

Thanks for THIS FEBRUARY 2003

Danny Harrington and members of the Goldwings Motorcycle Club raised another £3,100 for Moonbeam Ward at Broomfield Hospital following a collection made at their static motorcycle display in Chelmsford High Street just before Christmas. David Bullock presented a certificate of thanks to some of the bikers for their generosity and

continued support. chairman with members of Goldwings Motorcycle Club.

A daring performance of the Full Monty by the Galleywood & District Social Club raised £107.00 for the Neo Natal Unit at St. John's Hospital. Gwendoline Davies from the unit is pictured opposite with the (now fully clothed) performers!

The Essex Masons Family Fun Day held at Ingatestone Hall last summer raised £500 for Broomfield Hospital's general purposes. Thanks to everyone who went along, a good time was had by all.

Ted Revell has raised another £200 each for the Diabetic & Endocrine and the Breast Care charitable funds raised from his fundraising scratch cards. Ted presented his cheques to Dr Cunnah and Mr Sauven.

Wendy Barker of The Chequers in Felsted raised £250 from the pub's charity darts night on the 17th December between the Chequers Darts Club and patrons from the Kicking Dickey of Dunmow.

Staff and customers at Safeway Store in Witham have

raised another £26.48 for Broomfield Hospital's general purposes from the collection box in the store.

Dr Margaret Garratt of Little Baddow raised £20.00 for the sale of her beautiful home produced Christmas cards for the St. Andrew's Centre Burns Unit.

Mrs East and staff from Eastern Rover donated £200 to buy videos for the children on Stardust Ward (J7) at St. John's Hospital to help keep them amused during their stay in hospital.

Neil McLean took part in the Dublin City Marathon at the end of last year and raised over £2,400 for the Neo Natal Unit at St. John's Hospital.

Stuart Green's 10,000 mile Cycle ride to Siberia

Stuart Green, pictured with Essex cricket star Graham Gooch, left Broomfield Hospital on Monday 20th January, on a 10,000 mile cycle ride across the Continent to Siberia, specifically the Ilizarov centre, which makes leg frames for medical treatment.



Stuart's mission - "to raise money for, and awareness of, orthopaedic research and the two hospitals that saved my life and prevented amputation of my leg", following a near fatal road accident in 1999 and for which Stuart is still receiving treatment. He was treated here at Broomfield and at the Norfolk and Norwich hospital following his accident. His treatment included the use of a frame designed by Professor Ilizarov, which saved him from having a leg amputated.

Stuart's aim - to raise £1,000,000 for orthopaedic research and the two hospitals.

At the time of writing, Stuart has travelled 650 miles and is currently in Germany. This mileage comprises of approximately 560 miles to Bad Laer using cycle tracks, and a further 90 miles of sightseeing in and around Bad Laer, Bad Iburg and Osnabrueck.

Stuart's partner, Su Russell, a midwife at WJC, is keeping the 'Team Ilizarov' website updated with Stuart's progress, and the website can be found at www.teamilizarov.org.

Regular updates will be carried in This Month as we follow Stuart on his epic journey. If anyone would like to sponsor Stuart, there is a link on the website, or alternatively contact Su Russell at the maternity unit at WJC, Braintree.



Chairman, David Bullock and members of the Goldwing Motorcycle Club



Gwendoline Davies from the neo-natal unit is pictured with the (now fully clothed) performers!



Ted Revell, Prof Paul Sauven and Dr. David Cunnah

TWIS

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NHS Trust

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New ways to select our recruits

Last month saw the launch of the new Trust recruitment packs.

The packs have been developed following extensive consultation with our colleagues from throughout the Trust. The design was carefully chosen to reflect the positive ethos of our organisation. In particular, our commitment to the principles of the Staff Charter.

PTO



Christmas Decoration Competition

Sincere apologies to Monica Oates and the Theatre staff for not including them in the pictures for the runners-up of the competition. As promised, front page prominence and congratulations!

Pictured are 1 to 7: Monica Oates, Dave Excell and Marje Wilby



We welcome
NEWS, VIEWS & COMMENTS
from all the hospitals and services

Contributions for the March issue to be received by Nikki Airey, Broomfield Court Annexe, by Monday 10th March

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One of the key differences in the new documents, is the emphasis placed on applicants demonstrating evidence of behavioural skills and life experience.

Recognising that the best teams are made up of people from a wide range of backgrounds, the new form enables the Trust to seek out people who are enthusiastic, keen to learn and develop and those who want to make a real difference. It asks questions about experience gained outside the working environment, experience of teamworking and evidence of motivation. In fact, all the attributes that will contribute to a supportive workplace, with teams that will deliver the highest standards of care.

The recruitment pack includes:

- A brand new application form, designed to find out about the person applying - not just qualifications

- Guidance notes and
- An Equal Opportunities monitoring form

The documents are all contained within an attractive colourful folder with our Staff Charter printed inside.

Applicants also receive a copy of our new leaflet

"OUR TRUST, YOUR TRUST, A JOB YOU CAN TRUST" 10 good reasons to choose our Trust.

To complete the set, we are developing a series of 'ABOUT' leaflets - There will be one for each ward and department, giving up to the minute information about recent developments in each of our working areas. The 'ABOUT' series is being produced 'in house' so that developments that may be of interest to new recruits can be regularly updated.

The recruitment pack is just



John Vollands, Director of design firm Hey Moscow, presents the new Trust application pack to Personnel Officers Heather Hardy and Debbie Smith.

one of a series of initiatives being developed to ensure new and existing staff will 'live' the Staff Charter and fit in with our innovative ways of working. For example, staff are also being trained in 'behavioural' interviewing techniques. This will enable interviewers to focus on what applicants have really done in practice - not just what's written on paper.

For further information or to request a copy of the pack, please contact, Heather Taylor - Workforce Development Team, on 5249.



Thank you to all the staff who contributed ideas to the design and a special thank you to the staff who were photographed for the '10 Reasons' brochure: Tina Bloomfield, Sharon Davies, Jim Dorrian, David Duncan, Raechel Frost, Andy Hiscock, Hendrika Kingsley, Raksha Parikh, Nadine Pope, Irene Ruddy and Stephen Singh-Khakhian.

The new pack is being sent to all prospective applicants and is also available for job fairs.

Nick Groves, Director of Workforce Development, said, 'We've had some incredibly positive feedback about the new pack. We're doing good things to make this a Trust people want to work at so it's

important that the information we send applicants properly represents what we can offer. We're working hard to recruit new staff as the hospital expands because filling vacancies and not having to rely on agency staff is one of staff's top priorities.'

Nick added, 'The new pack is a

little more expensive than the old one. But it's worth remembering that with more and more people applying for posts on-line that's printing, postage and staff time spent stuffing envelopes that we're saving. And this is just a drop in the ocean compared to the money NHS Trusts are spending on agency commissions.'

Opening of refurbished Maternity Unit

The recently refurbished Maternity Unit at St. John's was re-opened on the 17th December. This 54 bedded unit underwent a complete refurbishment over a period of four months, at a cost of £400,000. New flooring, better bathroom facilities, extra showers and improved furnishings have all been installed. The new nursing station is more accessible to clients and more secure than before. Medical equipment has been upgraded, including foetal monitoring machines.

The ward was opened by Joan Bliss MBE, who was a midwife at St. John's before she went on to work with women who have suffered domestic abuse. Joan was awarded an MBE for this work. The Chairman, David Bullock was present, together with Jacinta Benson, Head of Midwifery and many of the staff and midwives.



Left to right: Joan Bliss MBE and Jacinta Benson, Head of Midwifery.

'Where did you get that hat?'



Pictured l to r: Standing - Sue Barnett, Andrew Pike, Chris Walker, Phil Neal, John Kotz, David Bullock Seated - Liz Fraser, Margaret Hutchon, Sally Gooch, Elisabeth Smale

Trust Board members taking a break from a seminar on teamwork and strategy, led by Westminster Associates' Simon Buxton.

The Westminster Teamwork and Communication programme is open to all members of staff. The course is held every two weeks, usually on a Wednesday and a Thursday to co-incide with the Corporate Induction. It is really well worth attending the course and we have had excellent feedback from the 400 members of staff who have already done the programme. For further information please email Nikki Airey, Staff Communications Manager, who will be happy to forward details of course dates and background information.

High Sheriff Makes Hospital Visit

The High Sheriff of Essex has been singing the praises of staff at Broomfield Hospital.

David Boyle, the county's High Sheriff, has had a tour of the Broomfield site with the Chairman of Mid Essex Hospital Services NHS Trust, David Bullock.

He was shown around wards and departments including accident and emergency, the pharmacy and burns unit.

Mr Boyle said: "I went to Broomfield to have a look around and to educate myself.

"I also wanted to tell the staff what a wonderful job they are doing.



Pictured is the High Sheriff of Essex, David Boyle, with the volunteers at Broomfield Hospital's WRVS coffee bar.

"The public get a very imperfect perception of what goes on in a place like Broomfield Hospital. I was very impressed indeed."

TRUST OFFERS A HELPING HAND TO STAFF WHO'VE LAPSED FROM THEIR NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS!

Are you amongst those who resolved to make 2003 a happy and healthy year but have yet to do anything about it?

If so, you may be interested in taking advantage of the benefits being offered to Mid Essex employees as part of a new partnership arrangement between the Trust and Chelmsford Borough Council, starting on 17th February.

As part of the Improving Working Lives initiative, the Trust have entered into an agreement with the local Council to provide staff with discounted access to a wide range of health and leisure facilities.

There are many different discounts available, including:

At Riverside Ice and Leisure Centre

- **Gold Card Direct Card** scheme benefits for just **£25** per month (reduced from £35) - In addition to the normal Gold Card benefits, staff buying the Gold Direct Card at £25 per month would be able to use the Fitness Suite facilities at Melbourne Park Athletics Centre at no additional charge
- **Silver Card Direct Card** scheme benefits for just **£20** per month (reduced from £25) In addition to the normal Silver Card

benefits, staff buying the Silver Direct Card at £20 per month would be able to use the Fitness Suite facilities at Melbourne Park Athletics Centre at no additional charge

- **Discounted access to the Adult Exercise Class programme from April 2003**
- **Discounted use of 'Pay and Play' Gym facilities (First visit subject to induction fee)**
A discounted rate of **£3.00 per session** - Monday - Friday (excluding Thursday) daytime - entry before 4pm and any time at weekends (Reduced from £3.60-£4.25)
- **Discounted sessions with Personal Trainer**
A discounted rate of **£16.00 per one hour session** (Reduced from £20)
- **Discounted rates for use of indoor swimming pool facility as follows:**
 - a. Off peak (Mon-Fri 6.30am-12noon. Sat 6.30am-8.00am) **£1.50** (Reduced from £1.85)
 - b. Standard (Mon-Fri 2.30pm - close. Sat 8.00am-close. Sun 6.30am-close) **£2.50** (Reduced from £3.05)

At Melbourne Park Athletics Centre

- **Discounted use of 'Pay and Play' Fitness Suite Gym Facilities (First visit subject to induction fee)**
 - a. A discounted rate of **£2.00 per session** (9.00am - 5.00pm weekdays and all weekend) (Reduced from £3.00)
 - b. A discounted rate of **£2.50 per session** (after 5pm weekdays)
- **Discounted access to exercise classes**
Access at **£2.50 per class** (Reduced from £3.00)

At Dovedales Sports Centre

- 50% reduction on the use of all facilities Saturday and Sunday, 9am - 5pm
- 50% reduction on use of fitness room Monday - Friday after 6pm
- Free racquet hire

At William De Ferrers Sports Centre

- 50% reduction on the use of all facilities Saturday and Sunday 9am - 5pm
- 50% reduction on use of fitness room Monday - Friday after 6pm
- Free racquet hire
(Discounted rates are offered subject to availability and prices may change from April 2003)

Take up will be carefully monitored and if successful, it is likely that the scheme will continue beyond an initial trial period.

To claim your discount, all you have to do is show your staff pass at the door. - It's as simple as that.

Leaflets providing full details have been widely distributed. If you need further supplies of the leaflets or further details, please contact Heather Taylor in Workforce Development on 5249

So - don't delay - Dig out your trainers and tracksuit TODAY.

An Appeal to all Staff – We're Looking to Reward and Award You!

Let's say 'good on you' to deserved colleagues with a ViP nomination and lets bring those 'Bright Ideas' discussed over a cup of tea, into the fore and put them forward for consideration. Why don't you tell us about your team and its new working practice that has been successfully implemented during the course of the last year, and nominate the team for an Innovation and Quality Award. The following are schemes introduced under Improving Working Lives and we would welcome nominations from across the Trust. Further information on any of the awards can be obtained from Nikki Airey, Staff Communications Manager, via email or on Ext 4235.

Innovation and Quality Awards

You may remember that last year saw the inaugural

presentation at the Annual General Meeting in September of the Trust's new Innovation and Quality Awards, which were won by the Elderly Assessment Unit who won the cup for direct patient care – their rapid response clinic, offering urgent (24-28 hours) appointments for GP referrals. They received £1,000 to spend on the service.

As a recap, these awards are given to teams who have introduced schemes in the preceding year which improve the quality of hospital services in both clinical and non-clinical areas. There will be one overall winner and two additional commendation awards (one in each of the 'direct' and 'indirect' patient care categories).

The panel of judges will be chaired by a Trust Non Executive Director and members of the panel will be drawn from partner agencies outside the Trust. The criteria that will be used to judge the winners will include to what extent:-

- The scheme reflected national NHS Plan targets and corporate objectives;
- The team was working against the odds;
- The bid described a clear research/evidence base, and

how the scheme tackled underlying causes of the problem it addressed;

- The recipients of the service were involved in the scheme's development, and how the scheme organiser drew on the expertise of the wide team;
- The scheme exploited links with primary and social care;
- How many people benefited from the scheme and the impact of the scheme on them.

This year's awards will once again be announced in September. Submissions should be sent to Nikki Airey, Staff Communications Manager, by 31st July 2003.

Value In Practice Awards

Last year we told you about the proposed new Value in Practice (ViP) awards scheme which is underway with immediate effect!

The ViP is a scheme that recognises outstanding behaviour that exemplifies the Staff Charter/Code of Conduct, demonstrated through a single event or a consistent pattern of behaviour. Staff can be nominated by their manager, colleagues, patients or visitors

and all nominees will be awarded with a certificate presented by the Trust Chairman, David Bullock or the Chief Executive, Andrew Pike, and their names will be published each month in This Month.

Bright Ideas Scheme

The aim of the Bright Ideas Scheme is to encourage individual members of staff, teams and patients, to make suggestions for improving:-

- Quality of care
- Working lives of staff
- Efficiency and effectiveness of services

Unlike regular 'ideas' schemes, this will offer mentoring and support to individuals and/or teams to implement their ideas.

You or your team are encouraged to complete an 'ideas card', obtainable from Nikki Airey or your line manager, and submit the idea to the Development Committee, which will be chaired by a Non Executive Director. The committee will then identify which ideas to take forward and agree how best to support them. There will be no limit to the number of successful ideas that will be supported.

Putting Their Best Foot Forward

Five brave souls are tackling the Flora London Marathon on Sunday 13th April, to raise money towards funding the extensions needed in the Renal Dialysis Unit. Those taking on this challenge are:

Linda Cope – St. John's Hospital Supplies Department, Heather Hammond, Nursing Auxiliary, Theatres, Dr. Aimen Hassani – Consultant Anaesthetist, Broomfield, Hannah Edmunds, from the Warner Library and Nigel Richardson, Consultant Surgeon.

Said Hannah Edmunds.. "I want to run the marathon to give someone another chance to have a good life despite having health problems". Both

Nigel Richardson and Linda Cope have run the marathon before, but Mr. Richardson is keen to give it another shot. He said .."I did it 10 years ago and wanted one more try

before I am definitely too old..". Linda added ..."last year it was a challenge – I had done the training and it was the next step. This year I am running because it was fun and I am stronger, fitter and more confident."

Marilyn Godley, pictured with the runners, belongs to the Egyptian Dance Academy

group called 'Spirit of the Nile', and they will be involved in the en-route entertainment. Marilyn said that are hoping to get a good position near Cleopatra's Needle.

If you would like to sponsor any of the runners, please contact them through the Charities Foundation office on ext: 4559 or ext: 4460



Left to right: Linda Cope, Heather Hammond, Aimen Hassani, Marilyn Godley, Hannah Edmunds, Nigel Richardson

Discount Bus Fares for Staff

As part of the Improving Working Lives initiative and in line with our Green Transport Policy, staff will soon have the opportunity to benefit from discounted Bus Season Tickets, due to a new partnership arrangement between the Trust and First Bus.

A discount of 10% off weekly, monthly, quarterly or annual bus season tickets will be offered exclusively to Mid Essex employees. As well as being available from the First Bus town centre ticket office, there are also plans to make the season tickets available to purchase on site at Broomfield and St John's.

First Bus Company have also agreed to consider changes to bus service times to fit more effectively with staff's shift patterns. Information from staff will be gathered over the next few months and shared with First Bus so that appropriate changes can be made.

For further details, please contact Heather Taylor in Workforce Development via email or on Ext. 5249.

Patient Focus Day – Day 5 of Corporate Induction

On the 7th February, day 5 of induction, or in other words 'Patient Focus Day' was introduced to the Trust's Corporate Induction process. All participants in the Patient Focus day will have to have participated in the Westminster programme, as the theme from Westminster will be carried through to then focus on the patient for this particular day.

Participants will include staff from all disciplines throughout the Trust who engage directly with patients and the main body of people attending will

be from the corporate induction, however other Trust staff who have contact with patients can also access the programme.

The aim of this final induction day is to raise an awareness of the patients right to be treated with Respect, Privacy and Dignity. The staff will understand how factors (behavioural and environmental) impact on this and will teach them how to promote and ensure respect and

dignity is given to our patients in day to day practice.

All staff employed by the Trust will put the patient first in all that they do, in order that they feel empowered and involved with their care.

For further information on Patient Focus Day please contact Maureen Gowers on Extension 5245.



New Ward – B17

As many of you will be aware B17 our new short stay surgical ward, opened its doors on the 8th January. Jo Long is the new ward sister for B17, which is located on level 3.

Pictured are Sister Jo Long with staff from left to right: Tanya Middleton, Jo Long, Shelley Seal and Charlotte Pannell.



Recent Trip to India to Recruit Nursing Staff

Rosemary Raeburn-Smith and her team, comprising of Sue Haylett, Adele Wisbey and Cath Powis, have just returned from their gruelling trip to India where they interviewed around 250 applicants over 4 days! Unfortunately they timed their departure with the arrival of the snow and so had a fairly lengthy wait at Heathrow, to add to their 7 hour flight. The team were very grateful to the ETI Agency in India, who were appointed as the international recruitment agency, for their seamless arrangements.

We are pleased to report that in total 122 nurses have been recruited and the first cohort of 17 nurses will be arriving on the 10th March.

Jenny Thomas, Deputy Director of Nursing, has signed up 17 mentors for this cohort and

with the assistance of Sue Haylett and Cath Powis, Jenny will assign each new nurse to a particular department.

The ETI Agency will be responsible for ensuring that all the new recruits have the necessary visas and work permits, and will be responsible for their housing and adaptation to life in Chelmsford. If you have any queries at all relating to the international recruits, please contact Jenny Thomas or Sue Haylett, Cath Powis on Ext 4851.



Pictured below at Heathrow Airport are the 'team' from l to r Rosemary Raeburn-Smith, Cath Powis, Sue Haylett, Adele Wisbey

Ward B6 praised

B6 ward has recently undergone a repeat education audit and passed with flying colours and a great deal of praise from APU. The previous audit in October 2002 had been a very different experience with the suggestion that

student nurses were removed from the ward until improvements could be made.

The B6 team have worked very hard to address the issues and have now been rewarded by very positive comments. Vanessa Davies said that "the changes have been phenomenal".

Congratulations to Mary Colley, Helen Ballantyne and the team on B6.



Picture are back row left to right: Joanne Hughes, Denise Smoothy, Jo Parker, Donna Keeble, Amy Blumson, Sue Butcher. Front row left to right: Sister. Helen Ballantyne and Senior Sister. Mary Colley

Bits 'n' pieces

Porter Pushes the Limits

Ray Garner, 40, is taking part in a trek along the Inca Trail in Peru to raise money for mental health charity Mind.

The porter, based at Broomfield, heads for Peru at the beginning of September, but is already in training for the big event.

He has also visited Wales to climb Mount Snowdon as part of his preparations. Now he is hoping to raise as much money as possible for the charity, and has already collected £1,900 from generous colleagues at Mid Essex Hospital Services NHS Trust.

Ray said: "I am aiming to raise £2,500, but obviously more than that would be wonderful."

Ray has harboured an ambition to visit Peru for more than 20 years, and he is delighted that this trip also allows him the opportunity to collect for Mind.

"I am really looking forward to it. It's also for such a good cause which is very under-funded."

Anyone who would like to sponsor Ray can contact him on 07817 896481.



Pictured is night porter Ray Garner, heading for the Inca Trail.

European Computer Driving License (ECDL)

We would like to send congratulations to all 'volunteers' who took part in the Pilot for ECDL Testing (Nov – Jan). The pilot was completely successful, thanks to the hard work and enthusiasm of all concerned.

Staff who have obtained the ECDL qualification are listed below:

Karen Wright Booth	Radiology (MEHT)
Sonia Bloomfield	Radiology (MEHT)
Victoria Coupland	Information Services (MEHT)
Merryn Eves	Information Services (MEHT)
Victoria Philpott	Information Services (MEHT)
Joan Lawrence	Theatres St. John's (MEHT)
Angela Wetherley	Sunshine Ward St. John's (MEHT)
Dominic Wilson-Ing	Clinical Services (MEHT)
Hazel Chitty	Workforce Development (MEHT)
Terence Birch-Machin	Warner Library Post Grad Centre
Hannah Edmonds	Warner Library Post Grad Centre
Angela Merrion	Angel Lane Surgery (Dunmow)
Nicola Watts	NHS Direct (EAS)
Robert Stow	IM&T (ESSA)
Brian Douglas	IM&T (ESSA)
Darrin Flood	IM&T (ESSA)
Pat Lodwick	IM&T (ESSA)
Steve Hewlett	IM&T (ESSA)
David Shrimpton	IM&T (ESSA)
Charlotte Moore	IM&T (ESSA)
Elizabeth Ross	IM&T (ESSA)
Richard Nurcombe	IM&T (ESSA)
Steve Donovan	IM&T (ESSA)
Sean Durbidge	IM&T (ESSA)
Sam Atkin	IM&T (ESSA)

The ECDL is an internationally recognised qualification, assessing Information Technology competencies in seven key areas. When the NHS - procured testing software is available, we will advertise and offer staff the opportunity to gain this qualification.

Chris Tekell, Dionne May & Liz Ross
IM&T – Mid Locality
Essex Shared Services Agency

Thankyou

A very big thank you to all my friend and colleagues for the lovely party, presents, cards and good wishes given to me on my retirement from St. Michael's Day Hospital. Special thanks to Remy, Marion, Hilda, Liz and Rose.

From Sheila Keeble.

This year's No Smoking Day theme is 'SICK OF SMOKING?'

72% of smokers would like to stop and 83% wish they had never started smoking in the first place. In a recent study by No Smoking Day 61% gave their main reason for regretting starting as 'Health'. They were quite literally 'Sick of Smoking'. Other reasons for regret include expense, addiction, disgust and social stigma. It's not just the people's health that is sick, they are sick and tired of spending so much money, being addicted to their habit and feeling disgusted by their smoking.

The campaign poses the slogan as a question. No Smoking Day is not telling people that we are sick of smoking, but asking smokers if they are one of the 72% who are 'Sick of Smoking' and want to stop. For those smokers who decide 'yes' they are 'Sick of Smoking', No Smoking Day is the ideal opportunity to take action and start stopping.

'Sick of Smoking?' came as a direct quote from the No Smoking Day study 'A Picture of Misery', often given by

smokers as their reason for quitting. Often people cannot pin down one reason, and 'sick of smoking' sums up the many personal reasons people have for wanting to stop smoking. People are sick of the smell, the frustration, of feeling ill, of spending money, of all the negative feelings smokers have about their habit – No Smoking Day sums it up by asking if they are 'Sick of Smoking?'

If you are 'Sick of Smoking', come and speak to the smoking cessation team who will be on site on March 12th. Learn about the pharmaceutical aids available to help you quit and where you can access support. Try the smokerlyser and see how your smoking is affecting your heart and circulation. If you are a smoker, you have a one in two chance of dying from a smoking related disease. Do you see yourself as a life-long smoker? Come and learn more.

Bernie Barrett. Smoking

Cessation Co-ordinator. January 2003.

NHA Retirement Fellowship

Now that our Christmas recess and our annual buffet lunch are behind us, we resume our usual meetings on the last Wednesday of each month at the St. John's Social Club, commencing at 2.30pm.

At the February 26th meeting, there will be a talk given by Mrs. Joy Shipcott entitled 'A Moving Experience'. As always, we welcome new members and extend an invitation to anyone interested to attend and enjoy our 'get together'.

For further information please ring Joan Short on 01245 261291

www.nhs.uk

The nhs.uk website is the official gateway to information about National Health Service organisations on the internet.

Find out national information about the NHS and use the Local services search to obtain information about GPs, pharmacies, dentists opticians, Trusts and PCTs.

The link to Star ratings will give an idea of how well hospitals are performing. Additionally, waiting times will give an indication of how long you would have to wait for a range of different treatments at your local hospitals.

Thank you from the Trust Board to all members of staff across the Hospital sites.

For the last eight weeks you have all coped valiantly with the unprecedented demand that has been experienced for medical and surgical emergencies. The delayed opening of B17 and the pressure in meeting targets to reduce waiting lists has added to the pressure experienced by everyone.

Once again we are deeply indebted for the commitment shown by everyone in dealing with this enormous workload and wish to record both our personal thanks and that of all the Trust Board. It is likely that bed pressures will remain for the rest of the winter period until we have completed our negotiations with the local Primary Care Trust for the opening of additional beds.

As you are aware additional resources are also being identified to increase the amount of medical and nursing staffing needed to provide extra support and we hope that these initiatives will go some way to reduce the pressures.

Our sincere appreciation for your continued loyalty and support.

David Bullock *Chairman*
Andrew Pike *Chief Executive*

Hospital Redevelopment New Project Director

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Malcolm McKillop as Project Director for the new hospital Scheme.

The £120 million project will move all the acute services at St John's Hospital onto the Broomfield site by 2008.

Malcolm said: "It will also provide the additional capacity to meet the growing needs of Chelmsford, Witham, Maldon, Braintree and the surrounding areas."

Malcolm started working for the Trust in October 2001 and has been involved in the project from the preparation of the Outline Business Case onwards.

As well as having extensive experience of other Private Finance Initiative health building projects, he is also a qualified architect and has



more than 20 years experience of designing and building hospitals.

He has previously worked both for the NHS and as a consultant advising on hospital projects both in this country and overseas.

The Broomfield project is now underway and the Trust has received a good response from companies wanting to develop the new buildings.

The Trust will be evaluating their initial submissions throughout February.

Congratulations

To Amy Lattimer who has just completed her NVQ III (HCA). Here is a little 'ditty' for you to say congratulations and best wishes from the girls on Ward J12 at St. John's.

"Well done Amy You've worked hard
Although sometimes you are a card.
Our work is often hard to do
but we work together
And we get through.

At times the nights are very long
But you persevere and hurry on,
Until the day staff come along.
Then, on your bike, off you scurry
Journeying home all a flurry –
To get to bed and have some rest
Then returning to work to try your best.

Good luck and best wishes in all you do
And we hope your dreams will all come true!

Congratulations

To Katie Jarvis who has just completed her NVQ HCA III. Congratulations, well done, from all your colleagues at WJC Hospital, Intermediate Care.

DO YOU REMEMBER 2001?

THE TUG OF WAR?
THE NETBALL TOURNAMENT?
IT'S A KNOCKOUT?

WELL THE WISHBONE TRUST HIP WALK, FETE AND
FUNDAY IS HERE AGAIN!

KEEP 22nd June 2003

FREE IN YOUR DIARY AND COME AND JOIN THE FUN.
RUN A STALL, ENTER THE GAMES OR JUST WATCH
THOSE OTHERS DAFT ENOUGH TO TAKE PART!!

SEE YOU THERE !!