

Staff

St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust



News in Views

Issue 19 December 2008



BEST IN THE NORTH WEST

Trust is Tops for Good Hygiene

The Trust has been named as the only NHS organisation in the north west to meet all of the requirements of the Hygiene Code in a series of spot-checks!

See inside for the full story

PLUS

Minister praises "World Class" 100th new hospital

The Minister of State for Care Services, Phil Hope MP, was impressed by the fantastic facilities during his visit to the new St Helens Hospital.

More inside!



Bridging the Gap

What's inside:



Baby Friendly Award

Prosthetics Praise!



Plus: Lottery Did You Know?

Thank you for your Hard Work

From Rt. Hon. Shaun Woodward MP

As we celebrate St Helens Hospital being the 100th new hospital scheme since 2000 I wanted to again express my thanks for all your hard work.

I have recently been given the opportunity to tour the new St Helens Hospital and the site of the new Whiston Hospital. These truly are world class buildings which will stand the test of time and whose facilities will provide the best service for people in our area for years to come.

I am sure that everyone who comes into contact with the new hospitals, whether as a patient, visitor or as a member of staff, will see the incredible hard work that has gone into them; it really is mind-blowing.

It is an absolute credit to the work that you do that the Trust has recently received the highest possible rating by the Healthcare Commission Annual Health Check. The Double Excellent award is down to your dedication, hard work and commitment.

Our Trust is now recognised as one of the best performers in England. We should all be justly proud.

I know my constituents rightly expect the best from their local hospital and this report is further proof that you are providing them with the highest possible standards of healthcare.

I am immensely proud of the work you do, day in, day out. So once again, thank you for your hard work. It is much appreciated.

**Rt. Hon. Shaun Woodward MP
MP for St Helens South**



**Rt. Hon. Shaun Woodward MP with
Ann Marr at St Helens Hospital**

Christmas Message from the Chief Executive

By any standards 2008 has been a momentous 12 months for the Trust.

I am proud that we have had a number of notable achievements. We became the only acute Trust across Cheshire and Merseyside to get the highest possible scores in the Healthcare Commission's Annual Healthcheck. We are all delighted with our superb Double Excellent score.

Most recently, we had a tremendous performance in the Hygiene Code, in which we are the only Trust in the north west, and one of only five across the whole country, to gain top marks for good hygiene.

This year saw the highly-anticipated opening of the fantastic new St Helens Hospital. Nobody who visits the hospital can fail to be amazed by what we have created. The facilities are state-of-the-art and they mean we are providing our patients with quality care in world class surroundings.

I am sure you have also watched with great interest the continuing redevelopment of Whiston Hospital during 2008. Work is progressing on schedule and we look forward to it being completed in 2010.

The success we have enjoyed this year would not have been possible without you. On behalf of the Trust Board I thank you sincerely for your continuing hard work and commitment and look forward to another exciting, challenging year ahead.

Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.



Ann Marr, Chief Executive

Changes to the Board

Suzanne Hinchliffe, Director of Nursing, Midwifery and Governance, (Deputy Chief Executive) is leaving the Trust to take up her new post at the University Hospitals Leicester NHS Trust.

Paul Clark, Vice Chairman, Non-executive Director, has retired from the Board after giving 10 years dedicated service.

The Trust would like to thank both Suzanne and Paul for all the hard work and commitment they have given to the Trust over the years, and wish them well for the future.

The following appointments have been made:

Alistair Mulvey, Director of Finance, will take on the role of Deputy Chief Executive with effect from 1st January 2009.

Gill Core has been appointed as Director of Nursing, Midwifery and Governance, and will join the Trust in February 2009. Gill is currently the Director of Nursing at the Liverpool Women's Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.

Alison Close has been appointed as a Non-executive Director and joined the Board at the beginning of the month. Alison is a qualified accountant and currently works in the private sector in Manchester.

The Trust extends a warm welcome to both Gill and Alison



Gill Core

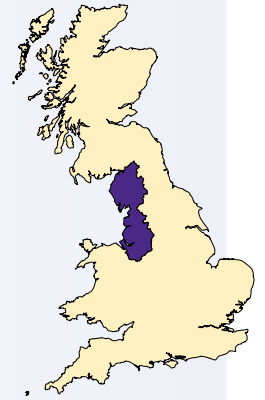


Alison Close



**BEST IN THE
NORTH WEST**

Trust is the Best in North West for Good Hygiene



The Trust has been named as the only NHS organisation in the north west to get top marks for good hygiene.

The Healthcare Commission has published a report into a series of unannounced hospital spot-checks, designed to ensure that infection control policies are being enforced.

The Trust is one of only five across the whole country to meet all of the requirements of the Hygiene Code.

Trusts are required to demonstrate a clear strategy to tackle infections, effective systems for cleaning and decontamination and suitable uniforms for staff.

Ann Marr, Chief Executive, said: "I am pleased that we have been rated so highly following these unannounced inspections.

"Our patients are our number one priority and we are committed to providing them with healthcare in an environment which is clean and safe.

"We place huge importance on good hygiene at the Trust and our low infection rates are a tribute to the work of our infection control team and the support of all our staff, patients and visitors."



Patients at the Trust say the achievement is well deserved and justified.

Annette Ayres from Runcorn gave birth to her baby son Morgan at the Maternity Unit at Whiston Hospital.

Annette said: "I have felt really safe and reassured about hygiene all the time I have been at Whiston Hospital.

"The nursing staff all have hand gels clipped to their uniforms and they are constantly using the gels to clean their hands.

"The wards are brilliant, very clean and hygienic and even the toilets are spotless. We always see the cleaners around and they do a great job making sure everywhere is nice.

"It makes you feel comfortable when you come to Whiston and I'm not surprised they have got top marks."

Prime Minister salutes 100th New Hospital



The Prime Minister, Gordon Brown, has hailed the opening of St Helens Hospital as a landmark occasion.

The fantastic new hospital is the 100th to be built in the last decade. As the first patients came into the building, the Prime Minister told the House of Commons: "The Government is announcing the opening of St Helens Hospital which is the 100th hospital under our 10 year hospital building scheme."



"We launched the hospital building programme to replace and modernise the NHS. In 1997 half of it dated from before 1948 and was not fit for purpose in a modern NHS."

"This is the biggest hospital building programme in history."

Hospital's First Christmas



The spectacular Christmas tree at St Helens Hospital

The first Christmas at the new St Helens Hospital has been celebrated in style!

A new hospital deserves a special tree and decorations and that is exactly what it got as a spectacular 20 foot tree took pride of place at the main entrance.

Staff were invited to come along to see the tree unveiled and they were treated to some wonderfully festive carol singing by the children of Robins Lane Primary School.

A special buffet for staff also helped get everybody in the Christmas spirit!



The children from Robins Lane Primary School get staff in the festive mood with some carols

A big thank you to our partners NewHospitals, Taylor Woodrow, Taylor Woodrow FM and Medirest for generously funding the Christmas trees and decorations at both hospitals.



Double Thumbs-Up for Double Excellent Trust



The Minister of State for Care Services, Phil Hope MP, has visited the new St Helens Hospital and declared it "world class"

The Minister was given a tour of the brand new £100m hospital to see the fantastic state-of-the-art facilities and meet staff and patients.

His tour started with a visit to the Sanderson Suite to see the ultra-modern theatres, before moving on to the diagnostic suite.

He was impressed by the state-of-the-art scanners and the new direct access facility which allows GPs to order scans for their patients, cutting down waiting times.

During his tour, the Minister even took the time to have an ultrasound on his finger to see the equipment in action!



Phil Hope MP inside one of the new state-of-the-art theatres with Angela Appleton, Healthcare Planning Manager



Phil Hope MP is given an ultrasound on his finger by Karen Pike, Ultrasonographer



As well as looking at the facilities, The Minister was very keen to speak to staff and patients to find out their impressions of the new hospital.

He spent time in the Lilac Centre chatting to patients about the high quality of care they are receiving.



After visiting the Lilac Centre, he concluded his visit by meeting members of staff from different areas of the Trust.

The Minister hosted a session which gave them the opportunity to ask him questions and share their thoughts on the new hospital.



At the end of his visit, Phil Hope MP said: "To get this hospital completed on time and within budget is a fantastic achievement.

"The staff are using world class equipment and facilities, and the Trust received a 'double excellent' rating from the Healthcare Commission.

"St Helens Hospital is a flagship project really leading the way."

Barbara Jost and the Lilac Centre team welcome Phil Hope MP during his recent visit.



Phil Hope MP with Les Howell, Trust Chairman and Gill Holroyd, Superintendent Radiographer at the CT Scanner.



Bridging the Gap



Staff and visitors at Whiston Hospital will notice a new development at the site as the multi-million pound rebuilding programme moves another step forward.

A new pedestrian footbridge has been installed across Warrington Road, linking the entrance of the new hospital with the multi-storey car park.

The bright and modern walkway will help patients and visitors move safely between the car park and the fantastic new hospital when it opens in 2010.



The new hospital is on schedule to be opened in less than two years time, to provide world class healthcare facilities for the people of Knowsley, St Helens, Halton and beyond.



Progress on the inside of the new Whiston Hospital is equally as impressive.

As these new pictures show, the fantastic building is really taking shape.

The team at Taylor Woodrow are now working to finish each of the six floors. Building work on the Ground Floor, including Accident and Emergency, has now been completed, with the work now focussed on fitting out the wards and departments.

The project remains on schedule to be finished on time and within budget in 2010, to provide our patients with the most state-of-the-art, world class healthcare facilities anywhere.



One of the Ground Floor corridors



The new offices are completed

As the building work continues in 2009, there are a number of changes to the outpatient clinics and services, due to Stephenson House being demolished in January.

The new locations for these clinics and services are K2 and K4, H2, Rowan House and Linden House, which have all been refurbished. Linden House is the new name for the old Burney Breast Unit.



Work continues to fit out wards and departments

Relocation of Outpatient Clinics and Services previously in Stephenson House

CLINIC/SERVICE	NEW LOCATION
Outpatient Clinics	K2 and K4 Clinics
ENT/Audiology	Linden House
Pharmacy	Main Pharmacy, K Corridor
X-Ray	K Clinics
Phlebotomy	K4 Clinic
Fracture Clinic	K4 Clinic
Paediatric Clinic	Rowan House
Gastroenterology	H2 Clinics
General Surgery	H2 Clinics
Neurology	H2 Clinics

The changes are detailed on the updated map on the next page to help you find your way around the site.

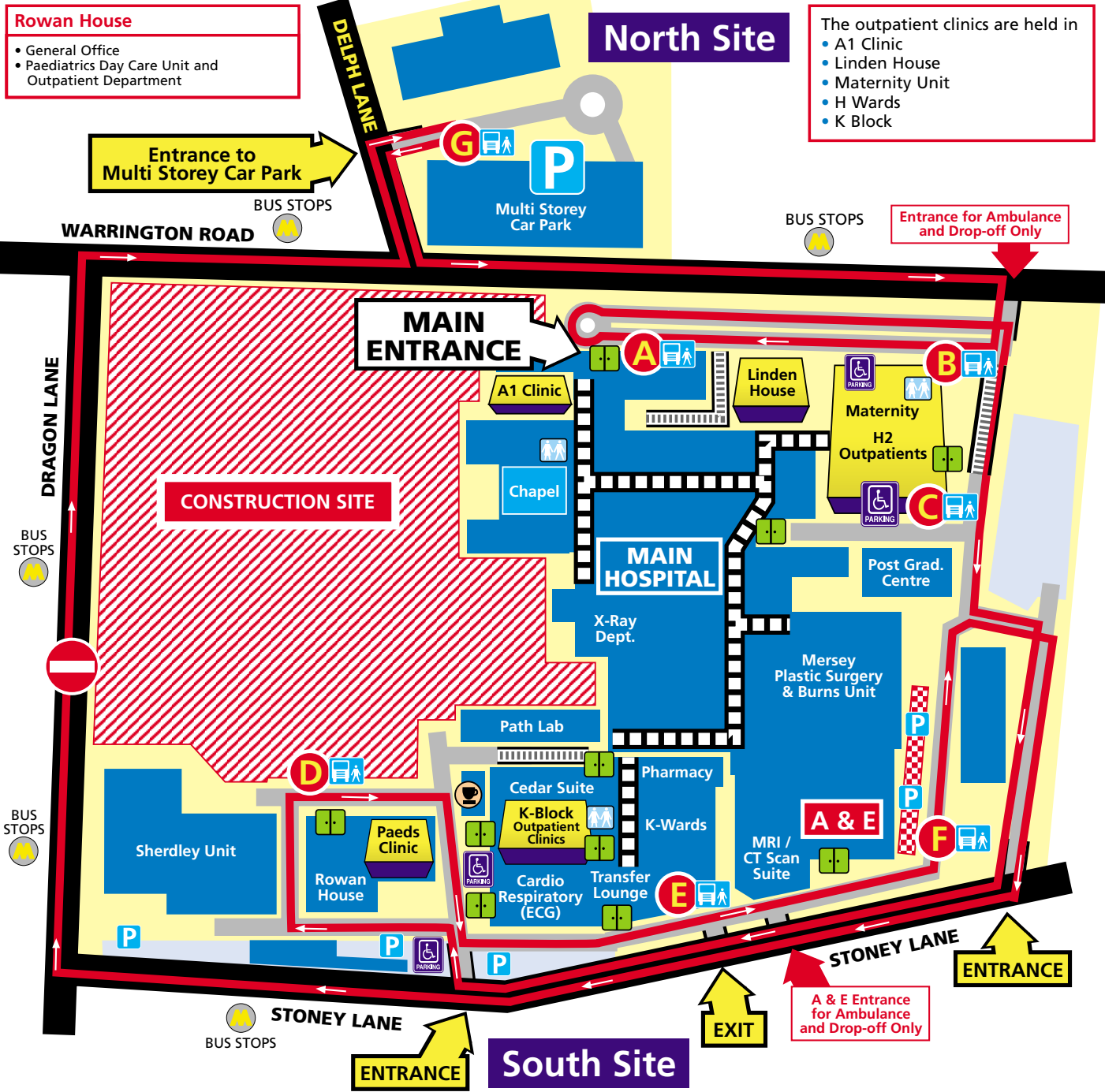


The view across Warrington Road from the new restaurant

Whiston

Whiston Hospital

St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals **NHS**
NHS Trust



- A MAIN ENTRANCE**
Wards A-F, X-Ray Department, Spiritual Care and Chapel
- B** Maternity Unit, Endoscopy, Wards H1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- C** Wards G1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 12 & 16, Acute Medical Unit (AMU), Coronary Care Unit (CCU), Dressing Clinic, GP Assessment Unit (GPAU), High Dependency Unit (HDU), Holbrook Unit, Intensive Care Unit (ICU), Surgical Assessment Unit (SAU), Healthcare Library
- D** Pharmacy, Rowan House (Bereavement Office, Executive Offices, General Office, Paediatric Day Care Unit and Outpatient Department), Sherdley Unit
- E** WRVS Tea Rooms, Cardio-Respiratory Department, MRI / CT Scan Suite, Cedar Suite, Wards K3, 5 & 7
- F ACCIDENT & EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT**
- G** Multi Storey Car Park

KEY TO MAP

- Park & Ride Drop-off & Pick-up Points approx. every 20 minutes 8am-9pm Monday to Friday
- Disabled Parking Only
- Pedestrian Entrance to Buildings
- Pedestrian Route through Hospital
- Hospital Service Vehicles Only
- Park & Ride Route
- Toilets
- WRVS Tea Room
- Short stay parking only

We recognise that this is a particularly busy construction time on the hospital site and sincerely apologise for any inconvenience you may experience when visiting the hospital. We ask that you continue to support us during this busy major re-building programme in the future.
Please be extra careful when walking or driving around the hospital grounds whilst construction work is on going.



Mum's the Word as Trust receives UNICEF Praise

Great news for new mums - the Trust has been awarded international recognition by the UNICEF Baby Friendly Initiative.

A certificate of commitment has been presented to the Trust as it aims to attain Baby Friendly status.

The certificate proves that the Trust is meeting all current standards for breastfeeding and is committed to developing the service even further.

Helen Marsden of Rainhill attends the Trust's weekly Breastfeeding Drop-In Clinic. She said: "The team at Whiston Hospital have been really supportive and it is great to be able to speak to them and to share experiences with the other mums.

"I have tried other support groups but they weren't as good as this one and I have recommended to other mums that they should come along."



Head of Midwifery, Rose Douglas (right) and Infant Feeding Co-Ordinator, Nicki Jones (left) with Helen Marsden and her five week old son William.



good as this one and I have recommended to other mums that they should come along."



Donna Rickard and baby William and Julie Kirk and her son Matthew with the new television and safety mugs

Meanwhile, Homestart Knowsley has kindly donated a brand new television and DVD player to the Breastfeeding Drop-In Clinic.

It means that, as well as sharing their experiences with other mums, the ladies who attend the group in the Parent Craft room will be able to watch DVDs about breastfeeding to help them.

Homestart Knowsley has also provided safety mugs which allow mums to have their brew without worrying about their children burning themselves.

Thank You for the Music!

A guitarist who lost four fingers in an industrial accident is making music again, thanks to the great work of the Trust's Prosthetics team.

56 year old Neil Scallion lost the digits and part of his thumb while using a circular saw at work in 2004.

As well as undergoing surgery, Neil also had to face the prospect of not being able to play the guitar or keyboards with his Southport-based club band, The Blueshounds.

However, the Trust's Prosthetics team are helping him to make music again after creating prosthetic fingers for his left hand.

Neil said: "The Prosthetics team at Whiston Hospital is fantastic and the work they do is stunning. They have really helped to give me back my confidence and my music."

Neil Scallion making music again, pictured with Prosthetist Gina Wooley



Trust hosts plastic surgery course

The Trust has welcomed plastic surgeons from across the country to learn specialist skills.



It is the third year in a row in which the RCS (Eng) Specialty Skills in Plastic Surgery course has been held here.

Hosting the event is a real feather in the cap for our Prosthetics team as there are only a handful of venues across the UK who can put on the annual course.

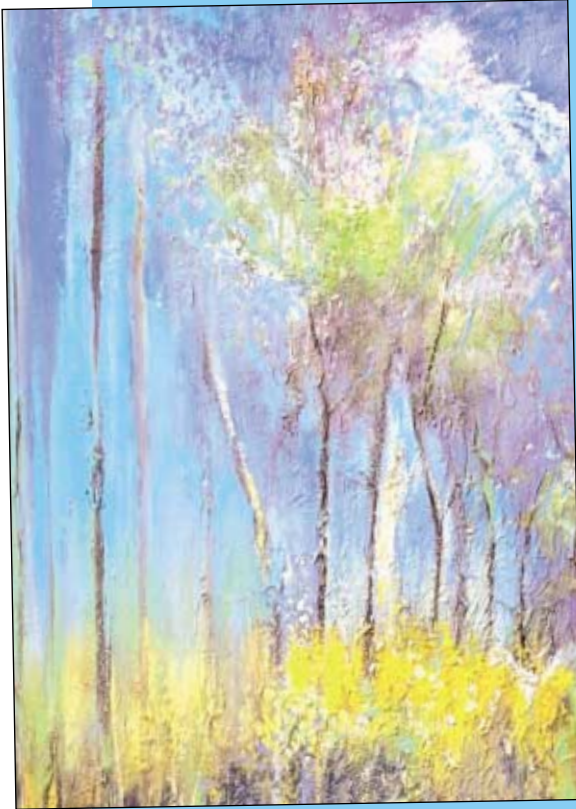
The two-day event taught a wide range of skills to the 20 delegates who visited Whiston from different parts of England. They were also given hands-on training with simulators and animal models.

The course was judged a great success by all who attended.

The delegates practice their technique



Praise for Lilac Centre



The image of the lilac tree which hangs in the unit

An open evening has been held at the Lilac Centre to celebrate its new home at St Helens Hospital.

Special guests joined staff and patients past and present to look around the new facilities.

The evening started with some festive cheer as pupils from Robins Lane Primary School entertained guests with some wonderful Christmas carols.

Then it was over to the grown-ups, as Ann Marr, Chief Executive, welcomed everybody to the Lilac Centre and thanked everybody involved for their hard work.



Ann Marr, Chief Executive, Mayor of St Helens, Cllr John Beirne, Lilac Centre manager Barbara Jost and Deputy Medical Director John Tappin with the new artwork.



Saints star Kyle Eastmond enjoys a hand massage courtesy of therapist Audrey Jones

She then invited the Mayor of St Helens, Cllr John Beirne, to officially unveil a brand new piece of art. The oil painting of a lilac tree, by artist Malcolm Fryer, will now take its place in the Lilac Centre to help our patients feel relaxed and comfortable.

There was an opportunity for people to try out some of the therapies offered to our patients and St Helens rugby league star Kyle Eastmond took the chance to have a hand massage.

The children from Robins Lane Primary School entertain guests with Christmas carols



Meanwhile, congratulations are in order for the staff at the Lilac Centre, as their hard work has been rewarded by becoming a Practice Development Unit (PDU).

The accreditation has been awarded by Leeds University after the team met a list of 15 criteria for their commitment to patient care.

Well done to all staff.

Northwest Awards success!

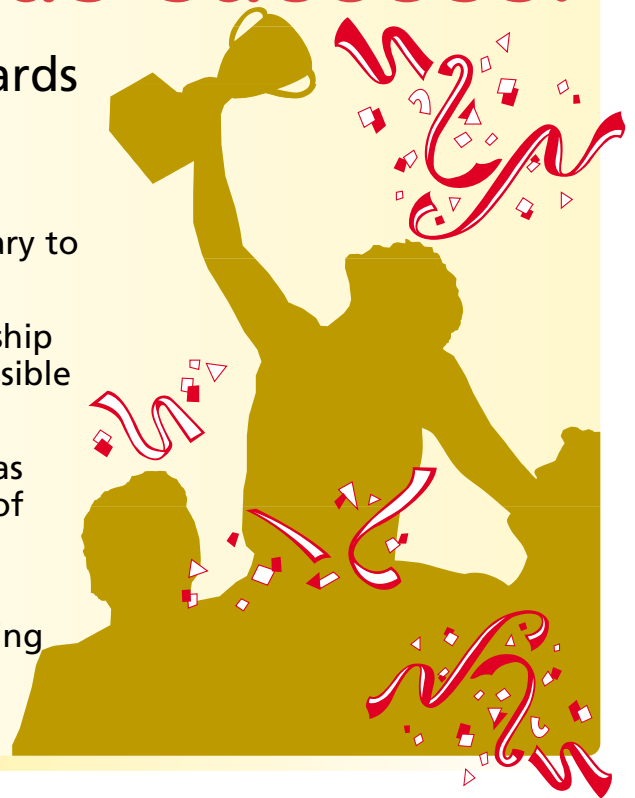
The Trust enjoyed success at an awards evening hosted by NHS Northwest Leadership Academy in December.

The Trust Board was successful in obtaining a bursary to work alongside Premier Health Care.

This partnership will help the Trust develop leadership skills to support our efforts to provide the best possible healthcare for our patients.

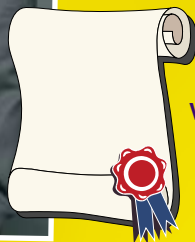
Congratulations also go to **Irene Paterson**, who was shortlisted for an award for her work as manager of the Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) service.

Irene has been a key figure in setting up and running the service, which helps patients with conditions such as chronic bronchitis and emphysema.



Congratulations Professor Audisio

Consultant surgeon and surgical oncologist Riccardo Audisio has been awarded the title Honorary Professor in the School of Cancer Studies at the University of Liverpool.



The title is recognition of his commitment to the MBChB course and to academic clinical surgery and was supported by Ann Marr, Chief Executive and Professor John Neoptolemos, Head of the School of Cancer Studies at the University.

Pathology Team Commended

The Trust's Pathology team has been recognised at the prestigious HSJ awards for their achievements in healthcare improvement.

The team was commended in the category of Clinical Service Redesign.

It comes after they reduced turnaround times for MRSA testing by 50% and lowered inappropriate demand in microbiology.

Dr Ian Barnes, Department of Health – National Clinical Lead for Pathology, said: "Congratulations to the Pathology team. It takes time and commitment to transform services – not easy when you still have to provide a day to day service. Their achievements show the positive impact pathology has in improving quality and safety for patients."





TRUST

LOTTERY

RESULTS

Christmas draw lottery winner (£5,000) Tracey Hutton, Ward G4

Here are the Lottery results for the most recent draws:

October 2008

- £1,500 Mrs L Mynes, Catering Dept, Whiston
- £500 Mrs G Attwood, HSDU, Whiston
- £100 Mrs J Smith, Care of the Elderly, St Helens
- £50 Mrs D Davenport, X Ray Dept, Whiston
- £25 Mrs W Rankin, Theatres, St Helens
- £25 Mrs C Atherton, Intermediate Care, St Helens

November 2008

- £1,500 Mrs J Mousedell, Ward D2, Whiston
- £500 Mr M Grady, Security, Whiston
- £100 Miss S Bryan, Med Secretaries, Whiston
- £50 Mrs C McLoughlin, Ward K5, Whiston
- £25 Mrs C Dutch, Medical Secretaries, St Helens
- £25 Mrs J Cliffe, Domestic, St Helens

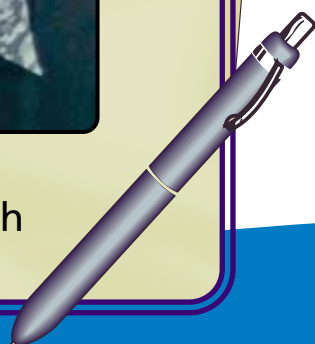
Note: Prizes can only be issued to lottery participants who have paid all due contributions. In the case of deductions not being made from your pay, please contact the Finance Department on extension 1121. Your payslip should show a separate deduction described as LOTTERY and the amount deducted (£1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



Employee of the Month



November
Jackie Howarth
Supervisor, X-Ray



Welcome to St Helens

We are delighted to welcome **Phil Nee to the Trust.**

Phil has taken up the role of Assistant Director of Operations and is based at St Helens Hospital.

Phil has more than 25 years' experience of the health service, originally as a qualified nurse and, since 2000, as a Director of Nursing. He has previously worked at Wrightington and Royal Liverpool Hospitals, as well as in the independent sector.

Phil said: "I am delighted to be joining the Trust at such an exciting time, with the new hospitals and new facilities for our patients.

"I am looking forward to the challenge of helping to build on the success of the Trust."



Did you know?



- The average human ear grows 0.01 inches in length every year
- There is a city called Rome on every continent.
- Three serious accidents a year in Britain can be attributed to pencil sharpeners.
- Every time you lick a stamp you consume one tenth of a calorie.
- The world's smallest insect is the fairy fly, which is only 0.2mm long.
- In Texas, it is illegal to take more than three sips of beer whilst standing.
- Polar bears can smell a human from 20 miles away.



It's all an **illusion!**

The bar in the middle of this image is actually the same colour all the way across.



Can you say the colour of each word?

The right side of your brain will try to say the colour, while the left side will try to read the word.



IT Operations Help Desk
(0151) 676 5678
ithelpdesk@sthk.nhs.uk

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Hospital Pager 1372

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Staff News 'n' Views

Next Issue: February 2009

Many thanks to everyone who has been involved in producing this edition.

If you would like to contribute, please contact

Stuart Arrowsmith in the Media, PR and Communications team on
0151 290 4315 or
stuart.arrowsmith@sthk.nhs.uk