Clinical Services Review and from the move to the New South Glasgow Hospital.

Already we have:
- Developed a clinical portal accessed by more than 20,000 users and helped move us toward “paper-lite” working
- Replaced a large number of old Patient Management Systems with the single system TrakCare
- Delivered a single diagnostic services system
- Established a new system across the GP estate
- Begun the process of giving enhanced I.T. to community and family health nurses, AHPs and Mental Health services.

These developments have resulted in some unavoidable disruption for some staff and H&I&T director Robin Wright expressed his thanks to all staff who have contributed to these developments and to the patience shown by those who experienced disruption during implementation phases.

Robin added: “What is clear from experience is that the most successful use of I.T. is achieved when clinicians and other staff are fully engaged in the specification, choice, implementation and ongoing development of systems. A consultation exercise is underway, engaging with clinicians in all parts of the Board to ensure we have a model of governance for our H&I&T developments that is supported by frequent and clear communication with the clinical body.

“We have also launched the 21st Century Administration Project, led by a small dedicated team, which will work with staff at all levels to ensure we fully exploit the investments we have made through service redesign and the enhancement of systems to operate effectively in delivering current and future service models. The success of these initiatives depends on full staff participation and I would encourage you to participate fully as the opportunities arise in the months ahead.

“The commissioning of the South Glasgow Hospital and the change associated with the Clinical Services Review offers us a once in a lifetime opportunity to ensure the modern services that we provide there are underpinned by access to appropriate, timely and accurate information.

“This will require those planning service reconfiguration to work closely with H&I&T colleagues to define their needs. With this in mind a specific H&I&T work stream has been established within the ‘On the Move’ programme to ensure business continuity in the transition process and to take advantage of the opportunities that I.T gives us to streamline clinical and administrative processes and to reduce our dependency on paper based information flows.

“I feel sure that the investments that we have made to date and our future investment plans will continue to yield success.”

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Patient appetite for new Feedback system

The new Patient Feedback system on our website is proving popular with patients. Four weeks after launching on November 18 at our Annual Review 109 patients used the system to share their views on their experiences of our services – both within our hospitals and within our community-based services.

The vast majority gave constructive comments on how their patient journey could be improved; more than 20 per cent were praising all aspects of their care and four related to issues that were redirected as formal complaints.

Eleven patients who used our web based Patient Feedback system during these first four weeks of operation said they wanted to sign up for our NHSGGC Involving People Network – ensuring they are directly informed by post or email of major service change proposals or other key developments and receive copies of Health News and a personal invite to events such as our Annual Review/Chairman’s Awards presentations.

It was good to see that more than 70 per cent of those patients who took the time to help us gather valuable direct patient experience also took the time to complete an optional section of the form by telling us about themselves which will help us identify if we are reaching all areas of our diverse population in gathering patients feedback.

Patient Feedback will be further promoted during the year with the introduction of promotional posters and inclusion on several patient leaflets and other communications.

The comments from patients are directly routed to front-line services for analysis and inclusion in reports that will form part of NHSGGC’s Annual Report on Patient Feedback. The NHSGGC Board is committed to demonstrating how we gather patient feedback and use it to share good practice or to address issues that are raised by patients to improve the way we deliver care and improve the patient experience.

Patient Feedback is enroute to gathering such opinions – the views expressed will be combined with views gathered by one-to-one patient interviews, patient discharge opinion cards, patient panel input and the themes and issues raised through complaints to help inform a broad patient view of individual parts of our service and influence change.

Patient Feedback is available for use by patients and staff at www.nhsggc.org.uk/patientfeedback
Clinical staff urged to get flu vaccination

Staff in clinical areas are being urged to organise peer immunisation sessions to boost nursing staff vaccination rates.

Rona Wall, occupational health service manager, said: “Based on figures from the main flu vaccination clinics we know that clinical staff numbers are low.

“While so far 12,690 staff have been vaccinated the uptake from clinical staff can still be improved and we are encouraging colleagues in clinical areas to contact public health and arrange to deliver peer sessions within their clinical environments.”

Peer immunisation is a quick and effective way to get teams of staff vaccinated without time spent away from their wards or units and protects them, vulnerable people in their care and their families.

Targeting staff on duty has proved to be very successful because vaccinations can be carried out quickly and easily.

There are also the added benefits that staff will know who will be vaccinating them and they can then reassure colleagues that there is nothing to be concerned about.

Dr Linda de Caestecker, director of public health, added: “It is vital that all staff take up the opportunity to protect themselves against the risks of influenza, as well as removing themselves as a source of flu infection to their patients, families, friends, colleagues and at risk groups such as the elderly, the very young and pregnant women.

“We are particularly keen for staff working in clinical areas and caring for some of our most vulnerable patients to sign up for peer flu immunisation sessions.”

Anyone who wishes to run a peer immunisation programme should contact Public Health, tel: 0141 201 4917 or visit: StaffNet > Applications > Flu Vaccination.

Appointments are also available at the occupational health (OH) hub in the Victoria Infirmary and the OH satellite clinics at Glasgow Royal Infirmary, Gartnavel General, Inverclyde Royal and the Vale of Leven Hospitals.

Appointments can be made by contacting OH, tel: 0141 201 5600.

Follow @NHSGGC on Twitter

Staff can now keep up-to-date with all NHSGGC’s developments on their own smart devices through our newly launched Twitter account - @NHSGGC - which is gaining new followers every day.

As the main social media account for the health board we tweet information on a range of topics - from health campaigns, official openings and award winners to information on current events and issues.

Of course this information is also available through StaffNet and the regular internal staff communications but outwith these means staff can now keep up-to-speed on their own devices.

We are hoping to make use of social media in the event of a severe winter and staff may find it useful to pick up any urgent alerts sent through Twitter.

By having a social media presence we have the opportunity to reach a wider audience with instant news and messages. We aim to engage with our followers and will pass on any feedback we get about our services to the relevant departments.

If you are working on a public awareness campaign that would benefit from being highlighted on Twitter – get in touch with Communications, tel: 0141 201 4429 or email: press.office@ggc.scot.nhs.uk.

Remember tweets have to be short – 140 characters including spaces so any campaign may also need to be backed up with media releases or a website presence which we at Communications can also help you with.

While staff do not have access to social media on the IT network you can follow the account from your personal computer or smartphone if you wish.
Top awards for estates staff

AN innovative career framework for estates staff has scooped two prestigious awards.

It was a double success story for the NHSGGC Estates Education Pathway Programme which lifted both the Innovations prize and the overall Paul Taylor Rosebowl Award at the annual Health Facilities Scotland (HFS) Facilities and Environmental conference.

Alan Gallagher, sector estates Clyde, accepted both trophies on behalf of NHSGGC’s Estates Development Working Group (EDWG) from Alex Neil, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing.

Alan and his team drew up a career pathway which mapped the qualification framework required to progress from a maintenance assistant to director of facilities for estates staff.

This is the first time that an education pathway has been mapped out for this group of staff and was developed to support both career progression and succession planning for the Board.

The work has been supported by the development of maintenance apprenticeships and recognition of prior learning pilots within NHSGGC.

Now estates staff can achieve recognisable SVQ qualifications which are based on a number of core skills which progress through all levels, recognise prior learning and are compatible with other qualification frameworks such as City and Guilds.

Announcing the pathway programme as the overall winner, the judges commented: “This award winner has demonstrated a dedication to succeed and grow tomorrow’s experts from within.”

Mary Anne Kane, interim director of facilities, said: “I would like to congratulate Alan and his team for this excellent and innovative piece of work which has been picked up for development by NHS Education for Scotland (NES) and will be used as a template across NHS Scotland for all disciplines of facilities staff.”

New £20m Health and Care Centre wins design award

The new £20 million Vale Centre for Health and Care has been honoured with a top national award.

The Centre, which opened its door to patients in August, scooped the Health Facilities Scotland (HFS) Best Design Award.

The award was presented by the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing, Alex Neil, to West Dunbartonshire CHCP head of community health and care Christine McNeill and NHSGGC commissioning manager Margaret Campbell.

The centre in Alexandria is one of the most modern health and care centres in Scotland, bringing together a variety of community services within an integrated and state-of-the-art facility.

Christine McNeill said: “We are absolutely delighted that the new Vale Centre for Health and Care has been recognised in this way.

We are very proud of what has been achieved with the Centre and the feedback from patients has been tremendous. To receive such an award only a few short months after opening is very pleasing indeed and credit to all involved.”

The HFS Judging Panel, said: “Despite tough competition from many high quality NHS facilities, in terms of quality of built design, the Vale Centre for Health and Care was exceptional for the team’s clarity of vision, integration of artwork and the high quality of the setting they provided for all patients and staff.

“Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board and their team are highly commended for their creation of a state-of-the-art building.”

IRH duo complete advanced training course

Congratulations to John Tweedie, depute CFPU manager, and Margaret Valenti, CFPU administration manager, who have completed a training course for Advanced HACCP (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point).

The course is aimed at Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland approved ‘food safety trainers’ and those who are involved and responsible for the implementation and maintenance of food safety management systems in food businesses.

Michael McCall, central production unit manager, said: “I am delighted that both John and Margaret were successful in passing the Advanced HACCP course.

“I have a great team of dedicated staff and the upmost importance to them is ensuring that patients receive high quality meals.”
Meet the Epidermolysis Bullosa team

THE Epidermolysis Bullosa (EB) Service is relatively new to NHSGGC and the team are hoping to raise awareness of the rare genetic condition to colleagues and are calling on colleagues to get in touch if they think they have a patient showing even minor systems of EB.

EB is a group of inherited disorders in which the skin blisters extremely easily. There are three main types ranging from a less extreme form to a life limiting form. There are currently approximately 60 children and 212 adults with EB in Scotland yet there is no cure.

The team, made up of adult EB nurse specialist Deborah Johnston, paediatric EB nurse specialist Sharon Fisher and admin assistant Fiona Hughes, work very closely together out of GRI and the RHSC but also treat patients across the length and breadth of Scotland.

Deborah and Sharon travel around the country helping patients and other healthcare professionals manage the condition.

They have established paediatric and adult nurse led clinics in areas such as Dundee and Edinburgh to improve accessibility for children and parents and to utilise working time more efficiently whilst reducing travelling.

Also in development is a care pathway for mums-to-be during pregnancy, birth and the care of newborns alongside piloting the most effective ways to improve knowledge and understanding of the condition in areas such as labour suites and neonatal units.

Speaking about their work, Sharon told SN: “Being a relatively new service we are working to see what works best to ensure all our patients across Scotland receive the care they need.

“Our patients still have lives to live and we want to make that as pain free as possible for them. This can mean working around their day starting early in the morning or visiting in the evening.

“Our job can be very varied from helping patients and carers choose and administer the appropriate dressings to going to theatre to give specialist advice and support.”

If you would like more information on the service, email: Deborah.Johnston3@nhs.net, sfisher1@nhs.net or Fiona.Hughes3@ggc.scot.nhs.uk.

DEBRA provides information, help and advice to anyone living or working with EB, visit: www.debra.org.uk

New Vale Centre for Health and Care officially opens

THE new Vale Centre for Health and Care was officially opened by the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing Alex Neil who met staff and patients during a tour of the unique centre.

This significant development, which has seen an investment of over £20 million on one of the most modern health centres in Scotland, brings together a variety of services delivering modern health care within a new state-of-the-art facility and is a key element in the Board’s delivery of the Vision for the Vale.

The new state-of-the-art facility provides three large general practices, dietetics, podiatry, speech and language therapy, primary care mental health, physiotherapy and a large dental complex including a general dental practice.

Chairman Andrew Robertson, said: “We are delighted that the Cabinet Secretary was able to join us for the official opening of this new state-of-the-art centre.

“I am sure he will agree that the new Centre is a superb, modern bright facility which provides the very best facilities for patients and staff.

“In its Vision for the Vale, the Board made an explicit commitment to delivering a replacement for the old Alexandria Medical Centre on the Vale of Leven Hospital site. Standing here today, with the Centre having been delivered on schedule and on budget, I am sure that we can all agree that that vision is alive and well within this fantastic facility.”

Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing Alex Neil, said: “This fantastic new purpose-built facility is a prime example of how continued investment in our NHS is benefiting patients providing them with quality care close to home.”
Praise for maxillofacial laboratory in Scottish Parliament

THE achievements of our specialist facial prosthetics service have been acknowledged in Holyrood.

Following a recent visit to the maxillofacial laboratory at the Southern General Hospital, Linda Fabiani MSP for East Kilbride, put forward a motion recognising the work of the West of Scotland Regional Maxillofacial Service and congratulating Michael O’Neil, one of the Unit’s technologists who recently won the prestigious ‘Wim de Ruiter Delft Plate Award’.

Michael won his award for research conducted as part of a post-graduate degree whilst another member of the team, George Payne, also scooped the coveted ‘Mount Vernon Award’ for outstanding clinical or technical practice.

The Unit provides specialist treatment for patients who have a head or neck disfigurement including facial prosthetic and custom made titanium skull plates for those who have suffered head trauma.

Chief executive Robert Calderwood, said: “I am delighted that the work of the maxillofacial prosthetics team has been recognised by the Scottish Parliament in this way.

“I would personally like to express my congratulations to both Michael and George for their achievements.”

Minister for Public Health Michael Matheson said: “I am glad to see the achievements of these two members of our NHS being recognised in the Scottish Parliament. Both Michael and George have shown outstanding commitment to developing the field of maxillofacial prosthetics and ensuring that Scottish patients benefit from the latest technical advances.

“Their achievements are truly commendable and receiving these awards is a real credit to the West of Scotland Regional Maxillofacial Prosthetics Service. These awards also reflect the importance of such research and the wider pioneering work in this field that is taking place across the NHS in Scotland – something of which we can all be proud.”

NHSScotland Healthcare Scientist of the Year 2013

JACKIE Wales, quality, training and point of care manager for haematology in North Glasgow, has scooped Scotland’s Healthcare Scientist of the Year Award.

A trained biomedical scientist (BMS), Jackie has a particular interest in training and is passionate about training opportunities for potential, future and existing staff.

She has led the development of many courses and training and manual guides and is heavily active in mentoring and in organising student placements. She also regularly contributes to Glasgow Caledonian University open days encouraging potential students to study HCS related degrees and is a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) ambassador visiting local schools to deliver careers talks.

A member of the IBMS (Institute of Biomedical Science) in Scotland Training Forum, Jackie has participated in several ‘Meet the Expert’ sessions at the Glasgow Science Centre and the Big Bang Festival at the SECC. All of these activities have been undertaken in her spare time and has elevated the profile of HCS careers.

Congratulating her on her award, Alistair Kyle, technical services manager, said: “Jackie has always seen education as a way of staff to further their careers and to use the knowledge gained to be used to enhance our services.

She is a highly dedicated healthcare scientist who has made an outstanding and sustainable contribution to the profession.”

Speaking about her award win, Jackie said: “To say I was shocked to receive this award is an understatement but I am delighted to be recognised for activities that I love doing especially ensuring our future and current BMS’s have the training and education to deliver the best service now and in the future.”
WHAT would you do with £15,000? Buy a car? Or book a luxury holiday?

If you are already a member of the Staff Lottery, you could be the lucky member of staff to scoop March’s mega draw and win £15,000 to spend as you please. Don’t worry if you are not already a member, you can join today and be in with a chance to win! As well as March’s mega draw, every month there are fantastic prizes of £5,000, £1,500, £750, £500 and £100.

Joining the Staff Lottery couldn’t be easier. For only £1.50 per month (35p per week for those on weekly pay) you could be a winner. Simply visit: StaffNet > Info Centre > For Staff > Appeals Society or tel: 0141 211 5885.

Not only are you in with a chance of winning a prize, you will also be contributing to the Appeals Society which raise funds for causes which benefit staff and patients.

The Appeals Society received a number of funding applications earlier this year and has awarded funds to a variety of projects ranging from gym equipment, sensory equipment, electrical gadgets and outdoor furniture. Staff are now in the process of purchasing this equipment which will benefit the health and mental awareness of staff and patients.

All staff can request funding from the Appeals Society if you have an idea for equipment or amenities which will benefit staff or patients then you can apply for funding now.

More information and an application form can be found on StaffNet > Info Centre > For Staff > Appeals Society.

We have got together with the Staff Lottery and Appeals Society to bring a little sunshine into your life with January’s competition. Enter now to be in with a chance of winning £250 of Thomas Cook vouchers. Cut the cost of your holiday or take a long weekend away and enjoy a well earned break courtesy of our latest competition. All you need to do to enter is simply answer the question and email your answer, along with your name and work location, to: Staffnewsletter@ggc.scot.nhs.uk or send to Corporate Communications, JB Russell House, Gartnavel Campus, 1055 Great Western Road, Glasgow, G12 0XH.

Question: How much can you win in March’s megadraw?

T&C: The competition is open to all NHSGGC employees. One entry per person. Winners must be available for a photograph which may appear, with their details, in future issues of SN. The closing date is 31 January 2014.

All staff are being encouraged to revive or begin the reading habit by taking part in this year’s Six Book Challenge.

It is being launched on Monday, January 6, and our goal is to beat last year’s bronze award by signing up 100 “completers” to finish reading six books by the end of June. NHSGGC is the only Scottish health board to take part in this UK event which is run by The Reading Agency.

For more information click on to the Six Book Challenge, visit: StaffNet > Info Centre > Library
STAFF concerned about household energy bills this winter can take advantage of a Scottish Government campaign which is highlighting help and support they may be entitled to.

It follows a YouGov survey showing 75 per cent of Scots are worried about their energy bills.

The initiative flags up the benefits available to Scots through the Scottish Government’s free Home Energy Scotland hotline 0808 808 2282 which offers impartial energy advice and support or visit: www.homeenergyscotland.org.uk for tips and to find out exactly what you are eligible for.

This could include having insulation, boilers and central heating installed for free.

A budget of £74 million has been set aside by the government this year to help Scots reduce their fuel bills and transform Scotland’s housing stock into warmer, more efficient, greener homes – all part of actions to increase energy efficiency and tackle fuel poverty in 2013/14.

The survey recently found that three quarters of Scots are concerned about the cost of their energy bills this winter.

More than 70 per cent of Scottish bill payers said last winter’s energy bills had a negative impact on their disposable income, while 81 per cent of householders admitted to being energy wasters at home.

Around 800,000 Scots have been offered energy advice or assistance on heating bills since 2009, accessible through the Home Energy Scotland hotline.

Energy manager Gillian Brown said: “It’s a real concern when people are not able to heat their home. Not only can this exacerbate poor health conditions but it can bring on new health problems for many others.

“That is why we make it a priority to provide our staff with access to good, energy saving advice for the home as well as the working environment.

“The Energy Team are always on hand to provide advice whether it be for our own building stock or for peoples’ own homes.

“As the largest employer in Scotland we hope that this information will be spread by staff to their families and friends so everyone can benefit from the advice we provide.”

A home that isn’t well insulated can lose more than 50 per cent of its heat through its roof and walls, yet just a quarter of Scots surveyed would consider getting new insulation compared to the 71 per cent that said they would consider wearing a coat or extra jumper indoors in order to keep their bills low.

The Home Energy Scotland hotline’s expert advisers can inform callers which of the Scottish Government’s Home Energy Efficiency Programmes they qualify for, as well as giving personalised advice on how to make homes more efficient.

To contact Gillian, tel: 0141 314 6994 or email: Gillian.Brown2@ggc.scot.nhs.uk.

We support the home energy Scotland hotline

THERAPY radiographers at the Beatson West of Scotland Cancer Centre have braved extreme weather, a military style obstacle course and a parachute jump to become charity champions!

Their exploits over the last few months have raised in total an amazing £6075 for various charities.

The fundraising began with Heather Reid and Marion Wylie completing the gruelling 96 mile long West Highland Way to raise more than £3000 for the Ayrshire Hospice, including cash from bake sales and tuck shops they organised.

Fraser Pollock and Claire Ford took part in a sponsored parachute jump which raised £1100 for Cancer Research UK (CRUK) and Fraser was in action again when he joined Jennifer McCauley, Anne-Marie Vallely, Patrick Rooney, physicist Richard Ferguson and dosimetrist Derek Brown taking part in “Tough Mudder”.

This was a 12 mile, military-style endurance course designed by British Special Forces and the Beatson team’s efforts resulted in £1725 for CRUK.

Janice Japp, contributed £250 from selling her own hand-made jewellery and hand crafted greeting cards in aid of the Friends of the Beatson.

Lesley Cairns, head of therapy radiography at the Beatson, said: “We have a very large number of ‘special’ radiographers who work here and everyone is proud of what they have achieved for very worthy causes close to their hearts.”