

Issue 11 Summer 2007

# STATE VISIT FOR ST HELENS

## Minister hails Trust as one of the best in UK

The Secretary of State for Health, Rt. Hon. Patricia Hewitt MP swapped Westminster for St Helens and Whiston in May to lay the commemorative stone for the new St Helens Hospital.

The Minister did not keep her hard hat on for long as she was escorted around Seddon Suite and Duffy Suite in Elyn Lodge at St Helens and toured the nurses exhibition and the Accident and Emergency Department at Whiston Hospital, meeting many staff and patients during her visit.

The Minister even took time out of her busy schedule to hold a staff engagement session attended by many staff from across the Trust in the Eccleston Centre at St Helens Hospital. [Turn to pages 2-3 for more.](#)



The Secretary of State for Health, The Rt. Hon. Patricia Hewitt MP, (centre) is joined by Ann Marr, Chief Executive, (left) and Chairman Mavis Wareham (right) in front of the new development at St Helens.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Hospital Staff Awards Presentation Evening 2006/2007



Hundreds of staff from across all areas of the Trust had the time of their lives at the 3rd Annual Hospitals Staff Awards Presentation Evening held at Haydock Park Race Course.

More than 400 staff got their glad rags on for the glittering dinner and awards evening which featured a host of top celebrities from the world of politics, sport and television.

The main aim of the night was not only to party and have fun but to recognise the hard work of all our staff.

See inside for the full story of the night, who won the awards and what was the best kept secret!!

### What's inside:

Secretary of State for Health visits the Trust

3rd Annual Hospitals Staff Awards Presentation Evening

Dr Robin MacMillan saves life of ship passenger

The Trust Celebrates Midwifery Week

....And lot's more.

# The Trust welcomes Secretary of State for Health

The Rt. Hon. Patricia Hewitt MP says our Trust is *“one of the flagship Trusts in the country”*



The Secretary of State for Health, The Rt. Hon. Patricia Hewitt MP unveils the commemorative stone alongside Ann Marr Chief Executive, (2nd right) and Mavis Wareham Chairman

The Trust has been privileged in the past to welcome a host of distinguished guests to see at first hand some of the superb work that goes on in both St Helens and Whiston Hospitals, and we were honoured to welcome the Secretary of State for Health, the Rt. Hon. Patricia Hewitt MP in May.

The Secretary of State arrived at St Helens Hospital to be greeted by Ann Marr, Chief Executive, and Mavis Wareham, Chairman on the morning of Friday, 11th May.

The Secretary of State was on hand to unveil a commemorative stone to mark the huge redevelopment at St Helens but she was involved in much more than pulling the chord on the red curtains as she saw at first hand some of our first class facilities and met with many patients and staff.

The Secretary of State for Health addressed the crowd that had gathered and highlighted the “tremendous work” our staff continue to do to which has made St Helens & Knowsley Hospitals NHS Trust one of the “flagship” Trusts in the country.

The Secretary of State was in fine form and that continued throughout the day where she chatted with many patients on the wards and wished them all well on their road to recovery.

In her speech to the staff and guests after unveiling the stone at the construction site she said: ‘St Helens and Whiston are “flagship” hospitals in the NHS. This Trust is one of the best in the country and having now met the staff, I can see why. We are replacing and rebuilding so much of the old hospitals and the patients of this community will be among the first to benefit from these changes.’

Ann Marr added: “We are delighted that the Secretary of State for Health, The Rt. Hon Patricia Hewitt MP has visited the Trust to unveil the commemorative stone at St Helens Hospital and have the opportunity meet with our patients and staff. The Secretary of State’s visit has also given her the opportunity to see at first hand the high quality of care and full range of unique and dedicated healthcare services we provide at the Trust.”



The Secretary of State for Health, The Rt. Hon. Patricia Hewitt MP meets patient Dr Vera Giles at Elyn Lodge, (seated in wheelchair). With Ann Marr Chief Executive (behind left) Mavis Wareham, Chairman, (centre), Dr Mike Lynch, Medical Director (right), Dr Ann Capewell, Clinical Director (back left) and Dave Watts MP



The Secretary of State chats to patients in Elyn Lodge



The Secretary of State chats to staff at the Nurses Day Exhibition



The Rt. Hon. Patricia Hewitt MP is pictured alongside nursing staff at Whiston's Recreation Hall

# Secretary of State for Health "impressed" with our hospitals

After the unveiling of the commemorative stone the Secretary of State visited wards and departments, meeting with patients and staff. She visited Seddon Suite and Duffy Suite in Elyn Lodge at St Helens Hospital and chatted to many patients including 92-year-old Dr Vera Giles, a former local GP in Rainhill who dedicated over 50 years service to patients in the area.

Dr Giles, who is making a good recovery in Elyn Lodge, chatted with the Secretary of State who wished her a 'speedy recovery'.

Following a tour of the wards the Secretary of State spoke to a large number of staff from various wards and departments across the Trust in a face to face engagement session in the Eccleston Centre.

This was an ideal opportunity for the Secretary of State to thank members of staff for their hard work and give them the opportunity to ask questions on current NHS issues, which they did. The session over ran due to the number of questions asked. As the session closed the Secretary of State offered if any member of staff would like to contact her with questions direct then they are welcome to e-mail her at the Department of Health - [patriciahe Witt@dh.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:patriciahe Witt@dh.gsi.gov.uk)

The Secretary of State held a press conference for the local media who asked her about St Helens and Whiston Hospitals. Patricia Hewitt again gave the Trust a glowing endorsement and she commented that patients in our area will be among the first to experience first class health care in two brand new hospitals in the near future.

With no time to waste, the party then journeyed to the Recreation Hall at Whiston Hospital where the Secretary of State toured all the display stands which made up the exhibition as part of the Trust's celebration for National Nurses' Day.



(from left to right) Gerald Slack, Operations Director, Taylor Woodrow Construction Ltd, The Rt.Hon.Patricia Hewitt MP, Paul Harris, Customer Director, Taylor Woodrow Construction Ltd, Ann Marr, Chief Executive and Mavis Wareham, Chairman



The Secretary of State answering questions from staff at the engagement session



The Secretary of State meets Dr Graeme Inkster at the Accident and Emergency Department

Next and final stop was on to Whiston's Accident and Emergency Department for the busy Secretary of State. Dr Graeme Inkster greeted Patricia Hewitt. He escorted her around the department, which is one of the busiest and most efficient accident and emergency departments in the country.

The Minister spoke with patients and staff and Dr Inkster showed her how the department operated on a day to day basis. Before the Secretary of State left she made the time to meet privately with some junior doctors to discuss their concerns and issues.

Before leaving the Trust the Secretary of State thanked Ann Marr and Mavis Wareham for organising and arranging her busy, action packed day and commented how impressed

she was with the Trust. She also added that she had learnt a lot during her time at St Helens and Whiston and had, had a thoroughly enjoyable day and would love to come back one day when the new hospitals are up and running. The invitation will not be forgotten !



The Secretary of State supports the Trust's new website. [www.sthk.nhs.uk](http://www.sthk.nhs.uk)



# TRUST HERO : ROBIN TO THE RESCUE

## Dr Robin MacMillan comes to the rescue of poorly ship passenger

Our very own Superhero, Dr Robin MacMillan, burst into action to save the life a passenger on board a ship he was travelling on.

Robin was on board a Belgium bound vessel heading for Brussels when the ship's captain sent out an emergency call for a doctor to attend to a passenger who had taken ill

Robin, despite being off duty at the time, rushed to the scene to find a man in need of urgent medical attention.

The captain was seconds away from turning the ship around - in a bid to get the patient to the nearest hospital - before Robin arrived to treat the man.

The action and quick thinking of Robin was enough to stabilise the patient before medics took over in Belgium and transferred the gentleman to a local hospital.

Robin said: "I was going to Brussels to attend an international conference on Intensive Care as part

of my continuing professional development when it happened.

As we left Hull I heard a 'Is there a doctor on the boat' call. I immediately went to the ship's office and was taken to an area to treat the patient.

"I administered first aid and medical treatment and advised the captain the passenger was safe to continue the journey to Belgium."

Robin said: "Any other doctor would have done the same in my position, I was just doing my job."

The captain and crew of the ferry said Robin's swift response and the first class care he gave the gentleman saved the passenger's life.



Dr Robin MacMillan

## Equality and Diversity Steering Group

The steering group has been set up to promote equality and diversity across the Trust and support understanding of the impact it has on the services we provide.

Due to new Equality Legislation we must ensure that our employment practices and the services we provide are in line with best practice and free from discrimination. In order to achieve this we have produced a Single Equality Scheme which outlines the priorities under the public sector duties for the next 3 years.

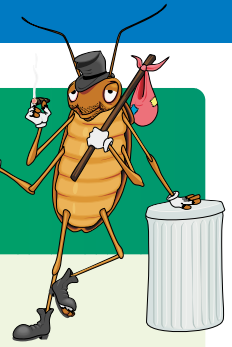
In order to fully adhere with Equality Legislation we must also Equality Impact Assess all policies and procedures. This is a bit like a risk assessment but it looks at a policy and assesses the negative or positive impact it has on race, disability, age, gender, religion & belief and sexual orientation. At the moment we are developing processes and documentation to ensure that all new and reviewed policy/ procedures are assessed. Further training will be provided for staff who produce and amend policy/ procedures as a major part of their role and sessions will be available over the next few months.

More information on the equalities agenda will be available in the next News'n'Views and on the updated equality & diversity page on the intranet which is currently under development.

If you require any further information or are interested in joining the equality & diversity group then please contact Emma Ostridge, Acting Assistant Director of HR x1230 [emma.ostridge@sthk.nhs.uk](mailto:emma.ostridge@sthk.nhs.uk) or Pauline Whitfield, Head of Learning & Development x2719 [pauline.whitfield@sthk.nhs.uk](mailto:pauline.whitfield@sthk.nhs.uk).

# KEEPING ON TOP OF SUPER BUGS

## Infection Control team target staff to raise awareness



Julie Roberts, and Jo Keward, Infection Control Nurse Specialists, promote Hygiene Awareness Day

Hundreds of patients and staff took part in the Hand Hygiene Awareness Day at Whiston Hospital in May.

The awareness day, spearheaded by Gill White, Infection Control Service Manager, and the Infection Control Team, targeted all Trust staff in a bid to reinforce the importance of hand hygiene in both Whiston and St Helens Hospitals. The main aim of the day was to raise awareness of the importance of hand decontamination in preventing Health Care Acquired Infections, (HCAI). The team held the event as part of the Department of Health's 'Saving Lives Initiative' to reduce the number of HCAI's. The initiative sets out nine key challenges using high impact interventions.

The infection control team gave staff tips on improving hand hygiene. They gave away hand hygiene freebies including alcohol gels and posters containing vital literature on how to wash their hands in the correct way.

Gill White said: "The two day event was a huge success, whilst the Trust is already committed to high standards of hand hygiene, the day reinforces the message to ensure it remains a high priority for all Trust staff to prevent our patients from getting an infection. It's really important that as a Trust we continue to keep our high standards of hygiene up and having days like this can only help to improve this."

# Employee of the Month



JANUARY 07  
**Collette Lorenzo**

Sister, Ward E1, Paediatric Unit



FEBRUARY 07  
**Elizabeth Hayter**

Sister, Medical Assessment Unit



MARCH 07  
**Karine Tagg**

Ward G4



APRIL 07  
**Dr Krishna Murthy**  
Associate Cardiologist



MAY 07  
**Diane Dearden**  
Oncology Nurse Specialist,  
Colposcopy

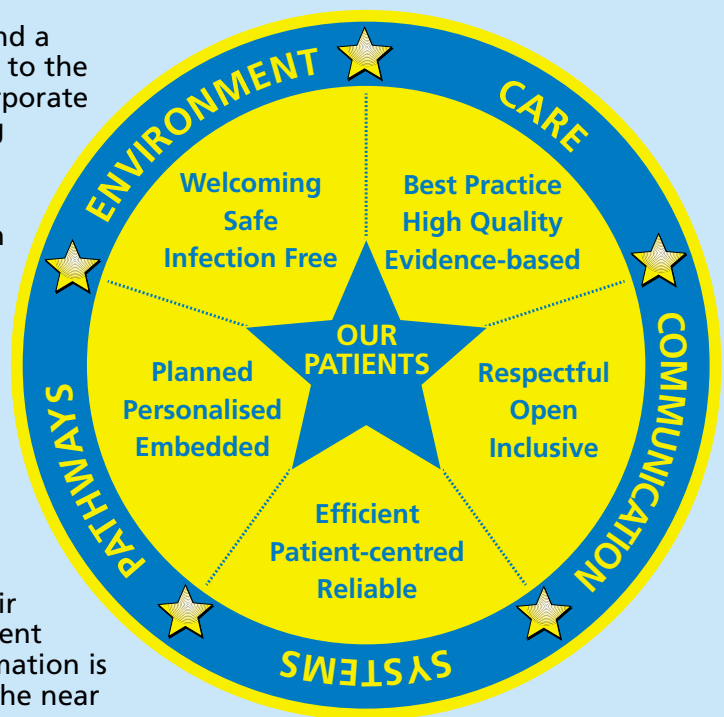
# Start Of Year Conference

The Learning and Development Team would like to extend a huge thank you to all the staff that helped to contribute to the start of year conference along with the launch of the corporate objectives for 2007/08. The event, held in April, was a big success with over 100 members of staff in attendance.

The launch began with a presentation from Ann Marr, Chief Executive, explaining how far the Trust has come in a year. A challenge was given to all staff to improve on an already good record to allow the Trust to become a '5 Star Trust' in the coming year. Staff were given copies of the new corporate objectives, coasters of the 'Star Chart' (right) highlighting the components of the '5 star vision'.

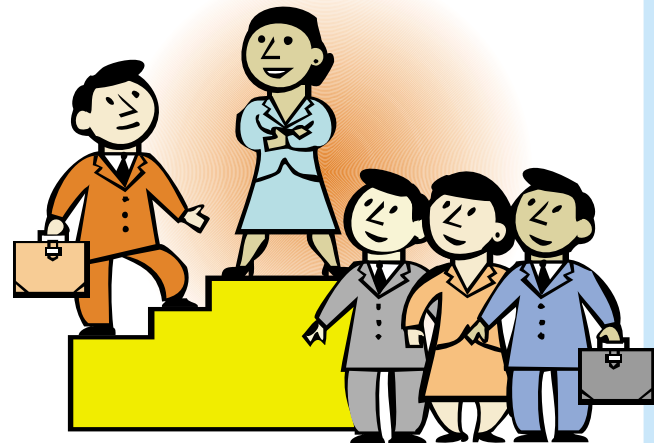
Staff were asked to consider how they could contribute to the '5 Star Vision' using creative and entrepreneurial thinking, with an entertaining session from key note speaker and social entrepreneur, Malcolm McClean.

In a final interactive session, staff were asked to give their feedback on any issues in their area they felt would prevent them from attaining the corporate objectives. This information is currently being collated and will be reported to staff in the near future.



## STAFF ARE TOP OF THE POLLS

The Trust is one of the top organisations for happy employees, according to a new survey. NHS Trusts and organisations across the country took part in the survey between October and December 2006. This is reflected through the dedication and hard work of the staff, which ensures the Trust delivers high quality services to patients and meets the government targets year on year.



Ann Marr, Chief Executive, presents the DVD player, to the lucky winner David Unsworth, Information Clerk, Infomatics, who participated in the staff survey

Research from the study shows that our Trust is among the best acute Trusts in the country after its staff reported that they felt their work was valued by the organisation and that they enjoy working here.

The figures also highlighted that high levels of staff reported that they work well in teams and have high levels of training on Health and Safety.

It was also noted that we have a good frontline management team and scored highly for managers being supportive to staff with personal issues, and helping them with difficult tasks at work.

Staff were encouraged to complete and return the survey questionnaires. A DVD player was offered as a prize (see picture left) for one lucky winner who had taken the time to participate in the survey.

## Staff Satisfaction Survey 2006

The Trust had many key factors in its survey including:

- Work Life Balance
- Appraisal
- Training Learning and Development
- Agenda for Change
- Your Job
- Your Organisation
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Harassment, Bullying and Violence
- Infection Control and Hygiene
- Errors Near Misses and Incidents

### Research from the study stated the Trust polled HIGH on many "Key Positives", including:

- Levels of awareness for childcare provision
- Levels of training on Health and Safety
- Levels of staff reported that their appraisal left them feeling their work was valued by the Trust
- Levels of staff reporting that they work in teams
- Levels of staff said they knew how to report any concerns regarding negligence or wrong doing by staff
- Levels of staff reported that they knew how to report incidents of violence, harassment, bullying or abuse
- Most staff had clear planned goals for their job
- Good frontline management scores for managers for being supportive in a personal crisis, helping with difficult tasks at work
- Most staff felt that the Trust does do enough to promote hand washing

### What did Trust staff say when asked to poll their answers?

- Most staff said the Trust was committed to equal opportunities
- Most staff said they could talk to their manager about flexible working options
- Improved awareness regarding both childcare and carers provision
- Most staff worked closely with other team members and their teams met regularly
- Widespread evidence of successful flexible working arrangements

### What is the Trust doing to better itself and keep improving?

- Work life balance flexibility in employment policy
- Introduction of a database to monitor flexible working practices
- Working Family Advisor delivering a comprehensive support service which includes support for families with children, carers support forums and advice, keep in touch schemes and complimentary therapies
- Harassment and Bullying and Zero Tolerance Champions
- Comprehensive Occupational Health Service
- Health and Wellbeing activities and events

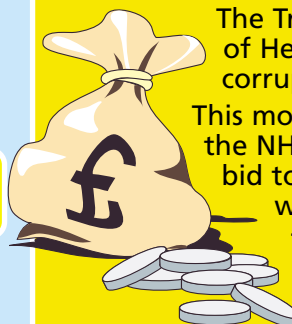
## Nurse beats heat to raise Charity Cash

A rheumatology nurse at St Helens Hospital raised more than £1,000 for charity after she completed the London Marathon in scorching conditions in April

Cath Brownsell beat the heat to take part in her first ever marathon in aid of the Arthritis Research Campaign. She said she was spurred on by dozens of messages of support from colleagues and patients at the Rheumatology Department in St Helens Hospital. Cath managed to finish the gruelling 26.2 mile race in an impressive 4 hours and 25 minutes. She said: "I had lots of support from all my colleagues at St Helens and all the patients were encouraging me too as they knew I had been in training for it for a long time. All the support I have had has been fabulous. I think I might even have a go at doing another one next year!"



## Trust Tackles Fraud



The Trust has teamed up with the Department of Health to raise awareness on fraud and corruption within our organisation.

This month the Trust has met with officials from the NHS Counter Fraud Service (NHS CFS) in a bid to reinforce the "zero tolerance" on fraud within the Trust.

The NHS CFS was established in September 1998, with a remit of tackling all losses to fraud and corruption in every area of NHS spending. The major aims are to reduce fraud to an absolute minimum which will release resources for better patient care and services.

Allan Boyd, Mersey Internal Audit Agency, said: "It is important that all members of staff at every level are aware of cases of fraud that goes on in various Trusts across the country. Staff who for example register false claims or claim for work done which they have not completed will be severely disciplined. Unfortunately fraud does go on and it is costing the NHS millions of pounds each year."

Staff who suspect colleagues are defrauding the Trust can contact Alistair Mulvey, Director of Finance, Executive Offices, Rowan House, T: 0151 423 1166, or E: [alistair.mulvey@sthk.nhs.uk](mailto:alistair.mulvey@sthk.nhs.uk) or Allan Boyd, Mersey Internal Audit Agency, 2nd Floor, Regatta Place, Summers Road, Brunswick Business Park, L3 4BL. 0151 285 4507.

All concerns will be dealt with professionally and confidentially.

There is also the confidential NHS Fraud and Corruption Reporting Line which is open between Monday to Friday 8am – 6pm: 0800 028 40 60

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Hospital Staff Awards *Presentation Evening* 2006/2007



More than 400 members of staff made the trip to Haydock Park Racecourse to celebrate the third annual hospitals staff awards presentation evening.

The night was a chance for our staff to be recognised for the "fantastic work" they have accomplished over the past twelve months.

A year's worth of preparation had gone into the evening and it was deemed a roaring success after hundreds of staff joined forces to mark another successful year at the Trust.

Staff were photographed both on the red carpet and in the dining room and they had the chance to grab photos with the VIP guests throughout the evening.

The tables were all beautifully decorated with flowers, balloons, table programmes and Oscar style cut-outs were displayed on the stage at Haydock's Park Suite.



Staff were greeted on arrival and escorted to the suite where they were waited on and given complimentary Kir Royale before taking their seat at their table for the premier night of the year.

The evening was compered by our very own Consultant Surgeon, Mike Scott and he got the staff into the swing of things by sharing a number of jokes to get everybody warmed up. The light hearted banter was well received and he made sure staff and guests were on course for an enjoyable evening.

Chairman Mavis Wareham welcomed staff and the special guests and gave a heart felt introductory speech stating how proud she was to be the Chairman of such a successful Trust.

She stressed that there 'were no losers on a night like this' and urged everyone to let their hair down and enjoy themselves.

Staff gathered at their tables after mingling at the bar and sat down to a





delicious four course meal before the serious business of the award presentations took place.

Celebrity guests who joined us on the evening were Liverpool FC Legend Phil Thompson, Andy Burnham MP, Minister of State for Health and Reform, ITV's This Morning's Fashion Expert John Scott, Granada Reports Andy Bonner, as well as Gerald Slack, Operations Director and Paul Harris, Customer Director from Taylor Woodrow Construction Ltd who have very generously supported the annual awards from the very start, three years ago. At this point no one knew that there was to be a big surprise which would be uncovered later in the evening.

The atmosphere was electric as the names for each of the nominations were read out and then the winners announced. As the winners made their way to the stage specially selected music for each award winner blasted out of the massive speakers all around the room.



The excitement was building more and more after each award had been presented, so by the time we reached the last award of the evening 'Team of the Year' the atmosphere was amazing, but who was going to present the award ??? Our Master of Ceremonies Mike Scott was about to announce the best kept secret..... Mike revealed the presenter for this award was none other than Danny Morris from Eton Road, the excitement in response to the news could have brought the roof off the room. Out of nowhere Danny ran on to

the stage, the look on everybodys faces was magical, stunned by the shock and surprise of a special guest appearance from one of the X-Factor stars! Danny read out the nominations for the award and announced that the winner was the Acute Medical Unit, the atmosphere was amazing as the



worthy winners made it to the stage, they were sprinkled with confetti exploding from cannons.



When the curtain finally came down on the formal awards ceremony, no one could have guessed Mike Scott would then have the final secret to announce and said "Well you didn't think Danny would come alone do you ??, Yes he has brought his band mates with him too!!! Welcome Eton Road" From a secret door David and James appeared and joined Danny on stage ready to burst into song !! Eton Road performed several tracks from their X-Factor television appearances and recent tour, including the famous Scissor Sisters song 'I Don't Feel Like Dancin'. In seconds the dance floor was full and this was to be the case for the rest of the evening. After Eton Road had danced and sung an exhausting string of hits they stayed and signed autographs and had photographs taken with everybody who wanted one. This as you can imagine took some time, even Phil Thompson and John Scott did not get away quickly as they too very kindly stayed to do the same.



The disco and staff partied into the early hours of the morning, and what is fast becoming an annual tradition the night would not have been the same without the Hokey Cokey, the Conga and the ever popular boat song 'Oops up side your head'!!!



So... the 3rd Annual Hospitals Staff Awards Presentation Evening came to a close, another wonderful entertaining evening in the company of so many colleagues that we work along side but never get the chance to socialise with. Here's to next year's event, which will be here sooner than you know!



**W**elcome to everyone and thank you for coming to what promises again to be a great night. Tonight is about celebrating staff achievements, about saying thank you for jobs well done and on behalf of our patients, please keep up the great work. Before I welcome our guests I would like to say a huge thank you to our sponsors for their generous contributions and details are printed on the table programme. Without this sponsorship, tonight would not have been possible and so please join me in acknowledging their generosity. I would also like to pay tribute to the working group of Mark Duffy, Donnas Wilkinson, Eileen Balmer, Barbara Jost, Patsy Clifford and Joanne Gannon headed up by Judith Marsland, who has kept me in order through the year. I would also like to acknowledge the amount that Ann Marr our Chief Executive puts into this. As always she provides ideas, sound advice and guidance to ensure the evening is a resounding success.



Our Master of Ceremonies for the evening is Mike Scott, one of our prolific surgeons who will make sure that the evening goes with a swing. I would now like to say a very special welcome to our guests to Minister of State for Health and Reform, and MP for Leigh, Andy Burnham who will be arriving later on. To Gerald Slack and Paul Harris from our PFI partners Taylor Woodrow who are our main sponsors. To Andy Bonner and Vicky Wood, Andy, from Granada Reports, has been a great supporter of this event from the outset. We are also delighted to welcome well known television star and fashion expert, John Scott who regularly appears with Fern Britton and Phillip Schofield on ITV's This Morning programme. We are also very fortunate to have with us another well known personality, a Liverpool legend and sporting hero Phil Thompson, you are all most welcome and we thank you for taking time from your very busy schedules to be with us to present the awards this evening.

Last year I stood here and thanked everyone for a great year and this year is no exception. Our PFI scheme was signed off and building started in July. Saying it quickly in no way reflects the enormous amount of work involved, the midnight oil burned and dealing with fundamental changes made at the last minute. It is a tribute to everyone involved that it was eventually signed off and I would like to make special mention of the enormous amount that Ann Marr contributed. Ann, who was also running North Cheshire Hospitals NHS Trust at the same time made sure that absolutely everything that could be done was done and I am not sure she had any sleep around that time. Later in the year we had the privilege of the Prime Minister Tony Blair and his wife visiting the Trust to unveil the foundation stone at Whiston and today, as many of you will know we have again been privileged to host the Secretary of State for Health The Rt. Hon Patricia Hewitt MP who has spent most of the day with us, both at St Helens where she unveiled a commemorative stone and later in the Accident and Emergency Department at Whiston.

So this is your night. Your efforts have contributed to the overall success of the Trust in the last year. A year when the Healthcare Commission gave us an 'excellent' rating for quality of services, ranking the trust 7th in the Country. That is a huge accolade to all of you involved in the delivery of care. Our Accident and Emergency Department continues to be a top performer nationally and we still have one of the lowest infection rates nationally. This is an outstanding team and individual effort and I would like to pay tribute to each and every one of you for treating your patients as you and yours would want to be treated. We are all on a journey and sometimes the going gets tough and we know that there have been times throughout the year when tasks have seemed insurmountable, times when there have been competing tensions, but it is testament to the energy, focus, commitment and determination of our staff to deliver, ensuring we put our patients at the centre of what we do. You and your colleagues are the ones who make this possible continuing to deliver our services in a friendly, courteous and professional way.

We still face challenges ahead, we hope to be authorised as a Foundation Trust later in the year and this has meant a great deal of work for a lot of people. We face the changing face of healthcare provision and the impact on finances, challenges of meeting the government targets, leading on the implementation of the 18 week target and many others. Central to this is our vision of providing what we have called a 'five star service' and as we move to the new build ensure we are the local provider of choice. We cannot do any of this without you. Your combined efforts have got us to where we are today and we hope you share our vision of making it even better. You are absolutely the best and we think tonight is but a small acknowledgement of all that you do day in and day out, never losing sight of caring for people in healthcare need.

I thank you on behalf of the board and personally from the bottom of my heart for all that you do and continue to do. Tonight there will be no losers, you are all stars. Have a great night.

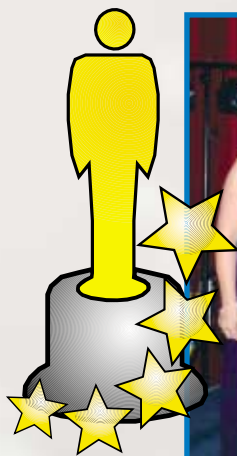
**Mavis Wareham**  
Chairman

## CLINICAL SUPPORT GROUP AWARD

The Clinical Support Group Award is for those departments who provide valuable services to the clinical areas across the Trust.

Presented by Liverpool FC legend Phil Thompson. The former England defender received a rapturous applause as he made his way to the stage. Phil said he was thoroughly enjoying the 'superb evening – the only one of its kind in the NHS!!'

## Winners: Pathology Laboratory



The staff of the pathology laboratory have achieved exceptional standards of performance, through their willingness to embrace change and find more efficient and effective ways of working. Their efforts ensure that patients benefit from rapid turn-around times for diagnostic tests, resulting in faster and more effective treatment.

## Highly commended:

### Audiology

The Audiology Department manages a heavy workload of patients, many needing on-going support. They work under intense pressure, but always put patients first, providing a first class service with a smile. They have reduced waiting times and improved efficiency through their innovative paper-less patient record system



### Pharmacy

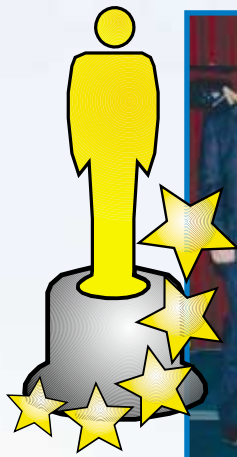
The pharmacy department is constantly looking for ways to improve services to patients. The introduction of the dispensing "robot" and the implementation of electronic prescribing are two examples of their innovative approach. Initiatives such as these underpin their efforts to provide patients with their medications in a safe and efficacious way.

## SURGICAL CARE GROUP AWARD

The Surgical Care Group Award is for those areas who provide clinical care for patients who require surgical treatment and interventions.

Presented by This Morning's fashion reporter John Scott. John was bowled over by the glamour and colour of the evening. John even made the effort to personally speak to every table about their 'fabulous' dresses which they had bought specially for the evening.

## Winners: Plastic Surgery



The team has provided consistently high standards of patient care throughout the year. They ensure that the service is efficient, but also recognise the need to be accessible, welcoming and compassionate. Patients from across the North West and North Wales have provided excellent feedback about the care they have received.

## Highly Commended:

### Gamble Day Ward

All the staff who work on the day unit provide a very efficient service, continuously delivering high standards of care to a fast turnover of patients who require day case procedures. They always ensure the patient's experience is as pleasant as possible by creating a welcoming and safe environment.



### Surgical Assessment Unit

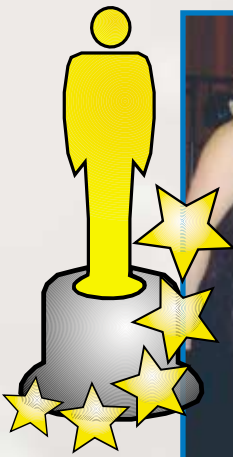
The staff of the Unit deal with a very high turnover of complex patients on a daily basis. They provide a highly professional patient-focused service despite their heavy workload. Their willingness to work flexibly and adapt to patient needs results in the delivery of top quality care.

## MEDICAL CARE GROUP AWARD

The Medical Care Group Award is for those areas who provide clinical care for patients who require medical treatment and interventions.

Presented by Granada Reports' Andy Bonner. Andy said the Trust's awards dinner was 'the best' he has ever attended. He said he is a great supporter and admirer of the work all the members of staff do at St Helens and Whiston Hospitals.

### Winners: Hulme Ward



The team has a very important role caring for some of our most elderly and vulnerable patients. Their work is very demanding due to the high dependency and complex needs of many of their patients. The care they deliver is exceptional, and they often go beyond the call of duty at times like Christmas, to ensure that every patient feels special.

### Highly Commended:

#### Paediatrics

The staff provide superb, multi-disciplinary services to all ages of children, and their families both in hospital and at home. They deliver high quality patient centred family care in a relaxed and caring environment. The children always come first and services are designed thoughtfully and imaginatively to meet their special needs.



#### Ward F2

The staff on the ward have achieved particularly high scores against all of the quality indicators shown on the "spidergraph" monitoring charts. This demonstrates their commitment to constantly improving performance and providing the highest possible standards of care to their patients.

## NON-CLINICAL SUPPORT GROUP AWARD

The Non-Clinical Support Group Award is for those department who provide services to all wards, departments and areas of the hospitals.

Presented by Gerald Slack, Operations Director and Paul Harris, Customer Director of Taylor Woodrow Construction Ltd. Gerald spoke highly of the good work of the Trust and said how proud he was that Taylor Woodrow Construction Ltd were building 2 state-of-the-art hospitals which will be the "envy" of other Trusts across the country.

### Winners: Graham Brown, Porter - Stephenson House

Graham is an exceptional member of staff who works very hard in the out-patient department and is valued immensely by all his colleagues. He is always willing to help, nothing is ever too much trouble, often going beyond the call of duty, he has a fantastic rapport with all the patients, always smiling even when his team, Everton lose.



### Highly Commended:

#### HSDU

The team provides a key service to the Trust, ensuring that surgical instruments and sterile products are received promptly to provide treatment to patients. Although they work "behind the scenes" their hard work and commitments makes a huge contribution to the smooth running of patient services.



### Learning & Development

The Learning and Development Department have shown great innovation and enthusiasm in designing and delivering the ambitious educational programmes available to all medical, nursing, clinical and non clinical staff. They have made a particular impact with the introduction of LAMDI, PRIDE and IMPACT initiatives, and have made a major contribution to the Trust's application for Associate Teaching status.

## TEAM OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Team of the Year Award is for the Team who has shown a consistent approach, faced and overcome challenges, working hard together as a Team to provide excellent standards of care to patients.

Presented by Danny Morris, from Eton Road. Danny tried to pretend as he announced the winner and presented the awards, that he had come alone but soon it became clear that Danny had brought along his fellow band mates.

## Winners: Acute Medical Unit



The Unit deals with a very heavy workload of high turnover patients with complex and urgent diagnostic needs. Despite the pressures, the quality of care the team provide is exceptional and very many patients have praised the all-round care and compassion they received during this particularly stressful part of their stay in the hospital.

## Highly Commended:

### Burn Unit

The regional Burns Unit treats a large number of complex burn injured patients. This dedicated and talented group of staff have shown excellent team work and dedication providing the highest quality, specialised care to their patients, supporting emotional and psychological needs, as well as providing excellent treatment. This first class service has resulted in the unit being respected not just locally but nationally and internationally.



### Endoscopy

The team have worked together in an effective and cohesive manner to drive down waiting times to the lowest in the entire NHS. The high quality of care they provide to all patients was recognised with a score of "excellent" in the Healthcare Commission's annual review.



## EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Employee of the Year Award is to recognise an individual member of staff who has given an outstanding contribution, and who has previously been recognised and received an Employee of the Month award in the last year.

Presented by Ann Marr, Chief Executive. Ann Marr thanked everybody for their continued hard work. She also spoke about the success of the Secretary of State for Health's visit to the Trust that day. Ann said "The Secretary of State said 'you are all fantastic'" and Ann whole-heartedly agreed, as did the staff with the cheer that they gave.

### Winner: Rob Simonds - Head of Pay & Staff Services



Rob has the incredibly important role of ensuring that everyone is paid correctly and on time! The Payroll Department has faced a number of daunting challenges over the past few years, and Rob's calm and inspiring leadership has achieved great things in difficult circumstances. Rob is very modest and likes to give credit to others, but tonight we recognise his own special achievements.

### Highly Commended:

#### Maureen Kendrick - Ward Manager, Ward E3

Maureen has been an inspiring ward manager for a number of years. She always demonstrates strong leadership skills. She is always keen to share her extensive knowledge and supports her staff at all times. Maureen always gives her best and is a fantastic role model to nursing staff.



#### Kim Morland-Jones - Theatre Clerk - St Helens Operating Theatre

Kim is a valued member of the Operating Theatre Team. During the past year she has taken on extra duties as well as maintaining her own busy workload. Her determination and commitment have played a major role in ensuring the smooth running and efficiency of the operating theatres.

## SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Special Achievement Award is a unique award presented to an individual member of staff who has contributed to the Trust in an outstanding way, well beyond what would be expected of a member of staff.

Presented by Andy Burnham MP, Minister of State Delivery and Reform. The Minister, an Everton FC and Leigh Centurions fan, said how delighted he was to attend the event. He said it was his first awards ceremony he had attended since his appointment as a Minister and that he was impressed with all the work which had been achieved to make St Helens & Knowsley Hospitals NHS Trust one of the best in the country.

### Winner: Gerry Litherland - Paediatric Nurse Specialist

Gerry is an extra-ordinary member of staff. She is incredibly committed to her role and responsibilities in treating and caring for children who have many complex health needs. Nothing is ever a problem to Gerry, she is always there if someone needs help, her phone is never switched off. The support she provides these children and their families is truly outstanding.



### Highly Commended:

#### Dr Steve Atherton - Consultant

Steve has made exceptional contributions both at the highest levels of the NHS and locally within the Trust. After a successful secondment to the Department of Health, working on national issues, Steve returned to clinical practice in one of the busiest areas of the hospital, where his considerable efforts and dedication are valued and admired by patients and colleagues alike.



Dr Terry Hankin received the award on behalf of Dr Steve Atherton



#### Sue Noon - Matron

Sue constantly gives more than 100% to provide the best possible care to patients, and support her staff and colleagues. She is a fabulous role model for modern matrons and the nursing profession as a whole. She is positive and proactive in every aspect of her duties, driving higher standards of care for patients. She is a fantastic asset to the Trust.

# Night to remember

**3**<sup>rd</sup> Annual Hospital Staff Awards  
*Presentation Evening*  
2006/2007



The Trust would like to say a special and big thank you to the following companies for their kind donations to St Helens & Knowsley Hospitals NHS Trust's 3rd Annual Hospital Staff Awards Presentation Evening.

**Taylor Woodrow Construction Ltd • NewHospitals • BMS UK LTD  
Mace and Jones Solicitors • Hill Dickinson Solicitors • Jenkinsons • Printstat**

# Trust goes Smoke Free from 1st July 2007

The Trust's Stop Smoking Service is busy promoting the Department of Health's Smoke Free England campaign for when the whole country goes smoke free on 1st July.

Emma Sloan, Smoking Cessation Advisor, is available to talk to staff about the Trust's plan of action, as Whiston and St Helens Hospitals become smoke free zones.

Emma will be setting up display stands outside the dining room at Whiston Hospital. For more information contact Emma Sloan, Ext: 0151 430 1431.

## Key points:

- From 1 July 2007 it will be against the law to smoke in virtually all enclosed and substantially enclosed public places and workplaces. See below for definitions.
- Public transport and work vehicles used by more than one person will also need to be smokefree.
- No-smoking signs will have to be displayed in all smokefree premises and vehicles.
- Staff smoking rooms and indoor smoking areas will no longer be allowed.
- Patients, Visitors and Staff are discouraged from smoking on both hospital sites, particularly near door ways and windows.
- Managers of smokefree premises and vehicles will have legal responsibilities to prevent people from smoking.
- If you are uncertain where you can or can't smoke, just look for the no-smoking signs or ask someone in charge.
- Around 70% of smokers say they want to stop smoking, and the new smokefree law could provide extra motivation to do so. There is excellent free support available from the NHS to help smokers who want to give up. This includes:

Local NHS Stop Smoking Services - to find your local service, call the NHS Smoking Helpline free on 0800 169 0 169, visit [gosmokefree.co.uk](http://gosmokefree.co.uk), text GIVEUP with your full postcode to 88088 or ask at your local GP practice, pharmacy or hospital.

NHS Smoking Helpline - individuals can speak to a specialist adviser by calling 0800 169 0 169 (lines are open daily from 7am to 11pm)



# SMOKEFREE

# PARENTS AND BABIES TEAM UP WITH TRUST MIDWIVES FOR MIDWIFERY WEEK

Parents and babies linked up with our Midwives for Midwifery week.

The staff were keen to raise awareness on specific topics associated with childbirth. Midwives encouraged women and their families to join in to celebrate midwifery and motherhood.

A huge well done goes to Julie Sanderson who has become the first midwife in the Trust to become an Advanced Life Support in Obstetrics Instructor (ALSO). This qualification and training will enhance her role as a delivery suite core Midwife.

The course encourages a multidisciplinary team approach to manage obstetric emergencies.

The Homebirth Group has been formed as part of the Supervisors of Midwives initiative to increase the homebirth rate in the area.

Invitations were distributed to women who had requested, experienced or were interested in having a home birth, to 'come along' to the Maternity Unit, to talk about home birth and share their experiences. They will also have the opportunity to talk to Supervisors of Midwives and Community Midwives about any issues regarding homebirth. The meeting is held on the last Monday of every month in the Parentcraft room in the Maternity Unit between 12-2.00pm. Supervisors of Midwives and Community Midwives attend the meetings to give support to pregnant women and answer any questions.

## Dates of future meetings 2007:

30th July • 24th September • 29th October • 26th November

For further information contact Alice Edgerton (Supervisor of Midwives) - 0151 430 1701 or Sue Nicholson - 0151 430 1492

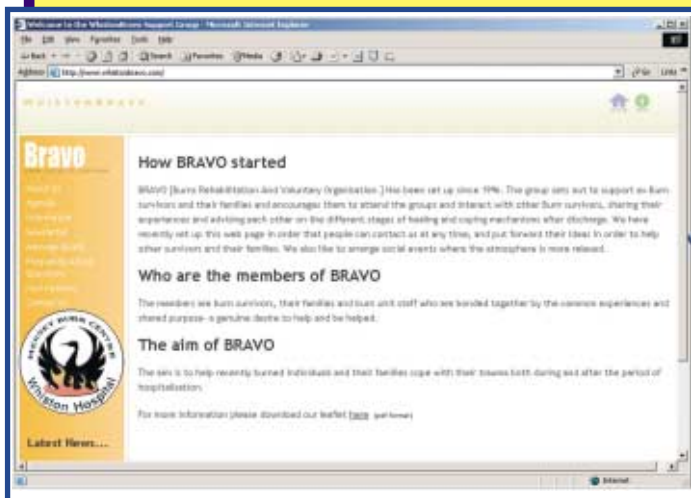


Parents and babies were at the centre of the Trust celebrations of Midwifery Week in May.

## SPECIALIST BURN WEBSITE LAUNCHED

### [www.whistonbravo.com](http://www.whistonbravo.com)

**Burn patients can log on to keep in touch with the burn support group BRAVO**



*The Burn Unit staff have launched a website to help burned patients on their road to recovery.*

*Staff have been offering patients an aftercare service in the form of a support group BRAVO (Burn Rehabilitation And Voluntary Organisation) for more than 10 years and patients can now log onto a unique web site which offers extra support and care to victims and family of patients who have suffered burn injuries.*

*Donnas Wilkinson Ward Manager/Burn Nurse Specialist, said: "Many of our patients that we treat come to us from outside the local area e.g. North Wales, Isle of Man and Cheshire and the web site gives them the opportunity to keep in touch with each other and access up to date information from*

*the Burn Unit without having to travel long distances. We have a section where people can post messages and share experiences and that is very useful as patients can log on and talk about how they coped. This is obviously of great benefit to patients sharing their experiences and coping strategies from a physical and psychological aspect with others."*

# JOB FAYRE

Job Boost -more than 700 workers turn up to enrol



Taylor Woodrow



Les Fairchild, Senior Construction Manager of Taylor Woodrow Construction Ltd (left) and Keith McGreavy, the Trust's Director of Estates, looking over Whiston Hospital.

Hundreds of tradesmen and women made the trip to the Recreation Hall in a bid to be a part of the team to re-build our two brand new state-of-the-art hospitals.

Taylor Woodrow Construction Ltd - the main contractors managing the £338m project gave local people an opportunity to establish themselves in the construction industry by offering them a chance to work on the new builds at Whiston and St Helens Hospitals.

More than 700 tradesmen and women from various trades enrolled and said that they want to work on building our new hospitals. This is superb news and it shows that local people have a strong bond with the Trust and what it is striving to do to improve healthcare in our area.

Paul Harris, Customer Director of

Taylor Woodrow Construction Ltd, said: "This project is creating an enormous amount of construction work for local people between now and 2010 when the main construction is due to complete."

Dave Evans, the Trust's Staffing Solutions Manager, said: "The Job Fayre was a huge success as over 700 people came through our doors to speak to ourselves and our partners about becoming a part of the team which will see us boast two new hospitals."



# LOTTERY

## TRUST

## RESULTS

The Lottery results for the draw which took place in April are as follows:

- £1500 Mrs M Coulter, PALS, Whiston
- £500 Miss J Sergeant, Maternity, Whiston
- £100 Mrs A Wellburn, H3, Whiston
- £50 Mrs G Worrall, Health Records, St Helens
- £25 Mrs J Reppion, Ward C3, Whiston
- £25 Mrs M Ashall, A&E Reception, Whiston

The results of the Trust Lottery Draw taken in May are as follows:

- £1500 Miss A Shelley, Orthodontics, Whiston
- £500 Miss K Edwards, Ward G1, Whiston
- £100 Mrs E Barker, Support Services, Whiston
- £50 Mrs H Rourke, Finance Dept, Whiston
- £25 Mr W Marsden, Informatics Dept, Alexandra Park Site
- £25 Miss K Howard, Foxton Ward, St Helens

Note: Prizes can only be issued to lottery participants who have paid all due contributions. In the case of deductions not being made from your pay, please contact the Finance Department on extension 1121. Your payslip should show a separate deduction described as LOTTERY and the amount deducted (£1 for each number).

# Still On Course For Two New Hospitals



Pictured left to right: Ann Marr, Chief Executive, Peter Williams, Director of Facilities and Contract Management, Sister Christine Brookes, Keith McGreavy Director of Estates and Mavis Wareham, Chairman

## St Helens:

Work on site is progressing well, with construction of the structural building frame and roof being completed. Construction of the internal partitions and services installations are well under way. Taylor Woodrow Construction Limited have pulled back the 2 weeks lost due to bad weather and are now back on programme to hand over to the Trust in September next year. The work of the commissioning sub-groups is well under way with the departmental operational plans being developed.

In June, Taylor Woodrow Construction Ltd held a traditional 'Topping Out' Ceremony to mark the completion of the main structure of the building, this signifies that the highest point of the new hospital has been reached. This event dates from pagan times and is intended to ward off evil spirits and ensure prosperity and good luck in the future.

Sister Christine Brookes (pictured) has worked at St Helens Hospital for 35 years and was invited to perform the last pour of concrete at the ceremony.



Ann Marr, Chief Executive (centre) visits the construction site with Sean O'Driscoll, Project Director (left) and Les Fairchild, Senior Construction Manager, Taylor Woodrow Construction Ltd.

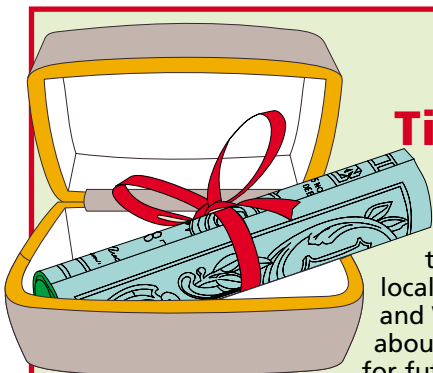
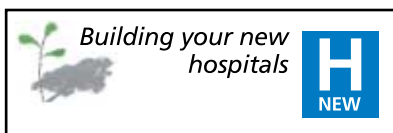
## Whiston:

Construction work is progressing well. The structural frame erection is still two weeks behind programme, this will be pulled back in due course. Internal fitting out of the building has commenced at the lower levels, with engineering services modules and pre-fabricated toilet "pods" being installed. Work is on schedule to complete the concrete frame and roof structure by November this year.

Ivan Lewis MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary, Department of Health visited the construction site at Whiston in April 2007 and was impressed to see the building work and the new hospital taking shape.



Pictured left to right Mavis Wareham, Chairman, Ivan Lewis MP and Ann Marr, Chief Executive



## BURIED IN TIME

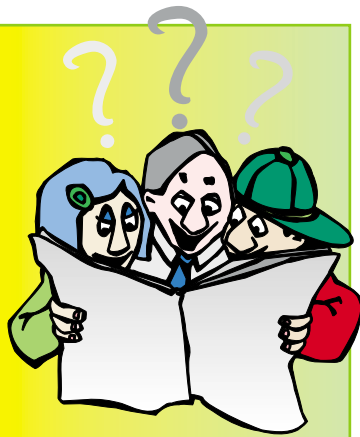
### Time capsules given the go-ahead for St Helens and Whiston

A time capsule for both St Helens and Whiston Hospitals are being planned to be buried in the near future. The Trust has enlisted the help of our two local primary schools to help us with this: Robins Lane Primary School in St Helens and Whiston Willis Primary School in Whiston. The children are working on ideas about an assortment of special items which could be buried in the time capsules, for future generations to dig up in years to come.

If you have got any good ideas for items to be included in the time capsules, please contact: [Judith.marsland@sthk.nhs.uk](mailto:Judith.marsland@sthk.nhs.uk) Ext 2505, as soon as possible.

Whiston and St Helens

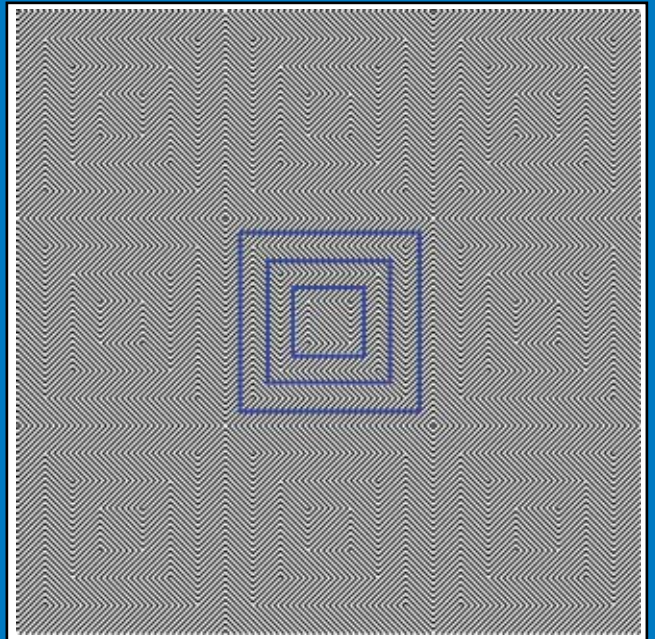
# Did you know?



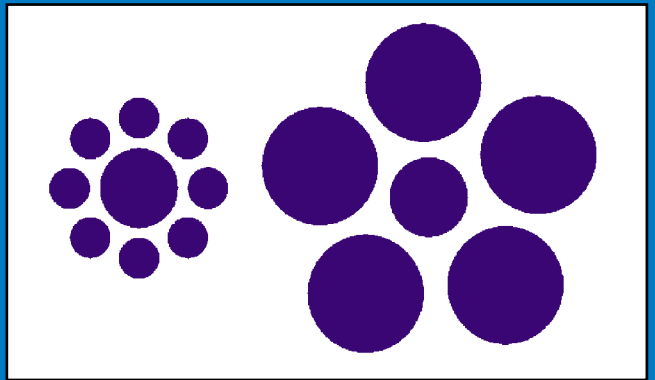
- The muscles in your heart have the power to shoot your blood 10 metres in the air.
- The muscle that lets your eye blink is the fastest muscle in your body!! It allows you to blink 5 times a second. On average, you blink 15 000 times a day!!
- If your entire DNA is stretched out, it would reach to the moon 6,000 times!!
- Elephants are the only animals that can't jump.
- The strongest muscle in our body is the tongue.
- All polar bears are left handed.
- Butterflies taste with their feet.
- Crocodiles can't stick out their tongue.
- Each king on playing cards represents a real king in history. Spades: King David, Clubs: Alexander The Great, Hearts: Charlemagne, Diamonds: Julius Cesar.

# It's all an illusion!

Move your head close to the page. Do the perfect blue squares appear to be distorted? Absolutely... this is due to the black lines in the back moving and twisting it in your mind!



The diagram below features two circles with different surroundings. Would you believe that the two circles are identical?



## Thoughts for the day

**"It is not how much you do, but how much love you put in the doing."**

**"Consider it a privilege to be right where you are, doing precisely what you're doing. And you'll find opportunities for true fulfilment in every direction"**

**"With each new day that dawns, with it, countless new positive possibilities have been born"**

Staff **News 'n' Views**

**Next Issue Autumn 2007**

Many thanks to everyone who has been involved in producing this edition. If you would like to contribute an article or if you have a story to tell, please contact Judith Marsland by email or phone - Ext 2505