

# Trust NEWS

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# Clean your hands

**Staff, patients and visitors are being reminded to clean their hands as part of a new campaign at the hospital.**

The campaign *Clean Your Hands* has been launched by the National Patient Safety Agency and NHS Trusts across the UK are taking part.

Chief Executive, Heather Lawrence said: "Many aspects of the campaign are things that we are already doing such as our successful Hand Hygiene Awareness week but there are some new and important elements."

More than 500 alcohol gels are now being placed by bedsides helping staff, patients and visitors to clean their hands. Earlier in the year three types of gel were piloted on 10 wards and staff chose Purell gel as the one they preferred. On wards that cannot have gel at the end of a bed staff will be given personal portable bottles of alcohol gel.

Heather added: "We will also be displaying more posters and some include photographs of our own

staff who are giving their support to the campaign.

"One very important aspect of the campaign is involving patients in improving hand hygiene. Information leaflets will be given to patients on wards encouraging them to ask their nurse or doctor to wash their hands."

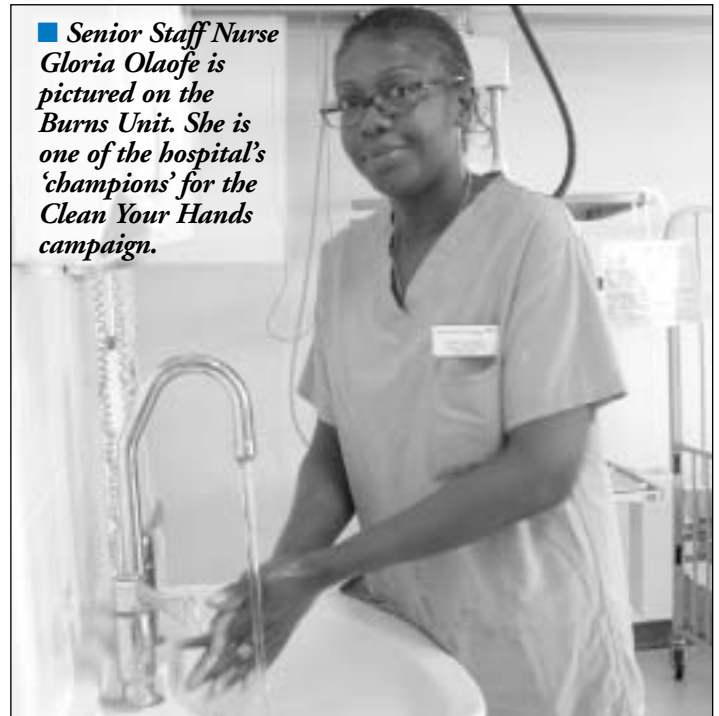
The campaign has been piloted on two wards at six different NHS Trusts.

The pilot showed that staff went from cleaning their hands 28 per cent of the time to 76 per cent of the time.

Heather added: "The results of the pilot show that awareness programmes like this do work and we hope that staff, patients and visitors will work together to help us combat hospital infections."

**See inside to find out more about what we are doing to reduce hospital infections, pages 6 and 7.**

■ Senior Staff Nurse Gloria Olaofe is pictured on the Burns Unit. She is one of the hospital's 'champions' for the Clean Your Hands campaign.

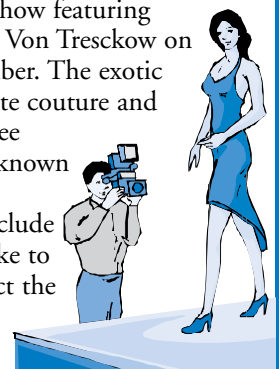


## Be fashionable with Friends

**Staff will be ditching their scrubs for stilettos when they hit the catwalk at this year's major charity event organised by The Friends.**

The Friends are hosting a fashion show featuring creations from local designer Beatrice Von Tresckow on the evening of Wednesday 28 September. The exotic and colourful fashions, including haute couture and pret-à-porter, will be modelled by three professional models including a well-known celebrity and some of our staff.

Tickets cost £30 per person and include a pre-show reception. If you would like to register for an invitation please contact the Friends Office on 020 8746 8825 or email: [friends.office@chelwest.nhs.uk](mailto:friends.office@chelwest.nhs.uk)



# Heather's view

by the Chief Executive, Heather Lawrence

MRSA, Clean Hospitals and Cancer are amongst this year's key government targets for hospitals, and the leading article *Clean Your Hands* Campaign is a crucial part of this. I am delighted that we are launching a *Clean Your Hands* Campaign here to build on the excellent work our Infection Control Team has already carried out.



We have passed our PEAT assessment and we continue to work with ISS Mediclean to ensure the hospital is clean, with particular emphasis on the toilets often commented on by or patients, regrettably not in a positive light.



We are in the process of appointing co-ordinators for each of the cancer groups to ensure we capture the data for cancer to help us achieve this target.



It is important that all staff make sure they have signed a job description in preparation for Agenda for Change, as all posts must be assimilated and passed to Finance by September. Please could I have your co-operation on this.



This month we say goodbye to Pippa Roberts who has been in the Trust for eight years, as Chief Pharmacist and latterly as Acting Director of Governance and Corporate



Affairs. Pippa leaves the pharmacy as a state-of-the-art department with outpatient prescribing online and the Trust's integrated governance in a much stronger position.



We are fortunate that Karen Robertson has been in a position to act as Chief Pharmacist, and has agreed to continue to do so whilst a substantive appointment is made, and that

Susan Burnett, Director of National Programmes at the National Patient Safety Agency, has agreed to come on secondment to take forward the excellent work Pippa has done around governance. We wish Pippa well in her new role and life in the Wirral. We will all miss her.



Many of you will have read that the Paddington Health Campus will not be proceeding. There is to be a capacity review of acute hospital beds in North West London and we are to be measured on a 50th percentile benchmark on length of stay in England. This process will also involve the development of an acute services strategy to be completed by October when public consultation will take place. I will keep you informed of progress. Clearly, in the interim it is important that we maintain and strengthen our Fulham Road alliance and the Chairman, Juggy Pandit, and Medical Director, Mike Anderson, and I have started discussions on how we might best do this.

## Research news

The Joint Research Committee is now inviting e-mail applications for travel scholarships. The maximum amount available per application is £1,000 and those at a more junior grade are particularly encouraged to apply.

Travel scholarship awards are made every quarter in order to financially support researchers as well as raising the Trust's profile.

With such funding successful applicants will be able to attend high profile research related events in the UK and overseas.

If you would like to apply the required form (and further details) can be downloaded from the Research and Development folder on the intranet. You must also provide details of full expenses with your application.

Please note that applications must be submitted via e-mail to the following address: esther.moore@chelwest.nhs.uk Esther Moore can also be contacted on extension 6191.

The closing date for e-mailed applications is Friday 19 August 2005.

More than 30 research awards were made to staff at Chelsea and Westminster this year. Research awards include PhD studentships research fellowships and small grants which run annually from April to March.

Thanks to generous support from the Chelsea and Westminster Healthcare NHS Trust charity and the Westminster Medical School Research Trust the following awards were given in April:

- Two PhD Studentships to members of staff from the Medicine and Therapeutics Department and the Anaesthetics and Intensive Care Department
  - 28 small grants were awarded to staff from the following departments: Immunology (11), Anaesthetics and Intensive Care (6), Obstetrics and Gynaecology (3), Physiotherapy (1), Medicine (2), Neonatal Medicine (1), Medicine and Therapeutics (3), and Gastroenterology and Medicine (1).
- Congratulations to all the awardees and sincere thanks to both funders!*

## Arts Programme for July

Pianist-in-Residence

**ALEX VYDELINGUM**

Monday 4 and 18 July, 1-2pm  
The Café (Ground Floor, Lift Bank B)

Thursday 14 July 1.00 - 1.45pm  
The Mall, Ground Floor, Lift Bank B  
**DICK LAURIE'S ELASTIC BAND**  
A mixture of Dixieland, mainstream, New Orleans and Bebop.

Thursday 28th July 1.00 - 1.45pm  
The Mall, Ground Floor, Lift Bank B  
**QUICKSILVER**

Mainly dance music from Irish folk tunes, Scottish reels and even American square dances.

## Do you have a story for Trust News?

It might be something interesting, exciting, or remarkable that a colleague is doing. Whatever it is, we will be pleased to hear from you.

Call Jeanette Albert on 6829 or Sarah McKellar on 020 7808 9899 or email sarah.mckellar@nexuspr.com

# This is a good place to work

**Chelsea and Westminster Healthcare NHS Trust has been officially recognised as a good place to work.**

We are one of only six NHS Trusts in London, excluding pilot sites, to be recognised as a Practice Plus employer – the Improving Working Lives (IWL) programme's highest award.

The Improving Working Lives programme was set up by the Department of Health and aims to ensure everyone working in the NHS can enjoy a good balance between their work and personal lives.

Practice Plus accreditation is awarded to NHS organisations which have achieved a high standard in a number of key areas, such as flexible working, training and development, equality and diversity, childcare services and healthy working.

This award follows a visit to the Trust by a team of independent validators in April this year.

In their report the

## Areas for improvement

The validators made suggestions on areas for further development, including establishing a central database detailing members of staff that are using flexible working options and updating the Trust's HR strategy - which is already underway.

The team noted that staff perceptions of value for money and healthy eating in the staff dining room were poor, although having used the facilities during the week that they were on site, the team themselves felt that a good service was offered.

The Improving Working Lives Steering Group, which is expanding its membership, will continue to meet regularly to drive through the areas for further development and take forward the Staff Survey action plan.



■ Pictured in the Learning Curve are Learning Assistant Juliette Walker with Phlebotomist Csaba Bálint.

validators commented on the level of enthusiasm demonstrated by the executive directors, the wide range of communication used to inform and engage staff, and the time and energy spent in providing training and development opportunities to administrative and clerical staff.

The validation team said: "Many staff reported that there was a real 'can do' attitude and actions were being taken rather than just spoken about."

The team found evidence that the Trust had made considerable improvements in equality and diversity, and that there were excellent

examples of multi-professional and partnership working with the local community.

The Occupational Health Service received very positive feedback, particularly the holistic approach being taken on stress awareness training.

The development of the Learning Assistant role was seen as an innovation that should be held as good practice for the whole of the NHS. The redevelopment of the Learning Curve was also highlighted as an area of good practice.

Significant progress in the area of childcare support since the last inspection was also commended. The constraints faced by the Trust in not



■ Deputy HR Director, Norah Mason

being able to build an on-site nursery were recognised.

Norah Mason, Deputy Director of Human Resources and IWL lead, said: "The Trust has worked hard over the last few years to ensure staff can enjoy a good balance between their work and personal lives. This is important not only for staff and their families but also for patients who benefit from improved quality of care.

"We are delighted to have been awarded Practice Plus accreditation. This award demonstrates that the Trust has achieved a high standard when it comes to looking after the needs of staff. We are determined to ensure the Trust maintains its position as one of the best employers in London, and will continue working closely with Staff Side to ensure that we are seen as a model employer."



■ Pictured are staff from the IWL Steering Group and independent validators.



# We are here for staff too

If you need someone to lean on then look no further than our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS).

New recruits to the PALS Team Jo Ivers and Jason Lane (*pictured right*) are keen to let staff know that they are here for you too.

Jo said: "We would like to remind staff that as well as providing a service for patients and visitors - we are here for them too. We can give them general advice and information or they can speak to us in confidence about issues or concerns they have."

Jo joined the PALS team in May and before this she worked in the Pharmacy Department for four and a half years as their office manager. She joined PALS as she wants a new and exciting challenge. Before working for the Trust she worked with children.

Jason Lane was a funeral director in Shepherds Bush and Paddington. Jason already has strong links with the Trust as he would often deal with the bereavement service when organising funerals for relatives of patients. He said that his experience of dealing sensitively with families who have lost a loved one will help him in his current role.

PALS is a confidential service which supports, patients, relatives and staff by giving advice, acting as independent facilitators to help resolve problems. They can be contacted from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday on 020 8846 6727 or bleep 0118 or 0119. They are located on the ground floor opposite the escalators.



## Life saving equipment

■ £30,000 of equipment has been donated to the John Hunter Clinic after a fundraising clay pigeon shooting event organised by The Friends.

The money raised was used to buy 15 hydraulic examination beds, 15 Daray mobile examination lights and two state of the art microscopes.

The event was held in September at the EJ Churchill Shooting Ground, West Wycombe. Twenty-one teams, including two from the St Stephen's Centre, vied for seven trophies. They enjoyed a superb lunch, tried their luck at the Tombola and sportingly bid for some unusual lots at the auction, conducted by Mr Philip Hook the Director of the Impressionists and Modern Painting Department at Sotheby's.

Pictured below in the St Stephen's Centre are, from left to right Chairman of The Friends, Victoria Countess of Normanton, HIV/GUM Directorate Clinical Director Dr Simon Barton, John Hunter Clinic Charge Nurse Sara Davis and Hospital Friend Pamela Griffiths.



## NHS recruitment goes world-wide

Latest vacancies at the Trust have now 'gone live' on the NHS national recruitment site [www.nhs.uk/jobs](http://www.nhs.uk/jobs)

This new website puts all NHS employers and job seekers across the world in touch with each other at the click of a button. There are 10 jobs advertised on the website at present including the post of senior house officer in paediatrics.

Although this is in its early stages the number of viewings and applicants we have had for jobs has been enormous. If you have any vacancies you want to be advertised on this site please contact the relevant recruitment assistant. This is a free service so you get maximum exposure for your jobs and it doesn't cost you a penny!

## Support group launched

A support group for people with rheumatoid arthritis has been launched at the Trust. It was formed in response to several young people wanting a chance to meet with others who share the same chronic condition.

Rheumatology Nurse Specialist at the Trust Bridget Ryan started the group with fellow Rheumatology Nurse Specialists Sarah Collis and Antonia Greaves.

When asked why the sessions are good for sufferers, Bridget explained: "Sessions are a good opportunity for attendees to speak about issues that are important to them. They are also a good

opportunity to learn, make friends and to share information."

For details on future meetings visit the Trust website at [www.chelwest.nhs.uk](http://www.chelwest.nhs.uk) Also look out for posters in outpatient areas.

To book your place at the next session, contact the rheumatology nurse specialists on 020 8746 5679.

# Just the job

## Innovative recruitment reaps rewards

**In the last year the Trust has continued its efforts in looking at creative recruitment solutions.**

According to Recruitment Manager Jaz Mallan this has been thanks to the efforts not only of the resourcing teams in the recruitment office and staff bank but also other staff working across the hospital.

Jaz said: "This improvement is thanks to a brand new approach to recruitment across the whole Trust. It's about building our local community networks, developing temporary staffing such as bank and also working closely with volunteers who may also be interested in paid work at the Trust."

The facts speak for themselves. Lead Nurse for Support Workers Helen Brown has carried out more than 100 interviews and attended 11 sessions at the local Job Centre. In the past five months Helen has recruited 42 support workers - such as health care assistants and therapy assistants.

At the Job Centre Helen and ward managers give



■ Pictured above in Phlebotomy are, left to right, Staff Bank Phlebotomist Alessandro Ortolani, Deputy Supervisor in Phlebotomy Robert Alleyne and newly appointed Phlebotomist Suraj Mani Paudel.

presentations to visitors and also hold on-the-spot informal interviews. Those that do well are then invited to the hospital for a second interview.

Helen said: "This new approach is about us going to people who are looking for employment rather than waiting for them to come to us."

In the past the phlebotomy service used a high number of agency staff to cover vacancies within the department. Manager Elizabeth Gilbert decided that she needed to create a phlebotomy bank service to help solve this problem. The

department has not used agency staff for two years now.

Elizabeth said: "We decided to look at opportunities for overseas doctors and nurses who wanted to get their 'foot in the door' and gain some experience of working in the NHS whilst they were doing their exams.

"After they pass health checks we offer them 30 days' work experience so that we can get to know them and they can get to know us. Once this period is up they are offered an interview and then a job is offered with the bank service if appropriate."

In the last six months the hospital's pharmacy department has reduced the number of posts to be recruited to from 13 to just two. According to Acting Deputy Pharmacist Katey Hewitt this is largely down to the fact that the department now has one person co-ordinating and leading the recruitment process working closely with the HR team.

Katey said: "With just one person co-ordinating recruitment we have been able to streamline the whole process making it much quicker."

Jaz Mallan added: "Great strides have also been made to reduce the vacancies within maternity services. We have reduced our vacancy rate from 32 per cent to 15 per cent, as of 1st June. This is thanks to the commitment and efforts of the maternity staff, and the HR team for the Directorate. They have all been brilliant."

**If you are interested in job opportunities at Chelsea and Westminster why not log onto our website:**

[www.jobs.chelwest.nhs.uk](http://www.jobs.chelwest.nhs.uk)



■ Newly appointed Dermatology Support Worker Lydia Dicarolo (left), formerly a Hospital Volunteer is pictured with Lead Nurse for Support Worker Development Helen Brown.



■ In Pharmacy new Senior Technician for Inpatients / IT Claire Kempton is pictured with Acting Deputy Chief Pharmacist, Katey Hewitt.

# Infection Wipe

Chelsea and Westminster has been chosen as the main pilot site for the Royal College of Nursing's (RCN) Wipe it Out campaign – which will be launched on 20 July.

The campaign is being supported by the Nursing Standard, Kimberly Clark and the Infection Control Nurses' Association.

The campaign aims to provide health care staff, employers, patients and visitors with resources to promote better and safer

practice around MRSA and health care associated infections (HCAIs).

As part of the campaign the RCN will be lobbying for organisations to accept and mandate ten minimum standards for infection control (see box far right).

The RCN has worked



■ *Wiping it out is Staff Development Sister Hazel Boyle as she puts up a campaign poster in the Intensive Care Unit.*



## Trust pilots new catheters

Chelsea and Westminster is one of the first hospitals in the UK to use a new catheter which will help to reduce infections.

The Bardex IC silver alloy coated hydrogel urinary catheter supplied by Bard was assessed and approved by the Government's Rapid Review Panel in December. The panel was set up to look at new equipment, materials and other products that can help NHS staff improve hospital cleanliness, hygiene and infection control.

Senior Infection Control Nurse Roz Wallis said: "At least 23 per cent of all infections develop in the urinary tract. This is because micro-organisms on the patient's skin can gain easier entry to deeper tissues or the blood stream when the catheter is inserted.

"That's why we are making sure that as well as introducing these new catheters we are using this as an opportunity to launch a comprehensive package of training and awareness to improve catheter care overall.

"Every urinary tract infection costs the NHS about £1,327 and can block a bed for an additional six days but most importantly they cause patients a lot of discomfort and slows down their recovery."



■ *Pictured with the new infection reducing catheter are: (left to right) David Erskine Ward Senior Staff Nurse Isata Allie; Ward Health Care Assistant Anna Mierzwinska; Microbiology Pharmacist Kieran Hand; Infection Control Nurse Shona Perkins; Bard Infection Control Product Manager David Dawson; Infection Control Practitioner Claudia Cummings; Director of Infection Control Dr Berge Azadian and Senior Infection Control Nurse Roz Wallis.*



# Control it out



of cross infection. We believe this campaign will provide another opportunity for the Trust to support the further education of staff and offer very practical solutions to promote safe and effective infection control care for our patients.”

■ *Pictured in the Intensive Care Unit is Dr Nick Fauvel, Consultant Anaesthetist and Intensivist using the new alcohol gel to be rolled out around the Trust.*

closely with the National Patient Safety Agency’s *Clean Your Hands* Campaign to ensure they complement each other.

Assistant Director of Nursing Sharon Terry said: “We are delighted to host the launch of the RCN’s National Wipe It Out campaign and provide the first pilot site for this excellent initiative.

“It’s a great coup for the Trust to host this event and once again demonstrates the confidence that others have in our Infection Control Team’s star quality.

“The Trust is very serious about ensuring the control

## RCN’s ten minimum standards:

- 1 Mandatory infection control training at the time of induction for all health and social care staff. An annual update with protected study time to allow staff to attend should also be made mandatory.
- 2 A standardised infection prevention and control education module should be developed at a UK-wide level by an expert multi-disciplinary group and must become a compulsory component of all multi-professional undergraduate health care programmes.
- 3 Matrons, senior nurses, sisters/charge nurses or registered managers must have the mandated power, authority and necessary protected time to ensure health care establishments are clean and decontaminated in line with UK standards.
- 4 24 hour cleaning teams should be introduced in all acute health care facilities and be rapidly deployable by senior nursing staff especially for high risk areas such as ICU and emergency care settings.
- 5 There must be sufficient provision of staff uniforms and adequate onsite changing facilities and laundering arrangements.
- 6 The ward housekeeper role should be rolled out across the UK and be supported by additional funding.
- 7 Employers should be mandated to introduce straightforward, confidential and highly visible systems which allow patients, visitors and staff to report safely and/or challenge poor practice, incidents and mistakes involving infection control and cleanliness.
- 8 Clinical need and clinical advice given by infection control teams or senior clinical nurses must be paramount in determining how MRSA and other health care associated infectious outbreaks are managed.
- 9 The Government should re-emphasise its commitment to ensuring that the ring-fenced ward environment budgets of £5,000 and the associated ward manager credit cards announced by the Secretary of State for Health in 2000 are adequately resourced, delivered and extended across the whole of the UK.
- 10 Employers should ensure that there are appropriate, easily accessible and widely available evidence-based infection prevention and control policies for all staff groups, and appropriate and understandable guidance for all patients and visitors.

## HANDY HINTS

### How patients and visitors can help...

- Don’t be afraid to remind your nurse and doctor to wash their hands
- Help us to keep the hospital clean – leave public areas as you would like to find them. Let us know when areas are not up to standard by calling ext 2424 or speak to nurse in charge of the ward
- Clean your hands - use the alcohol gels near doors and beds. It is 99.8 per cent effective in killing bugs.

# Agenda for Change

The date is getting closer – 30 September – when all staff have to move over to the new pay system as part of Agenda for Change across the NHS.

This means that all Whitley staff contract holders will be paid on Agenda for Change terms and conditions. Staff on Trust contracts have the option to transfer within three months from the date on the assimilation offer letter.

As from 1 October all NHS job adverts will be advertising posts with the new pay bands which replaces the many and various grades used by NHS organisations. This will be an opportunity for staff to see the common pay bands used across professional boundaries.

Job descriptions will continue to form the foundation for matching and evaluating

against a national profile which also determine the pay band for posts.

If you have transferred onto Agenda for Change terms and conditions it is essential that you now familiarise yourself with the Knowledge Skills Framework (KSF) outline for your post as this will ensure that you are given every assistance to progress in your chosen career.

The KSF is designed to identify the knowledge and skills that individuals need to do their job.

Each post will have its own KSF outline giving a framework on which to base job appraisal and development.

## Combating fraud

The Trust has awarded a new three year contract for counter fraud services from 1 July. Many thanks to Parvin Ahmed-Hasib for her successful work over the last year.

Ivan Cuttill and Bruce McFarlane are the newly appointed LCFs for the Trust. Both are employed by Counter Fraud Services, ParkHill Audit Agency which is an NHS organisation. ParkHill supports a number of clients within the NHS.

Contact details are as follows:

**Ivan Cuttill**, Lower Ground Floor. Mobile: 07786 856973;

Office: 020 8237 2851

**Bruce McFarlane**, ParkHill Audit Agency, 135 Greenford Road, Sudbury Hill, Harrow.

Mobile: 07837 804092;

Office: 020 8869 7461

We have highlighted some examples of the work that counter fraud has been involved in, particularly those which have wider lessons for us.

- Last year counter fraud investigated 12 cases of attempted fraud valued at more than £100,000.

- The Audit Commission

has launched the National Fraud Initiative (NFI) 2004/2005. The NFI is a data-matching exercise which helps detect fraudulent payments from the public purse. More than £83 million has already been reported nationally and they are aware of a significant number of cases that are still under investigation. The processing phase of NFI 2004/05 has now been completed and the information will highlight anomalies such as possible identity theft, and working illegally within the UK. Any anomalies highlighted by the Trust will be investigated by the Trust's Local Counter Fraud Officer.

- As a result of the 2002 NFI data matching exercise the Trust discovered a member of staff had been working under a false identity and was not actually entitled to work in the UK. This is a criminal offence called 'obtaining a pecuniary advantage through deception' and can carry a

custodial sentence as a penalty plus deportation.

- Other investigations have included successful prosecution of a staff member for theft of monies due to the hospital.

- We recently had an incident when a substantial amount of money from the hospital main front reception went missing. A patient handed over cash for a deposit for treatment, which was not banked immediately with the cashier's office.

The advice we are sending out to all staff is that if your department does not have a policy for accepting cash then don't accept it.

All private patients wishing to make any payments need to be sent to the private patients cashier officer.

*Details of Counter Fraud contacts and relevant features and information can be found on the Counter Fraud site on the intranet.*

## Trading at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital during July

Monday 4th July  
Valentino Shoes  
Italian shoes

Tuesday 5th July  
Roger Mantell  
CDs, DVDs, Videos, Books

Wednesday 6th July  
Friends Bric-a-Brac

Thursday 7th July  
Mr Linens  
Linens, towels, pillows etc

Friday 8th July  
Gillian Handbags  
Handbags

Monday 11th July  
Clothing by SHE  
Ladies clothing

Tuesday 12th July  
Staff Shop Cosmetics  
Toiletries, perfume

Wednesday 13th July  
Friends Bric-a-Brac

Thursday 14th July  
Presence Décor  
Gifts, interior design items

Friday 15th July  
Vishani  
Pashminas, shawls, blankets

Monday 18th July  
Chris Poland  
Luggage and leather goods

Tuesday 19th July  
Toddlers2Kids  
Children's and babies' clothing

Wednesday 20th July  
Friends Bric-a-Brac

Thursday 21st July  
Diane Philips  
Accessories

Friday 22nd July  
Valentino Shoes  
Italian shoes

Monday 25th July  
Usborn Books  
Books, cards etc.

Tuesday 26th July  
M & E Jewellers  
Gold jewellery

Wednesday 27th July  
Friends Bric-a-Brac

Thursday 28th July  
Staff Shop Cosmetics  
Toiletries, perfume, cosmetics

Friday 29th July  
Jonathan Stoops  
Miscellaneous items

*Remember fraud can make victims of us all.*



# Training at the touch of a button

**All your training needs could be answered at the touch of a button with the launch of a new centralised training management system.**

Staff can now see when courses are running, how many places are available and where they will be held on the new system which has gone live on the intranet.

In the future staff could also receive a text message confirming training. Other benefits are also being planned such as producing a print out for staff of their training record to keep in their portfolio.

The project to develop this system has been led by Lead Nurse Practice Education Sarah Phillips, with technical support from Georgina Dumler, and development by Gavin Gault from IT. The database is now being managed by Learning Curve Advisor Rona Davis.

Sarah said: "A central training database of mandatory training was identified as a requirement for CNST (Clinical Negligence Scheme for Trusts) so we decided to modify a database the Corporate Nursing Team were already using.

"We have also added lots of useful course management functions and now hope to capture much of the training data that goes on in local departments and specialist teaching. We can then



■ Above are Lead Nurse Practice Education, Sarah Phillips (left) with Systems Support Team Leader Georgina Dumler.

demonstrate investment that is made trust-wide. It is also helpful for the Trust to have a clearer corporate view on the wealth of skills and knowledge in the

organisation.

"Managers can see what training their staff have attended and have access to their own records. We hope this will help to ensure staff

have equitable access to training and development too.

"In the future we plan to link this with staff rostering systems so that skills can be identified in the Trust at any one time.

"There are also functions for printing certificates, attendance lists, and group email functions."

The new system is available on the intranet under the education and training section.

## ***Interested in training?***

Rona Davis from the Learning Curve has set up training sessions over the next few months. The sessions are short taking between 20-45 minutes. For more details contact Rona on ext 8160.

## **Bric-a-Brac Bonanza**

■ Pictured is the Lord Mayor of Westminster, Councillor Tim Joiner (far right) with his mother, the Lady Mayoress of Westminster, Mrs Alison Joiner, with Friends Jane Weston (far left) and David Ramsden at the Bric-a-Brac Bonanza held at the Trust in June. The Friends raised more than £500 for the charity.

On the day, the Lord Mayor said: "It is a real privilege to support a worthwhile exercise which benefits patients and The Friends of the Hospital."



■ Cardiac Nurses at the Hospital encouraged staff and patients to wear something red to support Help a Heart Week. This year the main theme was the issue of women and heart disease.

Pictured at the popular health promotion and fundraising stand on the day are: from left to right, Syncope Nurse Specialist Kicki Franzen McManus; Syncope Nurse Specialist Andrea Meyer; Cardiac Rehabilitation Nurse Fiona Milligan; Heart Failure Nurse Leona Modeste and Cardiac Rehabilitation Nurse Afiyya Ahmed.

## The sky's the limit



**Not happy with just keeping her feet on the ground Personal Assistant to the Director of Operations Katharine Milne is now a fully qualified Sky Diving Instructor.**

Katharine, *above centre and right inset*, has been jumping since 1996. After doing a charity jump from 3,500 feet on a static line she has never looked back. She said: "You get such an adrenalin rush when jumping. It's great to focus on something totally physical that's so different from the office. It's quite a relaxing experience to think about nothing other than doing the jump correctly."

Also a Captain in the Territorial Army Katharine does formation jumping

competing with the Royal Engineer Parachute Team in national and military competitions. She can often be found jumping at Netheravon on Salisbury Plain near Stonehenge, and has done more than 450 jumps.

When describing what it feels like to sky dive, she says: "Imagine being the last person in the plane, standing by the pilot's seat and running the whole length of the plane onto the exit ramp, and out into 15,000 feet of blue skies!"



■ Welcome to Consultant Gastroenterologists **Dr Matthew Banks** (left) and **Dr Bobby Prasad**.

Before joining us Dr Banks worked in Sydney, Australia for 13 months where he did an Advanced Training Fellowship in Therapeutic Endoscopy and Endoscopic Ultrasound at the Concord Hospital.

Dr Prasad was an attending Physician at Yale University in the USA where he also did an Advanced Endoscopic Ultrasound Fellowship. Before this he was an Advanced ERCP Fellow with Dr Peter Cotton, one of the pioneers of ERCP in Charleston, USA. Dr Prasad has a special interest in interventional endoscopy, GI malignancy and complex pancreaticobiliary disease.

Do you have a story for *Trust News*?

It might be something interesting or remarkable that a colleague is doing. Whatever it is, we would be pleased to hear from you. Call Jeanette Albert on ext 6829 or Sarah McKellar on 020 7808 9899 or email [sarah.mckellar@nexuspr.com](mailto:sarah.mckellar@nexuspr.com)

## Adult Learners Day

To celebrate national Adult Learner's Week in May the Trust held a 'learning at work day' on 24 May organised by the Learning Resource Centre.

The event invited staff to share a hidden talent or skill with fellow colleagues. One multi-talented member of staff, Trust Social Paediatric Co-ordinator Leigh Marsh, taught staff how to do sign language. A lunchtime quiz took place testing people's general knowledge and email trivia questions were sent to the Trust throughout the day.

A range of external participants took part, including Kensington and Chelsea College, Thames Valley University, AMSPAR, UNISON and the NHS Discounts Team. Each organisation held stalls and events, giving staff a free taster of what was on offer, including Tai Chi sessions, creative writing and holiday Spanish.

The Learning Curve ran sessions, including touch typing, Microsoft PowerPoint and an introduction to the European Computer Driving License. The Learning Resource Centre offered advice on career development, dealing with difficult people, conflict resolution and coaching skills.

For more information on any learning opportunities, please contact the Learning Resource Centre on ext 8835.



■ Learning the British Sign Language Alphabet are, from left to right, Project Co-ordinator Vickie Imo, Student Nurse Eva Celaya-Miras and Staff Nurse Ania Verbitskaya.



## After the Polar Challenge

St Stephen's Centre Senior Health Advisor Lucy Gardner returned from the tough Arctic Scott Dunn Polar Challenge race in May raising more than £5,000 for Save the Children.

Racing for between 12 to 13 hours a day on skis Lucy's three man team completed the 370 mile race in 13 days and four hours. They came an impressive eighth out of 16 teams.

In icy conditions, with the minimum temperature reaching minus 28 degrees, excluding wind chill, frost nip was common. Lucy had to be careful not to expose any skin for too long, as she could have easily got frost bite.

In polar bear territory, Lucy was quite relieved that she did not encounter one. She often saw bear

prints in the snow and arctic fox and lemming prints.

Lucy said: "It was very easy to fall down when moving across the ice in flat light conditions, as it was very hard to distinguish what the terrain was like. This was very challenging and tiring.

"In the morning, I would get up at 5am to melt snow to use as drinking water for the day. By the time we had done this, eaten breakfast and packed up, it would be about two hours before we could start skiing.

"I would wake up every morning with frost around the opening of my sleeping bag!"

Lucy did not know what to expect before going to the Magnetic North Pole. "You have to see the Arctic to appreciate its beauty. Being



■ Pictured below is Lisa Davidson, the Trust's Lead Clinical Governance Pharmacist. Lisa previously worked as the Surgery Directorate Pharmacist for three years. She left to temporarily work in Sydney, Australia in the Royal Prince Alfred Teaching Hospital.

In her new role, Lisa will be lead for managing pharmacy risks relating to medicines management. She will be the Trust lead for handling medicine-related alerts from the National Patient Safety Agency.

She will also act as the professional lead for pharmacy purchasing in addition to providing a clinical pharmacy service to the Coronary Care Unit.

surrounded by ice everywhere was amazing. On a clear day it was stunningly beautiful."

When describing how she felt about completing what she had always dreamt of doing, Lucy said: "If you want to do something and you put your mind to it, you can do it. If you told me last year that I would have done this, I would have laughed at you.

"It's all about having faith in yourself!"

Lucy would like to thank everybody who sponsored and supported her.



■ Neonatal Hearing Screener Tracy Sturgess, pictured right, will be doing the London 60km Breakthrough Breast Cancer charity weekend walk in September.

She would like to raise a minimum of £1,500 for the charity. Tracy's mother had breast cancer and sadly passed away six years ago. Her sister and aunt also sadly died from cancer.

Raising money for cancer research is something close to Tracy's heart. If you would like to support Tracy by sponsoring her, please go to [www.breakthroughweekend.org](http://www.breakthroughweekend.org), click on donate and type in 'Tracy Sturgess'. Good luck Tracy!



■ Pictured below is Louise Edwards, currently working as PA/Office Manager for Director of Information Management and Technology, Alex Geddes.

Before joining us, Louise temped for several companies including Prospect Union and the Qualifications Curriculum Authority. Previously, Louise worked in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea Town Hall in several positions, most recently as Executive Officer.



■ Congratulations to Catherine Gillespie, pictured left, who is now the Trust's Macmillan Lead Nurse for Cancer and Palliative Care.

Catherine was previously Gynaecology Oncology Specialist Nurse at the Trust. She started this position in August 2002. Catherine completed her training here when the Trust first opened in 1993, following on from being based at the old Westminster Hospital. Catherine then went to work at Charing Cross. She has always specialised in oncology.

Catherine will manage all of the cancer and palliative care specialist nurses at the Trust. She will also work along side Dr Mark Bower and Dr Sarah Cox.





# New sexual health service opens

A new sexual health clinic for men who have sex with men has opened at the West London Centre for Sexual Health at Charing Cross Hospital.

The clinic, called WEST 6, is open every Tuesday from 5.30-7.30pm and offers one hour HIV testing, advice, information, testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections, Hepatitis A & B vaccinations, free condoms and lubricants.

Health Adviser at the clinic Simon Paragreen said: "We started to notice a reduction in the number of men, within this group, coming to our clinic. Men who have sex with men are at a higher risk of contracting HIV and other sexually transmitted infections so it's important they have access to our services.

"Ealing, Hammersmith and Hounslow Gay Men's Project kindly carried out a small survey of local residents. The survey revealed that 60 per cent of those asked said they were more likely to attend the clinic if there was a designated service - which is why we have set up WEST 6."

A steering group has been established to oversee the work of this clinic and includes Simon, Dr Ken McClean, Senior Staff Nurses Sandra Bennett and Robert Brooks, Clinical Nurse Lead for Sexual Health Chris McGlynn, Receptionist



■ Left to right, Robert Brooks and Karen Randall from the Gay Men's Project, pictured with Dr Ken McClean and Simon Paragreen.

Adrian Parke and Karen Randall from the Gay Men's Project.

WEST 6 runs an appointment system with a

limited walk-in-service. To make an appointment call 020 8846 1567. For information and advice call 020 8846 1579.

## Improving Working Lives... Improving Working Lives...

### This month's Super Hero

Congratulations to Principal Speech and Language Therapist at the Cheyne Development Centre, Helga Fiegl. She is this month's Employee of the Month.

Natalya Adams, one of Helga's colleagues, said: "Helga deserves the Employee of the Month award because she is a star! Her commitment and work ethic are



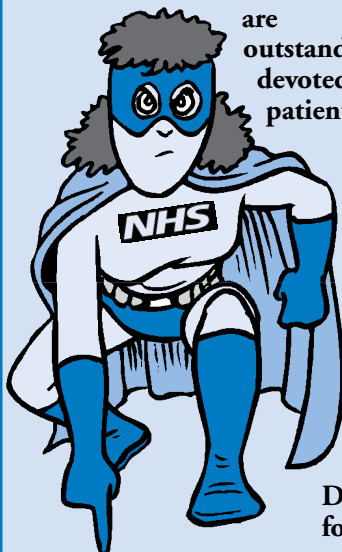
outstanding as she is devoted to both her patients and the

gift of raising the morale of its patients helping to accelerate their recovery."

rest of her team. The Cheyne Development Clinic could not run without her."

A special mention this month also goes to the entire Endoscopy Team. Consultant William Swinley believes the unit has shown outstanding efficiency and kindness to their patients.

William said: "The Endoscopy Unit has



### Vote for your Super Hero

If you would like to nominate someone you feel has gone that extra mile to bring a smile to your face then place your vote now.

Every month we are looking for you to unmask the hospital's super heroes. Winners will appear in *Trust News* and receive a month's free membership to David Lloyd Leisure Centre. Nomination forms are available from the intranet or from

Human Resources Office 4, lower ground floor, Chelsea and Westminster Hospitals or email [caroline.chalmers@chelwest.nhs.uk](mailto:caroline.chalmers@chelwest.nhs.uk)

You can also use the handy secure box located outside Human Resources on the Lower Ground Floor to nominate your Employee of the Month. *Staff are reminded that all nominations must be received on the official form that can be found on the intranet or outside HR office 4.*

### Staff Web Zone

Plans are underway to set up a special staff zone on the hospital's website [www.chelwest.nhs.uk](http://www.chelwest.nhs.uk)

During the Improving Working Lives Assessment staff felt that it would be helpful to have an easy to access central point for information on issues such as childcare, support for carers, occupational health, training and flexible working.

Members of staff who would like to contribute to the design and content of their staff zone are welcome to forward any ideas to Caroline Chalmers on ext 5930 or [caroline.chalmers@chelwest.nhs.uk](mailto:caroline.chalmers@chelwest.nhs.uk)