A NEW ICON
South Glasgow Hospital designs unveiled

West of Scotland Credit Union goes national

SEE PAGE 4

Language resources help get the message across to patients

SEE PAGE 7

The new NHSScotland national uniforms are ready to order

SEE PAGE 6
H1N1 vaccination for staff begins

NEW Victoria staff nurse Priscilla Carino was the first NHS worker in Scotland to receive the H1N1 vaccine. In full view of the cabinet secretary for health and wellbeing Nicola Sturgeon, Scotland’s chief medical officer Harry Burns, watchful colleagues and most of the UK media.

Frontline health and social care workers who have direct hands-on patient care are among the first to be offered the vaccine.

Watching staff nurse Priscilla Carino receive the one-dose jab, the cabinet secretary said: “Our health workers have a vital role to play in caring for those who are most vulnerable. They may also pass the infection to vulnerable patients. It is therefore critical that we protect the most important people to our society.”

Priscilla explained to the media that she cared for two H1N1 patients earlier this year and felt getting the vaccine was the right decision for her.

Dr Harry Burns added: “Health workers may believe they’d shake off flu if they get it this winter – but we know that, in a small minority, the H1N1 virus can be nasty. Not only are frontline workers more at risk of infection but they could also spread the bug to vulnerable patients. We expect this to be a busy winter, which makes it even more important that staff do all they can to keep well.”

Priscilla Carino received the H1N1 vaccine.

Every room in the hospital will have excellent views of either the Campsie Hills or out on to the Clyde or towards Paisley

Brookfield has ensured a design so in tune with the needs of patients that children can be brought out to the roof garden in their beds.

Scottish housebuilder Cruden Homes West is offering key workers in Glasgow the opportunity to own a new home in Govan as part of its priority purchase scheme.

Work has already started on a range of apartments and terraced homes at two Cruden Homes West developments in the area – Park Court and Govan Gateway.

The new homes will be available to reserve from Saturday, November 7, and will be ready to move into for summer 2010.

Key workers in the area, including NHS staff, police and members of the fire brigade, have just two months to reserve a new property of their choice under the priority purchase scheme, before sales are opened up to all buyers.

Cruden Homes West’s new developments in Govan are part of a £70 million investment to regenerate the area which is being led by Central Govan Regeneration Action Plan.

Sales and marketing director for Cruden Homes West, Liz Mallon, said: “The new developments, Park Court and Govan Gateway, are close to the new Southern General Hospital so medical staff who want to take that first step onto the property ladder should take advantage of this fantastic opportunity to own a brand new home.

“The priority purchase scheme is only available for two months, so buyers will have to reserve by the end of 2009 to get the best deal on a new home in Govan.”

Park Court and Govan Gateway will provide a total of 67 new-build homes which will be available to buy, from one and two-bedroom apartments to three and four-bedroom family homes.

Cruden is also offering potential buyers a wide range of individually tailored financial solutions.
South Glasgow Hospital Campus

- New 14-storey adult hospital
- New five-storey children’s hospital
- Two storey block connecting adult and children’s hospitals, covered by roof garden
- Children’s A&E
- Adult’s A&E
- Helipad with lift access direct into both A&Es
- New laboratory with underground access to the new hospitals
- Multi-storey car park
- Newly refurbished maternity unit

- Existing neurosciences unit with physical link into the new adult & children’s hospitals
- Multi-storey car park
- Covered roof garden
- Multi-storey car park
- Transport hub
- Multi-storey car park
- Children’s play park
- Central park – communal landscaped recreational area
- New boulevard entrance
- Extension to maternity unit with direct link to the new children’s hospital

Construction timeline

- First quarter 2010: Construction starts on new laboratory development
- First quarter 2011: Construction anticipated to start on the new adult and children’s hospitals
- First quarter 2012: Completion of new laboratory development
- First quarter 2015: Construction of new adult and children’s hospitals anticipated being complete
13 nominated for Awards

THIS year, 13 healthcare professionals and teams from NHSGGC have reached the final stages of the prestigious Scottish Health Awards 2009.

Among those nominated is Queen Mum’s consultant obstetrician Dr Kevin Hanretty, who was nominated by a thankful mother from Clydebank for saving her baby daughter’s life when he discovered at 30 weeks that the baby was in serious danger.

Thanks to Dr Hanretty’s quick actions, the baby was delivered prematurely and survived. He personally organised for a transfer to an intensive care unit and visited the family during the baby’s ten-week stay in hospital.

Dr Hanretty is shortlisted for the Women & Children’s Services Award.

Professor Tessa Holyoake, director of leukaemia research at Gartnavel Women & Children’s Services Award.

Professor Holyoake instigated and raised funds for a new cancer research centre in Glasgow and, thanks to her and her team’s work, there are now new drugs to tackle these cancers.

Professor Holyoake was nominated for a Scottish Health Award by a colleague and cancer sufferer. He said: “She has given me, and countless others around the world, hope.”

The full list of finalists from NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde is:

- Doctors Award – Dr Graeme McPhee, Southern General Hospital
- Therapists Award – Shona Flanagan, paediatric physiotherapist, Vale of Leven Hospital
- Unsung Hero Award – Jason Love, charge nurse, Braemount Care Home
- Support Worker – Margaret Nicholas, community health assistant, Dumbarton Health Centre
- Support Worker – Norma Mack, support nurse, Pollok Health Centre
- Older People Care Award – Mary Ann Kerr and Moira Roy, rehabilitation support workers, Milngavie Enterprise Centre
- Older People Care Award – Community Older People’s Team, Royal Burgh House, Rutherglen
- Equality in Healthcare Award – Lorriane Newton, healthcare assistant, Springburn Health Centre
- Equality in Healthcare Award – Imran Shariff, Equality and Diversity Manager, NHSGGC
- Cancer Care Award – Tessa Holyoake, director of leukaemia research laboratory, Gartnavel Royal Hospital
- Cancer Care Award – Janice Watt, service manager, cancer support services, The Bridge
- Women & Children’s Services Award – Kevin Hanretty, Queen Mother’s Hospital
- Community Care Award – Evelyn Keir, sheltered housing warden, Keir Hardie Court
- Equality in Healthcare Award – Lorriane Newton, healthcare assistant, Springburn Health Centre
- Equality in Healthcare Award – Amanda Neil.

Further information on all of the finalists is available at www.scottishhealthawards.com

Successful uptake of HPV vaccine

The uptake of the human papilloma virus (HPV) vaccine among girls at schools in NHSGGC is higher than the Scottish average, while Scotland itself has the highest uptake rate in the UK according to figures for last year when the vaccine was launched.

Public health consultant Syed Ahmed says this is due to the hard work of school nurses, the screening team, pharmacy and transport and other colleagues in the CHPs/CHCPs. “I hope that we can replicate the success we’ve had this year and for years to come.

“Immunisation is a success story in NHSGGC and I would like to thank all colleagues in the CHPs and primary care for their efforts in maintaining such a good uptake rate across all the immunisation programmes.”

Figures show the uptake rate for girls at schools in Glasgow and Clyde is above the expected uptake with 94.6 per cent getting at least one dose, 93.4 per cent with two doses and 88.7 per cent with three doses. Dr Ahmed explained as uptake for the third dose is not as high as the first dose we will continue to invite girls to community clinics with incomplete doses.
Campaign aims to stop harm to adults

A NEW campaign has been launched to help stop deliberate and unintentional harm to adults living in Scotland.

Act Against Harm aims to ensure adults living in Scotland who are being harmed or are at risk from harm are supported and protected.

The campaign is supported by a TV advert to raise awareness of the Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007, which came into force in October last year to help stop acts of deliberate and unintentional harm and neglect taking place.

The Act allows authorities to make inquiries and take action when they suspect an adult may be at risk of harm, so appropriate support can be put in place to ensure the person at risk receives the help they need.

The campaign – which has been developed by Age Concern and Help the Aged in Scotland, Alzheimer Scotland and Momentum in partnership with The Scottish Government – highlights the importance of speaking to someone if harm is suspected, and signposts people to sources of help and advice.

It also spells out the different forms of harm adults at risk may face, such as physical, sexual or psychological harm, neglect or being taken advantage of financially. Staff need to be aware of the act and know what actions to take if they suspect an adult in their care is at harm.

People who are concerned about an adult at risk of harm or would like further information on the Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007, tel: 0845 389 4000 or visit: www.infoscotland.com/actagainstharm

Take steps to tackle stress

A NEW mental health improvement campaign is to be launched this month highlighting the steps individuals can take to help cope with stress. It aims to help people recognise if they are stressed and encourage them to access simple self-help resources to help them start to deal with it.

A key part of the campaign – Steps for Stress – is a six-part Scottish Government-funded prime time TV series on STV called Make Me Happier, which starts on November 12.

The programme will feature six Scots who are suffering stress as a result of issues such as debt and grief and see them supported to cope with their feelings and make positive changes to their lives.

There will also be television adverts, a booklet and website about the campaign offering people tips and coping skills on how they can help themselves feel better and prevent stress building up again in future. It will also include information on common causes of stress, how to spot stress and, crucially, steps individuals can take to help them cope with their feelings.

The Scottish Government has been consulting with professional bodies such as the Royal College of GPs, the Royal College of Nursing, local health boards and Community Planning Partnerships on the campaign as health and social care professionals have been identified as being key to its success.

Steps for Stress is aimed at helping individuals to take small achievable steps to deal with stress before it escalates into more serious mental health issues such as anxiety and depression. It also aims to promote and protect good mental wellbeing.

The booklet will be distributed through health and community settings such as pharmacies, libraries and health centres.

Now’s NHS Credit Union goes national

From the beginning I wanted all staff to have access to responsible lending

Robert Rae

The Credit Union has been given permission by the Financial Services Authority to offer its services to the entire NHS Scotland workforce, something that is a great source of pride to founder member and Glasgow trade unionist Robert Rae.

Robert explained to SN: “When I think back 12 years ago, the Credit Union was just a thought in my head. I can’t quite believe where we are now.

“From the beginning I wanted all staff to have access to responsible lending, having seen first hand staff who were in debt to illegal money-lenders. We have expanded beyond what I could ever have imagined.”

Now offering professional and personalised membership services from wholly owned premises in Glasgow, the NHS Credit Union already has more than 5000 members and has issued loans to staff totalling more than £24 million.

General manager Robert Kelly is now looking forward to helping and attracting many more members.

Robert said: “As people look to safer institutions to deposit their savings, we are seeing a significant flow of funds out of banks and into Credit Unions. Unlike banks and building societies, however, there are very tight regulatory controls over how and where those savings can be invested – making the NHS Credit Union a safe haven for all NHS staff looking to invest.

“Once money is lodged with us, we can guarantee it’s safe and that every single penny will be invested ethically in line with the underlying principles of a co-operative.”

Credit Unions are financial co-operatives owned and controlled by their members. They operate by pooling members’ savings together to provide funds from which loans can be made. The interest from loans allows credit unions to pay their operating expenses and make a profit, so money can be put into reserves and paid back to savers. All profits go towards developing the business or are returned to members. The only shareholders in a credit union are the members who use its services.

For safe saving and cheap loans

The NHS Credit Union

be part of our family

Your finances deserve the best care. For information about the advantages of membership visit:

www.nhscreditunion.com

Tel: 0111 415 0927

To find out more about the benefits and how to become a member, visit: www.nhscreditunion.com

SN 5
SEPTEMBER’S winner of the SN £1000 giveaway is epilepsy specialist nurse Pamela Parker. Based at the Western Infirmary, Pamela was delighted to receive her cheque. “This is fantastic! We’re really not a winning family, so this is a real surprise.” So far, Pamela is planning to spend her lucky winnings on a long weekend away and then intends to treat her ‘grown up children’ to a special gift each.

NEW starts to NHSGGC and staff who require an emergency replacement uniform are now able to place orders for the new-style national uniform.

The first deliveries of the new uniforms are expected next month. Any uniforms needed until they arrive should be ordered through your local sewing room. If the sewing room can’t help, an order will be placed for stock items in colours nearest to the new uniform.

From December, tunics (in four blues and two greens), unisex trousers and polo shirts will be available. Additional items e.g. fleeces, waterproof jackets and cardigans will be added once agreed.

An additional fifth blue is currently being developed for dental technicians, technicians, hygienists and therapists, pharmacy technicians and healthcare scientists. It will be available early next year.

Uniformed clerical staff will wear a plain green blouse or shirt. This will be available to order in the new year, with delivery expected in February. Maternity wear will be available for all uniform sets.

Meanwhile, NHSGGC is currently consulting managers and trade unions on a new staff uniform and dress policy. The policy is expected to be finalised in the next few weeks. The aim of the policy is to provide a unified approach across NHSGGC which, in line with the introduction of a new national NHS uniform, conveys a professional image and creates and maintains public confidence. The policy also links to infection control and health and safety practices and policies which all staff should be aware of.

For more information on the national uniform specification, visit: www.scotland.gov.uk/nhsuniform
For more information on infection control, visit: www.nhsggc.org.uk/content/default.asp?page=home_infectioncontrol

New uniforms are due to be delivered in December
New foreign language resources

New Stobhill is best building

THE New Stobhill Hospital has been named the best new building outside London by the Roses Design Awards 2009.

Architects Reiach and Hall’s design scooped this year’s prestigious Roses Grand Prix award with unanimous support from Roses judges for a design that aims to “put the patient first and sports a dramatic full-height atrium to provide levels of space and light far removed from traditional institutional care”.

Both the New Stobhill and New Victoria Hospitals have also been shortlisted for the best hospital design in the Building Better Healthcare Awards, to be announced on November 12.

Help to get the message across

NEW resources have been produced to help staff both identify the language being used by their patient and to book an interpreter.

Posters and pocket-sized language identification cards are being made widely available throughout NHS GGCS. The posters are ideal for use at reception desks or team bases, while the ID cards are designed for staff in their day-to-day work.

John Crawford of the Corporate Inequalities Team said: “Clear communication with our service users is vital for accurate diagnosis, effective treatment and in ensuring that patients understand what they are consenting to.

“Communication support is a crucial part of the organisation’s work to reduce risk and involve service users in planning their treatment and care. It also helps ensure that everyone receives the same standard of care.”

NHSGGC has also updated its existing interpreting policies and procedures for black/minority ethnic communities and for people who communicate using British Sign Language. These can be found at www.equality.scot.nhs.uk and on StaffNet’s Info Centre.

It’s important that we continue to review our policies and procedures in order to meet the needs of both our staff and service users,” said John. “In Greater Glasgow and Clyde we have a rapidly changing language base and we need to be able to respond to this to effectively serve our community.”

Getting tough on violence and aggression at work

Violence and aggression has become the most significant health and safety issue for staff.

Following the 2008 staff survey, which indicated that 20% of staff had personally experienced a violent incident in the previous 12 months, the Scottish Government made funding available for projects aimed at reducing the risks of violence.

Thanks to funding from the ‘Working Well Challenge Fund’ a new campaign specifically related to staff awareness around violence and aggression has been launched.

Its aim is to highlight both the support available to staff who have been affected by violent or aggressive incidents and the importance of reporting such incidents.

Information and advice will be provided on the reporting procedures as well as support services available to staff and how to access these services. Specific target areas have been chosen where the effectiveness of the campaign can be evaluated and if effective will be rolled out to other areas.

The initial target areas are: the Accident and Emergency department at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Skye House (children’s services), care of the elderly at Mansionhouse Unit, orthopaedic wards at Glasgow Royal Infirmary and community nursing in West Dunbartonshire CHSP A poster competition will be running in conjunction with the campaign. The project will run until March 10 and findings will be made available across the organisation.

The project is being led by Sheena Gordon, Violence and Aggression Co-ordinator based at the Southern General Hospital.

Volunteers needed

FEMALE volunteers are needed to take part in a study about activity levels and eating habits.

Pre-menopausal women (non-smokers) with a BMI over 25 and currently healthy but not exercising regularly are needed to take part in the study and in return get feedback on fitness activity levels and metabolism.

If you are interested, email Gemma Brown at: g.brown.1@research.gla.ac.uk
RHSC senior orthotic technician Ian Adam talks about his passion for photography

**The need for speed**

During the day job at the RHSC, Ian Adam works as a senior orthotic technician making orthoses which are appliances or splints worn on a patient’s legs or arms to assist gait or correct a deformity.

He and the team also manufacture spinal jackets for spinal conditions such as scoliosis. Ian explained: “I work as part of a team of five technicians and five clinicians in the department. Most of our orthoses are custom-made to the patient so it takes time to get it right.”

Outside work, Ian’s passion combines a love of photography and racing. It’s in the family – his uncle was a photographer on the American motor racing circuit.

“I first started taking pictures when I was at school, then my brother took me to a Speedway match in 1986 and I started to go each week so it just seemed a good idea to try and combine both.

“Over the years I have covered meetings at many different tracks in the UK and for the last couple of seasons I have started to cover some of the Grand Prix (GP) events in Europe. Working at the GP is like moving up a level and you find that you have new things to learn but I am still enjoying it as I feel there is always room to improve.”

“Luckily, I only work Monday to Friday as most of my speedway meetings take place at the weekends and the GPs are always on Saturdays – so I always manage to fit both work and play in!”

Our happy hikers

As part of Healthy Working Lives (Corporate), 16 members of staff from Tara House and Dalian House have been out and about getting plenty of fresh air with a gentle walk to the Whangie and the top of Queen’s View.

The weather couldn’t have been better for the intrepid walkers as experienced hill walker and head of resourcing John McCarthy got everyone safely to the top, pointing out Ben Lomond, other mountains and interesting facts about the area along the way.

SN is pleased to report that there were no casualties but plenty of laughter and ‘bog mulching’ and all who went up the hill, came down again in one piece. There were even reports that they were looking forward to more of the same!