

# Foundation News

SEPTEMBER 2007

## Special events for Members

### THIS YEAR four popular events kicked off our new Medicine for Members diary.

Infection control was the subject and was presented by Trust consultant microbiologists and infection control leads. The aim was to give members an idea of what is going on at the Trust to tackle infections, how we compare with others and, most importantly, give people the chance to ask questions.

Latest figures from the Healthcare Commission have showed that we have the lowest rates in West Yorkshire for MRSA bacteraemia per 10,000 bed days and for clostridium difficile infection per 1,000 bed days.

Consultant microbiologist

Isobel Burnett said: "These were very important events for the Trust and gave us some valuable information about what is important to our patients and visitors."

"We hope that the members found them useful – we have certainly had some very positive comments."

### Some of the most frequent questions asked included:

**Q.** Can you insist that people should use the alcohol hand gel when visiting? They are putting people at risk if they don't.

**A.** We do encourage people as much as possible and we are looking at improved signs, perhaps on the floor, to highlight that the gel should be used.

**Q.** Nurses are seen using their uniforms both inside and outside of hospital – this should not be allowed!

**A.** We are in the process of introducing both a new uniform and new uniform policy, which will tackle this. The uniforms will be laundered in-house and staff will only wear them at work, not to and from.

**Q.** How much infection is brought in by visitors?

**A.** Incidences of infection such as MRSA are relatively low but gastro-enteritis is a major problem if it is brought into the hospital by visitors.

## Calendar of events 2007/08

THESE events are for Trust members but admission is by ticket only as spaces are limited. Please fill in the tear off slip below if you would like to apply for a ticket and indicate which event(s).

Code	Venue: Hospital Board Room, Huddersfield Royal Infirmary	
A	9th October 2007	End waiting – save lives
B	10th December 2007	You and your medicines
C	19th February 2008	Alcohol – its impact on today's health
D	15th April 2008	Developments in cancer care
E	17th June 2008	Care of the elderly
F	19th August 2008	You and your heart

  

Code	Venue: Learning and Development Centre, Calderdale Royal Hospital	
G	16th October 2007	End waiting – save lives
H	18th December 2007	You and your medicines
I	26th February 2008	Alcohol – its impact on today's health
J	22nd April 2008	Developments in cancer care
K	24th June 2008	Care of the elderly
L	26th August 2008	You and your heart

  

Code	Venue: to be confirmed	
M	13th November 2007	Nursing in today's NHS

If you would like to find out more fill in the details below and return to the Freepost address or contact Kathy Bray at the Trust at the address below.

Name .....

Address .....

Telephone number .....

Mobile number .....

E-mail address .....

I would like details and tickets for the following event(s):

Code eg. A	No. of tickets	Code eg. A	No. of tickets
.....	.....	.....	.....

Return to: FAO Kathy Bray, Board Secretary, Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS FT, Trust Offices, Freepost HF2076, The Royal Infirmary, Lindley, Huddersfield HD3 3LE

## Annual General Meeting

YOUR Membership Council is holding its first annual general meeting this year on October 4.

The event will be held at the Galpharm Stadium, Leeds Road, Huddersfield, and kicks-off at 4pm. There are 450 places available – limited because of fire and safety regulations – so members need to book a ticket in advance.

Members will have the chance to find out more about developments in local healthcare and see presentations on our annual report and accounts.

The results of this autumn's elections to the Membership Council will also be announced.

All members should have received an invitation with a tear-off ticket application slip within this communication – if for any reason you haven't contact Kathy Bray on 01484 347186.

## Our Year April 2006-March 2007



One of the first announcements of the year was that our assisted conception unit at Calderdale Royal Hospital had seen a one per cent improvement in its success rate for treatment cycles taking it to 33 per cent – compared to the national average of 25 per cent.



Successful: the assisted conception unit team at Calderdale Royal Hospital



It was announced that the staff at Huddersfield Royal Infirmary's accident and emergency unit were the best in the country at treating major trauma victims. Out of a poll of 80 hospitals by the Trauma Audit and Research Network (TARN) the infirmary achieved the best survival rate figures.



The Trust became the first in West Yorkshire to completely replace photographic film with digital images. The Picture Archiving and Communications System (PACS), which has been a success at Calderdale Royal Hospital for six years, was rolled out to Huddersfield Royal Infirmary. Now our patients benefit from quicker examination to diagnosis time and fewer delays associated with transferring old photographic film.



Best: Jo Oates, left and Ann Davis of A&E

Later in the year we led the way in the bid to cut fuel bills and help the environment with the installation of 36 new solar photovoltaic panels on the roof at Huddersfield Royal Infirmary – believed to be the first of their type installed on a hospital roof in this country. The panels convert daylight into useable electricity and also reduce the building's CO2 emissions.



Going digital: PACS



Our annual red carpet night for staff took place when we held our own very special "Oscar's" event. Each year we take time out to celebrate the innovation and dedication that leads to improved care for patients. In 2006 the overall winner was the breast care team for its work in developing a DVD for breast cancer patients. It shows how women at various stages of breast cancer treatment became models for a night. The DVD will be given to every woman newly diagnosed with breast cancer to inspire and motivate them through their treatment.



Delighted: Julie Bottomley of the breast care team

Also in July it was announced that the first heart "jump start" operation had taken place at Calderdale Royal Hospital. A retired self-employed electrician from Halifax was the first person at the hospital to receive an Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator (ICD). The second the ICD detects any unusual activity it is programmed to deliver a tiny shock to restore a regular beat. The 70-year-old patient said at the time: "It is like having my own emergency services as far as my heart goes."

Continued overleaf

# Meeting the 18-week challenge

A MAJOR challenge for all our staff in the year ahead is the work needed to meet the new 18-week target.

By December 2008 patients will wait no longer than 18 weeks from referral by their GP to beginning their treatment.

This includes the initial outpatient appointment, any follow-on tests and investigations and then their treatment either by being admitted to hospital for an operation or

some other kind of treatment.

Work is already well underway across the Trust to make sure we are ready to meet this very challenging target – with the obvious benefits it will have for our patients.

One recent success is the cardiac diagnostic team at the Trust, which has received national recognition for the way it has achieved reduced waiting times.

The team has created new associate

practitioner posts which lead to full qualification after two years.

The new posts mean test results for patients can be achieved more quickly and patients do not have to wait as long for an appointment for their tests.

Times are now under two weeks for most cardiology and respiratory diagnostic tests where they were once 20 weeks and by Christmas are expected to reduce still further.

# Looking to the future



Healthy future: midwife Gina Augarde and two new arrivals! Gina will be in charge of the new Huddersfield Family Birth Centre

## LAST YEAR saw the end of a major consultation about the way health services are delivered across Calderdale and Huddersfield.

Looking to the Future put forward proposals to modernise and improve healthcare services for the local population and after a five-month consultation and a ruling on maternity services by the Secretary of State implementation has begun.

In March this year breast and gynaecological inpatient services (for women who require at least one night's stay) were centralised at Calderdale Royal Hospital in a women's unit which has a dedicated nursing team. We worked closely with service users before and during the changes and will continue as we implement other changes.

At the end of July we centralised planned inpatient orthopaedic and general surgery at Calderdale Royal Hospital. Emergency inpatient orthopaedics and emergency general surgery were moved to Huddersfield Royal Infirmary, along with complex planned surgery and emergency paediatric surgery.

The next stage of the changes will include the new Huddersfield Family Birth Centre, run by midwives, at Huddersfield Royal Infirmary, which could open later this year. Work has already started to transform a ward into a family-friendly unit equipped with two birthing pools.

The birth centre will run alongside a consultant-led unit at the hospital for six months. After that all consultant-led maternity care will be centralised at Calderdale Royal Hospital along with our services for babies needing special care and inpatient paediatrics.

# It's your Membership Council

SINCE we were authorised as a Foundation Trust in August last year it has been an extremely busy time for Council Members.

The Membership Council is a vital link between the Trust and the local community. As well as this the Membership Council also has a number of key responsibilities, including appointment of the Trust's non-executive directors and helping the Trust develop its annual plan.

The Council Members are in the process of appointing a new chair after the sad death of our chairman Gordon McLean earlier this year.

They have played a vital role in the Looking to the Future project (see

story above) and are leading service user groups in surgery, children's and women's services, diagnostics and long-term conditions. This is about making sure the Council Members can influence changes in the way our services are delivered on your behalf.

They have also interviewed patients and visitors to understand their transport needs as some of our services have moved between the two main hospitals.

A number of sub-committees have been established to look at areas ranging from membership training and development to corporate social responsibility:

- The remuneration and nomination committees have been involved in

the decisions to reimburse the chair and non-executive directors

- The appointment of external auditors sub-committee has agreed a process and timetable for the appointment of external auditors and work is underway

- The membership, engagement and recruitment and retention group has designed the programme for Medicine for Members events using feedback from members

Added to all that Council Members have helped in the new accreditation process for our radiology service, helped proof-read patient information booklets, supported the Trust with its Employability Scheme and work to reduce its carbon footprint and helped out at election briefing sessions for prospective Membership Council candidates.

A full list of the Council Members involved in the sub committees/groups can be found in the Annual Report and Accounts on the Trust website [www.cht.nhs.uk](http://www.cht.nhs.uk)

## Together we can make a good Trust great

Latest figures show that we have 6,850 public members and 891 staff and we are keen for more people to join the Trust. If you know someone who might be interested please let them know that joining is easy – and free – they can visit [www.cht.nhs.uk](http://www.cht.nhs.uk) or phone 01484 347186.

# Our Year...continued April 2006-March 2007



We became an NHS Foundation Trust – the second in West Yorkshire to achieve the status – marking us out as a top-performing organisation.

A new national survey revealed that we had been given an excellent rating in a national survey of medicine management, comparing how hospitals across the country dispense medicines to their patients. We were put in the top 18 hospital trusts in the country.



October 1 was Fresh Air Day for the Trust – the first official day when smoking was no longer allowed in any of our buildings and grounds. Smoking at our two hospitals was the biggest source of complaints from visitors.



The news that we had been selected as one of the first ten NHS organisations to sign up for the Carbon Trust's NHS management programme came in the autumn. We were chosen from 25 trusts that applied nationally to take part in the programme and play their part in reducing climate change. **Carbon handprint: Trust estates director Steven Bannister meets Al Gore**

Also in the autumn an independent check on the quality of services and use of resources at the Trust resulted in "good" scores for both areas. We were among 36 per cent nationally to receive a good score for our services and 12.5 per cent for use of resources.



One of our healthcare assistants, Hayley Taylor, who is part of the children's community

team was named the 2006/7 Eczema Society's Health Professional of the Year. Hayley won the major accolade after being nominated by a grateful mum for the care she provided to her son to help clear him of his eczema.



Top professional: from left, mum Sarah Atridge, baby James and Hayley Taylor.



The Trust won a place in a nationwide drive to make UK hospitals the safest in the world - one of 10 hospital partnerships singled out through a highly competitive UK-wide selection process. We will learn from the experiences of four hospital sites, which have been involved in the Safer

Patients Initiative for the past two years. They have all made excellent progress in reducing medical mistakes.

Our rheumatology department was named as one of 16 centres of excellence in the country for improving patient service.



The New Year kicked off with the news that two of our child healthcare experts were finalists in prestigious national NHS awards. Ward sister Shirley

Plummer and play specialist Rose Hagreen created study days in distraction techniques to help staff make treatment more comfortable for younger patients.



Centre of excellence: the rheumatology team



Work started on the final phase of the £1 million refurbishment programme at Huddersfield Royal Infirmary to upgrade bathrooms, showers and toilet facilities.



The month saw the installation of a new CT scanner (computerised tomography) at Huddersfield. The state-of-the-art equipment is faster than the older machine meaning more scans will be completed on a daily basis – reducing patient waiting times.

And at the end of March staff on the Special Care Baby Unit (SCBU) at Calderdale Royal Hospital celebrated ten years at the top. Staff had received a Practice Development Unit plaque from health academics at Leeds University every year for the past decade recognising their excellent performance.

SCBU: Kath Barnes and former Mayor of Calderdale Colin Stout



■ To find out more about our year in detail, our annual reports and accounts can be found on our website at [www.cht.nhs.uk](http://www.cht.nhs.uk) or you can call Kathy Bray on 01484 347186 to request a printed copy.