It’s not every day that you get to meet one of the world’s greatest rock legends... but lucky staff at the new Beatson have done just that.

Roger Daltrey, lead singer with The Who, was at the centre to officially open Scotland’s first specialist unit providing dedicated care for young cancer patients.

He spent a couple of hours at the unit, where he met staff and patients, as well as representatives from the Teenage Cancer Trust which funded the state-of-the-art six bedded unit.

Three new key benefits are now available to staff.

• Interest free loans for SPT Zonecards.
• Interest free loans of up to £1000 for bikes and cycling equipment.
• Vouchers toward child care costs.

The first two new benefits are part of the drive to encourage “greener” transport.

The travel card scheme enables staff to order a Zonecard through the NHS and pay back the costs over 12 monthly instalments interest free.

The Cycle To Work Scheme is backed by a £1000 interest free loan.

And the Child Care voucher scheme allows staff to save up to £1,196 a year ... more than 500 staff have already taken up the recently announced initiative.

For details of how to take advantage turn to pages 8&9

Clinicians from expert groups have given their recommendations to local staff and community groups about the future of anaesthesia, unscheduled medical care and rehabilitation services at the Vale of Leven as well as the future of maternity and mental health services in the area.

The review of services has been ongoing since September last year. The clinically-led review groups for the Vale of Leven have recommended that:

• provision of anaesthetics at the Vale is unsustainable
• it is not clinically safe to provide unscheduled medical care without anaesthetics

Consequently, unscheduled medical care services for the Vale area (affecting around 5500 patients per year) should transfer to the RAH in Paisley.

If unscheduled medical care transfers to the RAH, approximately the same number of rehab beds could be maintained as currently on the Vale site.

The recommendations will now be considered by NHSGGC at the next Board meeting on 26 June.

Full story, pages 4 & 5.
Preparing for the end of life

A new multidisciplinary practice for end of life care is to be introduced in Glasgow and Clyde. The Liverpool Care Pathway (LCP) is a locally agreed multidisciplinary practice based on best practice guidelines and available evidence to enhance care of the dying, their family and carers. 

The pathway was pioneered in Liverpool by Professor John Ellershaw and the palliative care team at The Royal Liverpool Hospital in 1997. The team transferred the good end of life care patients and families received in a hospice setting (where the minority of patients die) to other settings (where the majority of patients die).

Benefits of the LCP?

The LCP is supported by an education package to help staff improve their end of life care skills, knowledge and expertise. Patients, families and carers will also benefit from the care provided by staff. Previous audits of the LCP have indicated that communication has been important in the care provided by staff. This is likely to be the case for the care provided by the staff in the palliative care teams.

Talk about it

NHSGCS has just signed a new two-year contract with the Employee Counselling Service in Glasgow to provide a confidential counselling service to all staff. The service was previously used within NHS Argyll & Clyde and NHS Greater Glasgow but did not cover the full workforce. This new contract will ensure that all employees have equal access to the service. The Employee Counselling Service offers counselling to employees on a range of issues including stress, family and relationship problems, harassment at work, bereavement, anxiety and depression, post traumatic stress, alcohol or drug related problems and excess gambling. It is a free confidential service independent from the organisation.

Making a difference

An exciting new joint project between NHS GGC and the Clinton Hunter Development Initiative will see much of our older hospital equipment being sent to hospitals in Malawi where life-saving medical equipment is desperately needed.

As we undergo a major modernisation programme, we are also using the opportunity to help those elsewhere who do not have the same access to hospital equipment such as heart monitors, ventilators and operating theatre kit.

NHS GGC Chair Professor Sir John Arbuthnott said: “We are delighted to be able to support the people of Malawi, with whom NHS GGC already has strong links. Thanks to our own modernisation programme in Glasgow, we not only have the opportunity to improve services for the people of the West of Scotland, but also to make a significant improvement to health services in one of Africa’s most densely populated countries.”

The Clinton Hunter Development Initiative set up by former US President Bill Clinton and Scotland's own entrepreneur Tom Hunter is working with us to save thousands of lives in Malawi. Technicians here have been busy testing and servicing the equipment to ensure that once it arrives in Malawi, medicos on the ground will be able to put it to use straight away.

Medics from the Clinton Foundation will install it where it is needed and ensure that it is put to best use as soon as it arrives.

Cassia van der Hoof Holstein, a medic working in Malawi for the Clinton Foundation, said: “The equipment donated by NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde will be used directly for patient care. In some cases, it will replace non-functional equipment, in others, it will supplement existing equipment. In all cases, it will enable staff to better care for their patients (and extend services and treatment available).”

To find out more about this project and other ways NHS GGC is helping in Malawi, see the latest edition of Health News which is out now.

Care at Rowanbank

The new mental health secure care centre on the Stobhill site, Rowanbank Clinic, is set to open in July.

As a specialist mental health facility, Rowanbank looks just like any other modern mental health hospital. It is single storied, has small wards with individual bedrooms, separate therapy areas and consulting rooms.

As a secure unit, it does however have additional security features built into the design and fabric of the building to ensure they are not obvious to the surrounding area. By doing this we have created a place where patients will feel at home.

This is your opportunity to get beyond the headlines and talk directly to the people responsible for making sure the NHS meets 21st century needs.

If you would like to attend this free event, call: 0141 201 4515 or visit www.nhs.gla.org.uk/ourhealth for details. Please register no later than 10 June 2007.

NHS GGC Board Meeting

26 June, Dalian House, Glasgow

The next Board meeting takes place at the Board Headquarters on Tuesday 26 June at 9.30am.

Public lecture

3 July, Boyd Orr, Lecture Theatre 1, University of Glasgow

Public lecture by Chief Medical Officer for Scotland Dr Harry Burns on the Biology of Poverty.

This event is open to all and begins at 5.30pm to 6.30pm.

For further information please contact Danielle Honore: tel: 0313 623 2522 or email: Danielle.honore@nhs.scot.nhs.uk
Update on review of Clyde services

Work is continuing to review services across north Clyde. This work started in September last year with initial staff and community engagement meetings. Further meetings have taken place in the last few weeks to update staff and community groups on the work carried out to date.

A brief summary of the key recommendations and options for each of the main services under review is outlined below. For more detailed information please check the recent Core Briefs posted on StaffNet. Further briefings and local meetings will be arranged to make sure colleagues are kept updated as this work progresses.

It’s important to point out that no decisions have been made at this stage and further work will be carried out to finalise proposals over the next few weeks. The plan is then to submit these proposals to the Board at its next meeting on Tuesday 26 June. If approved, they would then be subject to public consultation from the summer.

Vale of Leven Hospital

The Vale of Leven review group considered the future of anaesthesia, unscheduled medical care and rehabilitation services currently available at the Vale of Leven Hospital. The findings and recommendations of the review group are:

- anaesthesia is not sustainable at the Vale of Leven site
- it is not clinically safe to provide unscheduled medical care without anaesthetics on site
- as anaesthetic cover cannot be sustained, it is not possible for unscheduled medical admissions to continue on the Vale site
- instead, unscheduled medical patients should be admitted to the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Paisley

Rehabilitation services

The main finding of the review looking at rehabilitation services is that, whilst there will be some changes in the patients accessing rehabilitation, approximately the existing number of beds could currently be maintained at the Vale site.

Impact on staff and patients

Around 5500 patients currently treated at the Vale would be treated at the RAH if the recommendations are accepted. Currently, 8000 patients from the Vale are cared for in Paisley. This includes A&E, emergency surgery and trauma; some acute medical conditions, planned and unplanned care in surgery, orthopaedics, ophthalmology, paediatrics, obstetrics and gynaecology.

The Scottish Ambulance Service has made a commitment to introduce mobile facilities to ensure that unscheduled care cases from the Vale area are transported direct to the RAH.

Of the 1158 staff at the Vale of Leven, around 150 would be affected by the recommendations. This would affect staff in:

- Medical Assessment Unit
- Coronary Care Unit
- High Dependency Unit
- Wards 3 and 6
- any associated staff

If the recommendations are accepted, staff would be offered the opportunity to:

- Transfer with services to the RAH
- Seek alternative posts at the Vale of Leven Hospital or other NHSGSC sites

Any future changes would be taken forward in line with the Board’s ‘Managing Workforce Change’ policy.

Developing and improving mental health services

It is clear from the work carried out to date that there is a real need to develop and expand community based services across Clyde to improve patient care and provide more alternatives to hospital admission. The lack of a comprehensive network of community based mental health services across Clyde has led to a higher dependency and usage of inpatient services compared with other parts of the country.

The need to expand existing community based services is supported by local groups and carers who are keen to have more services delivered locally.

Some of the options being considered include:

- Introducing new Community Crisis Services - to provide additional intensive support for people with a serious mental illness during evenings and weekends
- Developing and expanding Primary Care Mental Health Services across Clyde - to improve the care and treatment of people with mild to moderate mental illness
- Enhancing community based mental health teams - to increase the skill mix and capacity of existing teams across Clyde
- Investing in supported accommodation, residential care and home care services - to provide additional alternatives to hospital care

The work to review inpatient mental health services is still ongoing but some main options being considered include:

- Re-providing continuing care services for older people currently based on the Dykebar, Ravenscraig and Dumbarton Joint Hospital sites
- Consolidate adult acute admission services for Renfrewshire on a single site by transferring services from Dykebar to the RAH
- Exploring an option to transfer adult and older peoples’ acute mental health admission beds from the Vale of Leven to Cartvale Royal Hospital due to concerns about the sustainability of mental health medical cover
- Transferring the South Clyde Intensive Psychiatric Care Unit (IPCU) from Dykebar to Inverclyde Royal Hospital
- Transferring low secure learning disability beds from Dykebar to Lervendale and explore whether the interim arrangement to provide medium secure care services for the West of Scotland at Rowanbank Clinic should become permanent
- Re-providing inpatient addiction beds currently based within the Gryffe Unit at Ravenscraig Hospital

Admission Unit on the Dykebar site

Older people’s services in Renfrewshire

Work is continuing to review the balance of older people’s care and services provided at Johnstone Hospital. This work is being taken forward by the Renfrewshire Community Health Partnership working closely with Renfrewshire Council.

Johnstone Hospital currently has 60 continuing care beds for frail elderly patients who have complex long term care needs. The review work shows that, compared to other areas of a similar size and make-up to Renfrewshire, there are currently too many continuing care beds and not enough alternative community based services.

One of the models that has been explored is whether the services currently provided at Johnstone Hospital could transfer to the RAH in Paisley. Significant capacity and financial issues, however, need to be examined in more detail to see whether this is a viable option. Another potential alternative could be to commission continuing care for older people in a partnership with the local authority, independent or voluntary sector.

Maternity services

As we went to print further work was underway to identify options for the future of maternity services.
X-rays to go digital

A new national computer system is set to revolutionise the use of X-rays and other images in Glasgow’s hospitals.

Picture Archive and Communications System (PACS) allows the digital capture, viewing, storage and transfer of X-rays and other scans, such as CTs and MRIs.

First introduced at the Victoria Infirmary and Southern General Hospital last year, it is now being rolled out to 39 Glasgow’s hospitals.

• the imaging equipment such as the X-ray machines, CT scanner and so on.
• computer workstations with specialist software for interpreting and viewing images located throughout the hospital.
• local and central computer archive facilities and a back-up system for the storage and retrieval of images.
• a secure network for the transfer of patient information within the system.

How does it work? Once an X-ray is taken, a digital image is immediately captured on computer, where it is stored in the local archive along with previous images and reports. The radiologist interprets and reports the examination, using old images if necessary, and this is also stored on the system.

Computer workstations in wards and clinics throughout the hospital allow clinical staff to view X-rays and results instantly. The images are also stored in a central national storage facility so that X-rays can be shared by clinicians working in different hospitals and in different health board areas - regardless of where they were taken.

What are the benefits? For patients: The key benefit is a faster, more accurate diagnosis. The system will also reduce the number of repeat X-rays that have to be performed because of lost or unavailable films - and therefore cut down the amount of exposure to ionising radiation.

In addition, waiting times in areas such as A&E will be reduced. A&E staff will be able to review images immediately. If necessary, they will be able to seek an immediate second opinion from colleagues working elsewhere in the hospital.

For staff: There are a number of benefits:
• The system will mean instant access on the ward or in the clinic to images generated in any hospital across Scotland. In Glasgow, this will support cross-city working which will increasingly be a feature of how we work as we move from one to three hospitals and thirdly the community.

How can I find out more? If you are interested in providing information for the website, complete one of the request forms on StaffNet.

Getting to know your StaffNet

Following feedback from users, there have been a few minor changes made to StaffNet to make finding information easier.

While the majority of you are happy with StaffNet, some people did report finding it difficult to find some key information such as the staff directory, useful websites and our own NHSGGC website.

The system will mean instant access on the ward or in the clinic to images generated in any hospital across Scotland. In Glasgow, this will support cross-city working which will increasingly be a feature of how we work as we move from one to three hospitals in the city. For instance, PACS will allow CT and MRI scans taken at the New Stobhill and Victoria Hospitals to be viewed and reported electronically by specialist radiologists, regardless of which hospital they are working in.

Clinicians providing tertiary care, including specialist oncology services and neurosurgery, will have instant access to images and reports from the referring general hospital.

The elimination of X-ray films will make a difference to many staff, radiographers, who will no longer be required to handle hazardous film processing chemicals, significantly improving their working environment; clinical staff will no longer have to search for missing X-ray films and porters will no longer need to transfer film packets around the hospital.

In addition, waiting times in areas such as A&E will be reduced. A&E staff will be able to review images immediately. If necessary, they will be able to seek an immediate second opinion from colleagues working elsewhere in the hospital.

For staff: There are a number of benefits:
• The system will mean instant access on the ward or in the clinic to images generated in any hospital across Scotland.

How can I find out more?

What about the hospitals in Clyde?

Business cases are being developed for a second phase of implementation of the system in Clyde hospitals, the Glasgow Dental Hospital and major health centres.

How can I find out more?

A full training programme is being arranged to support the implementation of the new system.

Look out for details of this in Core Brief & StaffNet.
Benefits are like buses...

They say good things come in threes and it seems it’s true at NHSGGC with a trio of fantastic staff benefits announced to assist staff with childcare arrangements and travel to work.

Childcare Vouchers

The staff Childcare Vouchers launch has got off to a flying start with 500 of you registering with the scheme in its first few weeks of opening.

Childcare Vouchers allows NHSGGC parents to save money on their Income Tax and National Insurance (NI) contributions. You can purchase Childcare Vouchers up to a maximum value of £243 per month. This is taken off your salary before tax and NI are deducted. If both parents work for NHSGGC, you can both join the scheme and potentially make even more savings.

However, you should consider how these vouchers work with certain state benefits as the scheme will not benefit everyone.

Childcare Vouchers can be used in part or full payment for your childcare costs such as paying towards a childminder or after-school club as long as they are registered with the Care Commission in Scotland. The Busy Bees childcare vouchers can be purchased to use against registered childcare costs incurred for children/young people aged 0-16 years and 17 years of age for young people with disabilities.

The APF has been instrumental in getting the scheme off the ground. It organised a special sub-group of the APF led by BMA rep and Associate Specialist at the Western’s Renal Unit, Morag Gorrie. Morag explained: “I had been trying to get information about the scheme for some time but there was a lack of knowledge generally about childcare vouchers and how they worked. I was familiar with them through my husband’s work and thought it was a really good way to save money without costing the NHS anything.”

“The backing of the Area Partnership Forum, a group was set up to look at the childcare voucher scheme. We selected various criteria that we thought should be met and decided the most important thing was to be service and interaction between the providers and parents. Cost was always secondary. Interested companies were invited to tender and then scored accordingly depending on how much of the criteria was met. Some were invited to give presentations and from those we selected the Busy Bees organisation as NHSGGC suppliers of the scheme.

“The Childcare voucher scheme is definitely worth having a look at as it can save you a significant amount of money if you are eligible.”

Find out if childcare vouchers can help you save money by visiting: www.busybees.com or contact the Busy Bees Customer Services team tel: 08000 430 860.

ZoneCard travel scheme

The introduction of the ZoneCard scheme for staff is all part of Glasgow City’s Green Travel Scheme approach which aims to reduce the carbon footprint we all leave on the earth and encourage a sustainable public transport system.

Working with Strathclyde Passenger Transport (SPT) and open to all staff, this unique scheme allows you to purchase an interest-free annual ZoneCard which you repay the cost of each month through your salary. SPT has also agreed to waive the administration charge saving yet more money.

The ZoneCard is sold by SPT on behalf of all the transport operators in the Greater Glasgow and Clyde region. It’s free for use on all transport providers so you can enjoy unlimited travel by rail, subway, most buses and even some ferries.

NHSGGC Travel Plan and Systems Officer Douglas McIntosh explained that the cycle plan would also be supported by improved facilities for cyclists and cyclists.

Douglas said: “With funding from the SPT Sustainable Grant Scheme, we would look to provide secure locked storage sheds for bikes and improved shower and locker facilities for staff.”

To encourage staff to find out more about the new scheme, many of our hospitals sites have teamed up with Bike Week (16 – 24 June) to host various events to highlight cycling to work.

Events take place on:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Events</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Hospital</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17 June</td>
<td>Southern General Hospital Helipad</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 June</td>
<td>Gartnavel General &amp; Royal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 June</td>
<td>Southern General &amp; Victoria Infirmary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 June</td>
<td>Stobhill &amp; GRI</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 June</td>
<td>Inverclyde &amp; Vale of Leven</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 June</td>
<td>RAH, Paisley &amp; RHSC/QMH</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 June</td>
<td>Southern General Hospital Helipad</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information on Bike Week, visit: www.bikeweek.org.uk

For more information on Cycle to Work or ZoneCards, contact Douglas McIntosh, email: douglas.mcintosh@northglasgow.scot.nhs.uk
Clean hands and healthy patients!

"Our figures are consistent with national figures but there is work to be done. We know there is a different approach to working with partnerships. The message may be the same but they face different challenges within their workplaces."

Stefan Morton has been seconded from East Dunbartonshire where he worked as a podiatrist within the Community Older Peoples Team and Homecare Liaison. While in these posts, Stefan also worked with HAI teams and carried out local audits regarding infection control.

The first task he has set himself in his new role is to meet with all the lead infection control nurses in the city. "There definitely is staff awareness out there of the importance of hand hygiene. We know this through local audits but these need to be reviewed and compliance needs to be looked at."

"There is a drive in all health boards to deal with infection control. We must audit at both a local and national level compliance rates and we must raise the profile of the national campaign."

The Changin face of the ADTC

The new chairman of NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde’s Area Drug and Therapeutics Committee (ADTC) is Consultant Renal Physician Dr Jonathan Fox. He has been involved with the ADTC structures for many years, being chair of the North Glasgow Medicines Management Committee from 2002 to 2006 and chair of Stobhill’s DTC before that. He also chaired the North Glasgow antimicrobial group which has influenced the establishment of the Board’s Antimicrobial Management Team.

Dr Fox has recently been appointed to the Scottish Medicines Consortium, having been a member of their New Drugs Committee since 2005. He was also President of the 2006 Congress of European Renal Association and European Dialysis and Transplant Association which attracted almost 6000 delegates to Glasgow.

Dr Fox replaces Professor Martin Brodie who has chaired the ADTC for the last 12 years. The ADTC leads the medicines agenda on behalf of NHSGGC. It works across strategic, operational, professional and clinical aspects of medicines management. It aims to promote good quality and cost-effective prescribing in balance with other healthcare interventions.
Anne's found her true vocation

As a former dietician and health promotion officer Anne Dougall knows only too well the workings of the Health Service. And it's proving very useful in her latest position as NHSGGC's newest recruit to our Chaplaincy Service. Her experience helps her empathise with both staff and patients on a lot of different levels.

Orained in 2003 following a three-year training course, the Reverend Anne Dougall started working as a full-time chaplain for NHSSGC at the start of this year.

Before that, she worked at the Freeman Hospital in Newcastle and as a chaplaincy volunteer for our hospitals.

Anne, who is originally from Dunoon, said: “I was delighted to get the post in Scotland. This is what I wanted. I’ve come home.”

Working across the Western, Cartensval and Blawarthill sites, Anne is getting to grips with her new role and is loving it.

She tours the wards talking to patients and staff, and helping people where she can. Often it's ward staff who refer patients to her. She said: “Mainly work in the oncology, palliative care and care of the elderly wards, providing a chaplaincy service to staff, patients and visitors of all faiths and no faiths.”

Although many people perceive the Chaplaincy Services as only providing spiritual care, Anne says the role is much wider. A huge part of it is just being there to listen and to provide support for people going through a hard time.

She said: “Patients may be a long way from home, they get no visitors or can be worried about what’s happening to them and don’t feel confident about speaking to staff about their fears, and so value the Chaplains’ input. It sometimes helps to speak to someone they don’t know and, with their permission, we can pass these matters on to ward staff.

Sometimes, all a person wants to do is talk to have someone to listen. Once they start, it all just flows out. People will tell you their life stories and are so open.

“We share their lives and emotions and it helps with healing. It’s a real privilege to be there for them.”

It’s a tremendous boost for everyone and said: “To actually pick up the prize is a huge moment for everyone and understanding of what it means to work in creating a better environment.”

It's not just patients who benefit from her work, but staff as well.

Anne and her colleagues can also arrange for religious leaders from other faiths to speak to someone they don’t know and, often, it’s ward staff who refer patients to her.

Anne added: “Chaplaincy is such a rewarding and fulfilling ministry - it’s a privilege to ‘be there’ for people in the hospital setting.”

Anne Dougall chats to Blawarthill Hospital resident, Ian Leslie.

Local heroes break down barriers

Tackling inequalities is one of NHSGGC’s key themes and we are fully committed to promoting equality and diversity within the organisation.

To assist in this, the Corporate Inequalities Team (CIT) was established to facilitate and support the development of an inequalities sensitive approach within NHSSGC.

The work of the CIT includes the development of policy, managing the legal requirements of public sector duties, developing a monitoring and performance framework and supporting the development of new, effective methodologies for changing practice.

It will look at leadership and expertise of different aspects of inequality – disability, race and faith, gender and sexual orientation, socio-economic status. There are also lead managers for Information, Gender Based Violence and Homelessness.

The Inequalities Sensitive Practice Initiative (ISPI) forms part of the CIT. It is an action research project established to test out and develop approaches to embedding inequalities sensitive practice within four identified services – addiction, maternity and children’s services, primary care and mental health.

The Equality and Diversity Team based in Organisational Development has a complementary role to the work of the CIT and ISPI. E&D will work with learning and education, managers and staff to support developing the skills, knowledge and attitudes required to promote equality of access to health services for all members and sections of the population of Greater Glasgow and Clyde. E&D will also provide advice and support to managers and staff who engage with diverse communities to establish the most effective ways of engagement. The principles of “Fair for All” and Engaging People underpin their work.

The CIT is working in partnership with the University of Strathclyde to develop and evaluate a new e-module on tackling inequalities.

The CIT has worked with academics from the University of Strathclyde to develop and evaluate a new e-module on tackling inequalities.

Addressing Inequalities

So what are the plans? Well, all going well, it is hoped to carry out a complete modernisation and upgrading of inside of the tower block on Sauchiehall Street and the ‘old building’ in Renfrew Street.

Under the plans, several departments will be centralised including Medical Reception, laboratory, inpatient administration - the latter moving to the ‘old building’ freeing up the tower block for mainly clinical services.

Security and safety will be improved throughout the two buildings along with teaching and training facilities, which the hospital provides in partnership with Glasgow University.

Changes include the creation of a new look staff entrance on Renfrew Street along with a new reception area in the Sauchiehall Street entrance.

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde’s Director of Health Services Kevin Hill said: “This is good news for Dental Hospital staff. A few years ago we were faced with the real possibility of having to build a new dental hospital on a different site due to fears over the condition of the current buildings.

“However, provided we look after the fabric of the buildings, a Board-commissioned report showed they could last for many more years.

“Work has already been carried out to maintain the outside of the buildings and some refurbishment has already taken place internally. Now, we’re planning to build on that work and create a Dental Hospital and School that provides far superior dental facilities for patients, staff and the students who train there.”

Kevin explained that the proposed plans will be shared in detail with staff during June to ensure their comments on the proposals before a final plan is produced.

He said: “We’ll be looking for input from you into the reorganisation of services, to see how you think this can be best done and if you think we are proposing something that is not right way forward.”

Facelift for dental hospital

Staff at Glasgow Dental Hospital and School have the opportunity to influence plans to give the building a major internal facelift.

Over the summer, staff can give their ideas and thoughts on the reorganisation of services, which are part of an overall plan to modernise the site.

This is good news following on from years of uncertainty about the future of the hospital after plans to build a new dental hospital on another site were shelved in 2005.

Currently at the planning stage, if plans are approved, work could start in spring 2008.

Appreciating staff

Patients of Ward G10 in the Beatson held an appreciation day for staff recently and raised £110 for charity. Alongside their families, patients held a buffet lunch in the ward to thank staff for the care they received while in hospital. Of the money raised £60 went to the ward and £50 to the Maggie’s Centre.

Hot footing it to Holyrood

Podiatrists from across Scotland have been tending to the tired feet of our MSP’s following the campaign trail. They were there to raise awareness of issues in their respective constituencies including the reduction in podiatrists, access to podiatry services and the role of podiatrists in chronic disease management.

Among those in attendance were Gillian Harkin and Violet Butters, Highly Specialist Podiatrists from Glasgow Royal Infirmary.

The event was led by the Society of Chiropodists and Podiatrists as part if its ‘Feet Matter: prevention is cheaper than cure’ campaign.

Let’s get physical

Eight of our staff are off to Vancouver to present at the World Conference of Physiotherapy. Nicola Tennant, GRI Research Physio, Helen Little from North Glasgow CHCP, Gisela Creed, retired head physio at GRI, Jennifer Lofchie from RAH, Sarah Mitchell from GRI, Margaret Hastings from Lomond, Jo Dawes from the Homeless Team and Christine Kerr from SGH will be among 3000 physical therapists attending the 15th International Congress at the Vancouver Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Several of those travelling have been supported through Scottish Executive Health Department Travel Fellowships for Allied Health Professionals.

Princess Royal collects cheque

HRH the Princess Royal collected a £30,000 cheque on behalf of the PRM from the Glasgow Royal Infirmary Appeals Trust at an event in Merchants House, Glasgow. Her Royal Highness also met with staff from the maternity hospital as well as Trustees from the charity during her visit.

Just what the doctor ordered

East Dunbartonshire GPs working with people with depression can now prescribe self-help books to help them with their recovery. The ‘Healthy Reading’/‘Book Prescription’ initiative is a partnership between ourselves and East Dunbartonshire Council.

It allows patients to borrow books from their local library that they have been advised to read by their GP on anti-depression, panic attacks, mood swings and low self esteem as well as gambling addiction, surviving sexual abuse and coping with bereavement. GPs give patients a prescription, they take it to their local library and borrow the books. Patients do not have to be a member of a library to use the scheme.
Bone Marrow Transplant Unit Re-Opens

Former patients joined staff, families and donors at the opening of the refurbished Bone Marrow Transplant Unit at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children. The new BMT Unit, which was funded in part by donations and a grant from the Big Lottery Fund, allows the children and teenagers receiving transplants to see daylight while remaining in isolation for the first time.

Coverage was sustained in print, on television and on radio over a number of days, with a patient who was treated more than 20 years ago being interviewed by both a Sunday newspaper and a national broadcast.

Elsewhere, The Who singer Roger Daltrey officially opened the Teenage Cancer Trust Unit at the New Beaver – see page 1 for the full story!

Free Toothbrushes for City Youngsters

NHSGGC and Glasgow City Council’s joint project to offer daily toothbrushing to every Primary One and Two child in Glasgow was widely featured. The project will see toothbrushes and toothpaste provided for more than 10,000 youngsters, in an attempt to improve the state of children’s oral health locally.

Six-year-old Arran Martin from Saracen Primary was pictured in the national press brushing his teeth with his new free toothbrush, while some of his classmates were interviewed for television news about their views on the new scheme!

NHS GG C Joins Forces with Celtic and Rangers

NHSGGC’s Smoking Concerns won major coverage for its joint project with Glasgow’s two biggest football clubs. Smoking Concerns teamed up with the Old Firm clubs to offer advice to fans on how to quit smoking.

The team was publicised on both the Rangers and Celtic websites, and in the Rangers News and the Celtic View. One member of the team even appeared on the Clyde 1 Breakfast Show, giving advice to a member of the production team who was trying to kick the habit. The joint project with the two teams also featured widely in both print and broadcast media.

Review of Car Parking Charges

The announcement of the review of car parking charges was widely covered in the media, with a largely positive reaction to the news that the level of the charges was to be looked at again.

A number of newspapers publicised the news that, although the principle of applying car parking charges remains in place, the amount of money charged was to be re-examined as part of a review.

Ball of Smiles Raises Thousands for Sick Kids

The second Ball of Smiles managed to raise more than £17,000 for the youngsters at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children. Yorvikh Children’s Foundation fundraiser Louise Osbourne – who donated a Chanel jacket for the auction – featured in a number of newspapers.

Investigation Launched After Hospital Surgical Error

A number of media outlets reported that NHSGGC had launched an investigation after surgical equipment used on one patient was then inadvertently used on another at the Southern General. Through the media, the fact that the investigation was launched was confirmed and an apology was issued. Staff were able to reiterate that this was an extremely rare breach of our very tight infection control protocols.

Standardisation of drug and poisons units

New reporting methods are being developed across the UK to report commonly requested drugs and poisons. Taking effect from April 2 this year, the new reporting methods are necessary due to the increased movement of patients and doctors between areas where different units are currently in use.

More information can be obtained from:
http://www.glasgowformulary.scot.nhs.uk/ Postscript/ index.htm

Improving the care of older people

A new Joint Venture with Glasgow Caledonian University (GCU) and Greater Glasgow and Clyde, Rehabilitation and Assessment Directorate (RAD) aims to improve the care of older people. The Community of Practice (CoP) for the Rehabilitation & Assessment Directorate (RADI), supported by the team at GCU, will work to improve the care of older people by supporting staff delivering care to implement best practice.

PG in Health and Social Care

Glasgow Caledonian University has devised a new programme, starting in September, aimed at registered professionals working across health and social care sectors.

The Postgraduate Certificate Partnership Working in Health and Social Care comprises of four modules that have the potential to impact on the quality of interdisciplinary working practices of health and social care professionals.

For further information contact Lynn Rogerson, tel: 0141 331 8142 or email: mfadmissions@gcal.ac.uk

Staff Newsletter

The Staff Newsletter • NHSGGC In The Headlines • NHSGGC In The Headlines • NHSGGC In The Headlines • NHSGGC In The Headlines • NHSGGC In The Headlines

Free Toothbrushes for City Youngsters

NHSGGC and Glasgow City Council’s joint project to offer daily toothbrushing to every Primary One and Two child in Glasgow was widely featured. The project will see toothbrushes and toothpaste provided for more than 10,000 youngsters, in an attempt to improve the state of children’s oral health locally.

Six-year-old Arran Martin from Saracen Primary was pictured in the national press brushing his teeth with his new free toothbrush, while some of his classmates were interviewed for television news about their views on the new scheme!

NHS GG C Joins Forces with Celtic and Rangers

NHSGGC’s Smoking Concerns won major coverage for its joint project with Glasgow’s two biggest football clubs. Smoking Concerns teamed up with the Old Firm clubs to offer advice to fans on how to quit smoking.

The team was publicised on both the Rangers and Celtic websites, and in the Rangers News and the Celtic View. One member of the team even appeared on the Clyde 1 Breakfast Show, giving advice to a member of the production team who was trying to kick the habit. The joint project with the two teams also featured widely in both print and broadcast media.

Review of Car Parking Charges

The announcement of the review of car parking charges was widely covered in the media, with a largely positive reaction to the news that the level of the charges was to be looked at again.

A number of newspapers publicised the news that, although the principle of applying car parking charges remains in place, the amount of money charged was to be re-examined as part of a review.

Ball of Smiles Raises Thousands for Sick Kids

The second Ball of Smiles managed to raise more than £17,000 for the youngsters at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children. Yorvikh Children’s Foundation fundraiser Louise Osbourne – who donated a Chanel jacket for the auction – featured in a number of newspapers.

Investigation Launched After Hospital Surgical Error

A number of media outlets reported that NHSGGC had launched an investigation after surgical equipment used on one patient was then inadvertently used on another at the Southern General. Through the media, the fact that the investigation was launched was confirmed and an apology was issued. Staff were able to reiterate that this was an extremely rare breach of our very tight infection control protocols.

Standardisation of drug and poisons units

New reporting methods are being developed across the UK to report commonly requested drugs and poisons. Taking effect from April 2 this year, the new reporting methods are necessary due to the increased movement of patients and doctors between areas where different units are currently in use.

More information can be obtained from:
http://www.glasgowformulary.scot.nhs.uk/ Postscript/ index.htm

Improving the care of older people

A new Joint Venture with Glasgow Caledonian University (GCU) and Greater Glasgow and Clyde, Rehabilitation and Assessment Directorate (RAD) aims to improve the care of older people. The Community of Practice (CoP) for the Rehabilitation & Assessment Directorate (RADI), supported by the team at GCU, will work to improve the care of older people by supporting staff delivering care to implement best practice.

PG in Health and Social Care

Glasgow Caledonian University has devised a new programme, starting in September, aimed at registered professionals working across health and social care sectors.

The Postgraduate Certificate Partnership Working in Health and Social Care comprises of four modules that have the potential to impact on the quality of interdisciplinary working practices of health and social care professionals.

For further information contact Lynn Rogerson, tel: 0141 331 8142 or email: mfadmissions@gcal.ac.uk

Staff Newsletter

The Staff Newsletter • NHSGGC In The Headlines • NHSGGC In The Headlines • NHSGGC In The Headlines • NHSGGC In The Headlines • NHSGGC In The Headlines
There has never been a better time to be involved in football and now ladies are being given the chance with a new Women’s Five-a-Side Football League. NHS GGC is one of the sponsors of Scottish Women’s Football which aims to encourage young girls and women to take part in the game.

Now Glasgow City Council and Scottish Women’s Football have teamed up to give women, aged 16 and over, the chance to take part in a women’s only football league. The league operates at Nethercraigs Sports Complex, Cardonald, every Wednesday evening from 7pm – 9pm. Each game will last 50 minutes and will be refereed by a SFC Affiliated Referee and each session will last 10 weeks with each team having a game every week.

The cost per game, per team is £28 and each team can bring up to eight players or it can be arranged for you to join another team.

Men’s League
Glasgow City Council also runs a football league for men. However, there are more venues for this league: Gorbals Leisure Centre, Easterhouse Sports Centre, Scotstoun Leisure Centre, Kelvinhall ISA and Glasgow Green.

All other details are as above for the Women’s Football League.

If you would like further information on either League, contact David Clark, tel: 0141 287 3610 or email: David.Clark@cls.glasgow.gov.uk.

High five for the ladies

Charity bike ride
Senior Physio Kali Wilkinson is taking part in a charity bike ride in Peru for Macmillan Cancer.

Kali who works with the Glasgow Learning Disability Partnership is part of a group of 29 people from all over the UK who are going to cycle nearly 500kms at altitudes of between 12,000 and 15,000 feet.

Kali describes it as a “tough challenge” involving a rough terrain, altitude problems, camping in the wilds and mixed weather!

Kali said: “I've already raised nearly £2000 for Macmillan though previous challenges like a bike ride across Brazil and climb of Kilimanjaro over the past three years and I am hoping to raise over £12,000 in total.”

Macmillan is a charity very close to Kali’s heart. "I chose Macmillan as 'my' charity after the limited but excellent help I received from Macmillan staff when my husband was dying of cancer seven years ago.”

Stepping up the Bid
June sees the arrival of the Commonwealth Games Federation’s Evaluation Commission to Glasgow.

The aim of their visit is to assess if Glasgow meets the requirements to host the Games. It is their job to examine every aspect of the bid and produce a technical evaluation of the city to decide if Glasgow will be ready to stage the biggest sporting event this country could ever hope to host. With stiff competition from Nigeria, a country with excellent sporting facilities, the whole city must work hard to impress.

Glasgow 2014 Bid Director Derek Casey said: “This visit provides an opportunity to bring our bid to life and demonstrate the passion Scotland has for hosting these Games. This is an extremely important group when it comes to deciding who will win. It is their job to complete a thorough examination of Glasgow and Scotland’s ability to host one of the world’s premier sporting events.”

NHSGGC is backing Glasgow’s bid but if you haven’t done so already, you can play a part in winning the biggest sporting prize of all for Scotland by pledging your support at: www.glasgow2014.com

Men’s 10k
The UK’s only 10k for men takes place in Bellahouston Park, Glasgow on Father’s Day – Sunday June 17, 2007.

Men’s Health Forum Scotland is working in Partnership with the charity Cancerbackup to encourage as many runners as possible this year.

The event is open to all men over the age of 15 – and there’s still time to take part.

To register log on to www.mhfs.org.uk, alternatively email: sarah@mhfs.org.uk or cnool@cancerbackup.org.uk.

If you would like to support Kali in her fund-raising efforts, you can visit her fundraising site at: www.justgiving.com/kwilkinson

Send your articles, letters and photographs to:
email: staffnewsletter@ggc.scot.nhs.uk
tel: 0141 201 4995

Published by: NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Communications

address: NHSGGC Communications, Staff Newsletter, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, Dalian House, 350 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G3 8YZ