



# YorkTalk

For the communities of  
York, Selby, Hambleton  
and district

June 2008 Issue 4



Modern look: a completed phase of the critical care development before the beds were moved in

## Critical care upgrade

**THE third and final phase of the upgrade of critical care facilities is now complete.**

30 May was the handover date for the final part of the development, which leaves the Foundation Trust with some of the best intensive care and high dependency facilities in the country.

There is still some work to be done to an adjoining corridor, but the main facilities are now up and running. Eventually, there

will be capacity for 17 beds.

Critical care services manager Christine Morris explains: "This represents a huge improvement in the health environment. Not only will the new facilities mean another boost for infection control, but they will lead to much more comfort and dignity for relatives and staff. The overnight stay room for relatives and the shower facilities for staff are two of the features which will particularly make a difference.



"The end result will mean better treatment and a better experience for both patient and relative."

**Y NewsTalk**

### Welcome

WELCOME to another edition of the newsletter for Members of the Foundation Trust.

In this issue we will be taking a close look at the celebration events already under way for the NHS's 60th birthday, which takes place in July.

We also look at how art is being used at York Hospital to inspire both patients and visitors.

Your comments and suggestions are always welcome – see the back page for how to get in touch.

**Mike Proctor**  
Deputy chief executive

### Accessibility

If you would like to receive YorkTalk in a more accessible format, for example printed in a larger text size, please contact **the board administrator**, chairman and chief executive's office, York Hospital, York Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Wigginton Road, York, YO31 8HE Tel. 01904 725075 E-mail: [enquiries@york.nhs.uk](mailto:enquiries@york.nhs.uk)

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**NewsTalk**

## Council meets in Selby

THE QUARTERLY Members' Council meeting was held in Selby in April.

The venue was the Civic Centre and those attending were treated to a presentation by Foundation Trust chair Alan Maynard.

He talked about the challenges faced by the NHS and the Foundation Trust in particular.

The talk focused on the definitions of cost-effective and clinically effective treatment. The barrier to offering the right treatment to patients was, he said, a lack of data on individual clinicians.

Deputy chief executive Mike Proctor talked about targets and how the Foundation Trust had achieved the required level in 18 weeks, cancer treatment and 4-hour emergency waits. The call to needle target for thrombolysis and GUM targets had also been achieved.

However, he said that the very challenging infection control targets would be difficult to meet, but that the Foundation Trust was doing everything possible to achieve them.

Mike added that, despite success in achieving targets, there were still some capacity shortfalls at the hospital.

## GP newsletter

A NEW edition of *GPTalk*, a publication aimed at keeping GPs and other practice-based staff in touch with developments at York Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, has been published.

As practice-based commissioning evolves, the Foundation Trust will be doing everything possible to keep GPs updated on matters such as:

- key personnel
- new equipment and techniques
- information about tests and test results
- methods of obtaining further information.
- If you would like to download the newsletter please go to the Trust's website [www.yorkhospitals.nhs.uk](http://www.yorkhospitals.nhs.uk) and click on the News, Events and Publications section.

## 1948

**1954:** Sir Richard Doll establishes a clear link between smoking and lung cancer

**1960:** An Edinburgh doctor, Michael Woodruff, performs the first UK kidney transplant on an identical set of twins

**The NHS is born on 5 July 1948 out of a long-held ideal that good healthcare should be available to all, regardless of wealth**

**1968:** A 45-year-old man becomes the first Briton to have a heart transplant on 3 May

# Celebrating 60 y

**A SERIES of exhibitions and events are under way in the York district to celebrate the NHS's 60th birthday.**

The celebrations are being organised by the York Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

Already, a series of reflection days have taken place, where people could bring objects, memorabilia and recollections relating to the early decades of the health service.

A selection of items and memories collected will form part of a number of exhibitions at York Hospital in July.

At the events, people were asked to donate objects such as photographs, medicine bottles or any other NHS-related memorabilia. It was also an opportunity to put on record experiences of working for or being treated by the NHS in decades gone by.

At the first event, John Cooper, aged 85, called in to record his experiences of working in supplies at Bootham Hospital and then at the former military hospital on Fulford Road from 1948 onwards.

He said: "When the NHS first began people couldn't quite believe it – it seemed too good to be true that you could be treated and get medicines for free.

"In the early days there were



two main hospitals in York, the County and the City. There were also a number of smaller establishments. The County was largely supported by voluntary contributions and people usually paid into schemes every week so that they could be treated there when necessary. Some employers would take a penny or two out of your wages so that you were covered. The City was run by the council for everyone else. There

was actually a bit of rivalry at the beginning, even though both were now run by the new NHS.

"I worked at the military hospital for two years. In those days people stayed in hospital for a long time. For example, a hernia procedure would need around three weeks in hospital.

"One good thing was that there were verandas so that people convalescing could sit out in the open air."

## Planning for the anniversary

A SELECTION of items and memories collected at the reflections events will form part of a number of exhibitions at York Hospital in July.

In addition, music performances will be held in various parts of the hospital during the first two weeks in July

On 2 July a collage day will be held. Visitors, staff and patients can join in by placing items on a prepared surface to form a material based collage as a lasting memory of the 60th anniversary.

On 3 July a food event will be held at the Mallard Restaurant at York Hospital, with a 1940s theme. There will be swing music and some staff will dress in Forties costume.

On 4 July Hugh Bayley MP will present a special lithograph of the hospital

On 11 July there will be a celebration service in the hospital chapel.

In addition, the Castle Museum in York will be holding kitchen demonstrations in their 1940s

kitchen, and nurses' uniforms from the period will be on display.

Finally, receptions are planned for former trust board members and for a number of Foundation Trust staff who will reach the age of 60 in 2008.

● For further information please contact Janet Mountain at the Foundation Trust on 01904 725254 or email her at [janet.mountain@york.nhs.uk](mailto:janet.mountain@york.nhs.uk)

**NOTE:** subject to change – see [www.yorkhospitals.nhs.uk](http://www.yorkhospitals.nhs.uk) for up-to-date details.

**1975:** Louise Brown is the world's first baby to be born as a result of in-vitro fertilization

**1991:** First NHS Trusts established

**Happy birthday NHS**

2008

**1980:** A surgeon uses a telescopic rod with fibre optic cable to remove a gallbladder – the first keyhole surgery

**2002:** Primary care trusts are set up to improve the administration and delivery of healthcare at a local level.

# Years of the NHS



**Margaret Coates, former ward sister at County Hospital, York**

"On Christmas day, the Sisters had a celebration breakfast to start the day – just as well, because we had to work from 6.30am to 8pm.

"In 1958, the parents could only visit their children in hospital for 30 minutes a day (one hour on Sundays).

"Monks from a nearby monastery came to do their training on the wards.

"In those days patients still used iron lungs and rocking beds.

"There were quite a few male nurses on the wards in the Fifties because these were men who had done their National Service in the Medical Corps.

"Each ward had its own cleaners and student nurses damp dusted behind the beds every morning."

**Marjorie Harrison, former ward sister at City Hospital, York**

"In the Sixties, ward sisters earned around £1,000 per year. Then, as a result of the Halsbury Report, our salaries went up to £3,000.

"The Matron had her own flat at the hospital – and a dog who lived with her!

"Hospital stays were very long – four weeks for what now would be an overnight stay.

"There weren't as many trained staff back then – lots of the work was done by student nurses and there were hardly any auxiliaries.

"There was a hospital school teacher for all the boys and girls who had to stay in for a long time.

"Nursing was very task-driven in those days. Now it's more patient-centred."



**Michael Dyson, administration manager for medicine and elderly medicine**

"I started in 1974, as assistant commissioning officer working as part of the team on the building of the new District Hospital. It was a three-year project and it seemed to go on forever.

"We were based in Bootham Park Hospital, and it was during the three day week, so often we would be working in candlelight during power cuts. It felt very Dickensian.

"The hospital was built in two phases, with the front part built first and the second joined on later. We had a huge party in medical records when it was completed."

## York... the changing outlook



**27/6/2008  
12.30pm for  
one hour  
YorkTalk**

**Presentation**

Lecture Theatre, PGMC, York Hospital. Topic: stroke management and rehabilitation.



**9/7/2008  
4-6pm**

**Members' Council**

Lecture Theatre, Post Graduate Centre, York Hospital.



**3/9/2008  
12.30pm  
for one  
hour  
YorkTalk**

**Presentation**

Lecture Theatre, PGMC, York Hospital. Topic: respiratory medicine.

**15/9/2008 2-7pm**

**Open event and AGM**

Lecture Theatre/Common Room, Post Graduate Centre, York Hospital.



**8/10/2008  
4-6pm**

**Members' Council**

Galtres Centre, Easingwold.



**25/11/2008  
12.30pm for  
one hour  
YorkTalk**

**Presentation**

Lecture Theatre, PGMC, York Hospital. Topic: infection control.

● Keep in touch with events on the Trust's new website [www.yorkhospitals.nhs.uk](http://www.yorkhospitals.nhs.uk)

APPOINTED GOVERNORS	
<b>North Yorkshire and York PCT 3 seats</b>	
Mr Michael Sweet, Non-Executive Director	
General Practitioner – To be confirmed	
Gill Cashmore, Chief Officer, Selby AVS	
<b>City of York Council 3 seats</b>	
Cllr Madeleine Kirk	
Cllr Sandy Fraser	
Cllr Sian Wiseman	
<b>North Yorkshire County Council 2 seats</b>	
Cllr Elizabeth Casling	
Mrs Caroline Patmore	
<b>University of York Medical School 1 seat</b>	
Professor Ian Greer	
<b>Voluntary Sector 1 seat</b>	
Mr Mike Moran, Chairman, York CVS	
NOMINATED GOVERNORS	
<b>Patient and Public Governors 17 seats</b>	
<b>Patient/Carer</b>	Geoffrey Rennie
	David Vasey
	Jane Farquharson
	Brian Thompson
<b>Public: City of York</b>	James Porteous
	Linda Hatton
	Paul Baines
	Bob Towner
	Stephen Lewis
	Stefan Ruff
	Helen Mackman
	Winifred Blackburn
<b>Public: Selby District Council</b>	Jane Hardy
	Rodney Price
	Nevil Parkinson
<b>Public: Hambleton District Council</b>	Ann Harrison
	Pam Turpin
<b>Staff Governors 5 seats</b>	
<b>Staff: Medical</b>	Lee Bond, Consultant Haematologist
<b>Staff: Nursing</b>	Anne Penny, Bed Manager
	Lynne Atkinson, Sister
<b>Staff: Non-Clinical</b>	Mandy McGale, Head of Patient Flow
<b>Staff: Clinical Professional</b>	Martin Skelton, Senior Biomedical Scientist

**GovernorTalk** Geoffrey Rennie, Patient Carer Representative

**What is your background?**

I have always been involved in agriculture – first in real farming and then as deputy director of High Mowthorpe Experimental Farm when it first started. Main career followed in Fisons Fertilizers where I managed the sales marketing operations (when I retired). Soon after this I was pleased to be elected to represent Sheriff Hutton/Hovingham ward at the North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC). As a county councillor I have been chairman of the York and North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority and chairman of the council.

**Why did you want to become a governor?**

I represented NYCC on the Community Health Council and subsequently the Patients Forum. This was an opportunity to represent the views of people living in rural Ryedale on these bodies, and when the Hospital Trust was formed to continue this aspect as a governor. It is not easy for the diverse requirements of a rural community to be expressed, but accessibility to the services of a first class hospital are of great importance.

**How do you see your role as governor developing?**

As a member of the remuneration and the communications groups I have been involved

in the appointment of chairman and non-executive board members and in the development of ideas for keeping in contact with members. This work represents a considerable challenge of communication but is of great importance in retaining the interest and goodwill of patients and public.

**How is the trust doing as a foundation trust?**

The assessment of performance of the Trust is a most important aspect – its work is very good. We are encouraged by the determination of hospital management to remedy any defects and also endorse the aim for York to continue to be one of the best trusts in the Country.

# Art in the hospital



**Imagination: patients' artwork**

**AN ARTS worker has been helping renal patients express themselves as they undergo dialysis.**

Lesley Seeger has just completed the second year of a three-year project funded by the British Kidney Association.

Lesley explains: "The aim is to relieve the boredom and empower patients.

"Painting projects were completed in all three units and a further mosaic project has been completed in the Harrogate Satellite Unit.

"Take up on units was good and those taking part gave very positive feedback, as did staff."

One patient said that the project had improved the whole atmosphere in the unit, and subsequently four patients have taken up painting at home.

A research project is now planned for medical students to evaluate the impact of art in the renal units.

Lesley adds: "We believe we have begun to demonstrate that art can make a valuable and important contribution to the lives of renal patients."



**Great place to be: last year's courtyard transformation**

## Colourful courtyard

AROUND 30 students are creating another colourful courtyard at York Hospital.

Last year, youngsters from St Peter's School in York transformed a courtyard with a theme of fish. This year, students from the same school are working with the theme this time around being the Universe.

The project is the product of a charitable fund run by the school to help make a difference to the community.

**Got a story for YorkTalk?**

Contact the board administrator, chairman and chief executive's office, York Hospital, York Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Wigginton Road, York, YO31 8HE:  
 ■ Telephone: (01904) 725075  
 ■ E-mail: enquiries@york.nhs.uk