

# United Lincolnshire HOSPITALS NEWS

For staff, patients, GPs, volunteers and all local people

March 2010 • Issue 60

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## Bowel cancer screening launched in Lincolnshire

**B**owel cancer screening is now available to people across Lincolnshire with the introduction of a new programme to the county.

The NHS in Lincolnshire launched the NHS Bowel Cancer Screening Programme for people aged between 60 and 69 at the end of December.

This means that within the next two years everyone in the county in this age bracket will be invited to undergo bowel cancer screening.

They will be asked to carry out a test at home with an easy-to-use screening kit, which they then post back to a laboratory for testing.

The aim of the programme is to try to detect bowel cancer at an early stage (in people with no symptoms), when treatment is more likely to be effective.

Those with symptoms should still contact their GP as usual if they have any concerns.

Consultant Gastroenterologist at Lincoln County Hospital, Dr Glenn Spencer, said: "The NHS Bowel Cancer Screening Programme is being rolled out across the country to test people aged between 60 and 69 for the early signs of bowel cancer.

"We are delighted to be able to offer this service in Lincolnshire. Everyone in the target age group will receive an invitation to be screened over the next two years, and those people that wish to take part will be sent test kits directly to their homes," he said.

Anyone who has an abnormal test result will be given an appointment to see a specialist nurse in the endoscopy units at Lincoln County Hospital, Grantham and District Hospital or Pilgrim Hospital, Boston to discuss further tests.

"Bowel cancer is the third most common cancer in the UK and research has shown that 80% of people diagnosed with this cancer are aged over 60, which is why the programme is aimed at this age group in particular," said Dr Spencer.

"This cancer can be treated much more effectively if it is detected as early as possible, and we hope that with regular screening we may be able to reduce the number of bowel cancer deaths by 16%."

For more information about the NHS Bowel Cancer Screening Programme, log on to: [www.cancerscreening.nhs.uk/bowel](http://www.cancerscreening.nhs.uk/bowel)



■ Urology Specialist Doctor Ivor Donkov in the Lincoln Endoscopy Unit

## Lincolnshire hospital unit is awarded for high standards of care



■ Members of the endoscopy team at Lincoln County Hospital with the JAG accreditation certificate

**A** hospital unit in Lincolnshire has been awarded a national accreditation for the high standards of care it provides.

The Endoscopy Unit at Lincoln County Hospital has been given JAG accreditation, which is a national award set up to ensure high standards of care in clinical quality, quality of patient experience, training and workforce.

In order to meet the standards required for JAG accreditation, United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust recently invested in a new £1.5 million Endoscopy Unit at Lincoln, which includes a new decontamination area, more toilet facilities and private

admitting rooms and an improved patient care pathway.

This unit cares for patients undergoing endoscopy procedures, which are minimally invasive procedures that are used to assess areas inside the body by inserting a flexible tube that can provide images of the area in question and be used to take samples.

Clinical Services Manager for Endoscopy and the Bowel Cancer Screening Programme, Nikki Woodcock, said she is delighted that the unit has gained this award.

"The whole team has worked hard and made a lot of improvements to the

services we provide to patients, and achieving JAG accreditation ensured that we were able to commence with the national NHS Bowel Cancer Screening Programme, which we started at the end of December," she said.

"There were improvements made to our patient leaflets, we invested in more training for our staff and the new unit has more facilities to keep our patients as comfortable as possible before and after procedures.

"We are currently working towards gaining the same award for our three other Endoscopy Units at Grantham, Boston and Louth by the end of this year."

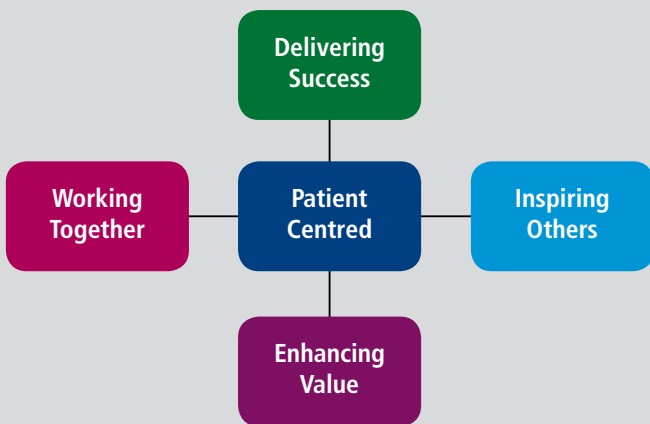
# Behaviour frameworks in practice

## Performance Plus

In the last edition of ULH News there was a summary of the five key behaviours that all staff of United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust should demonstrate in their jobs. They are:

- **Patient Centred** – taking active steps to ensure that services are delivered in a timely manner, easier and more responsive, encouraging others to action their own ideas
- **Working Together** – encouraging effective teamwork in our own teams and across departments. Clear communications taking the time to talk to people directly and listen carefully

- **Inspiring Others** – nurturing talent by focusing on people's strengths, coaching them to find their own solutions and encouraging their enthusiasm
- **Delivering Success** – ensuring deadlines are met, focusing our energies on the areas where it will have the most impact. Solving problems and introducing improvements
- **Enhancing Value** – motivating others to grasp all opportunities to review existing practices. Freeing up time to do the things that make a real difference to patients. Focusing on medium and long term value for money.



It is encouraging to see that these behaviours are being used in a variety of ways across the Trust, such as;

### Recruitment

In hotel services in Lincoln, candidates interviewed for a recent post of Portering Section Leader were asked to give a presentation on team behaviours and the important effect on patients. This was a different approach and there were a good range of presentations. For

more information on this recruitment approach contact Hotel Services and Catering Manager Wayne McIntosh on ext 3368.

### Appraisals

Many managers are using the behaviours to help the appraisal process, and to identify areas for development.

For more information on using the behaviours in the appraisal process contact Organisational Development Lead Tina Harkin on ext 4483.

## Staff Lottery Winners

### January 2010

Prize	Number	Name	Department	Site
£1,000	1343	Anonymous		Lincoln
£500	49	Hilary Yates	Rheumatology	Lincoln
£250	1551	Christopher Pilbeam	Pharmacy	Lincoln

### December 2009

Prize	Number	Name	Department	Site
Car	2050	Jan Jenkins	IT Training	Lincoln
1,000	723	Jean Breckenridge	Anaesthetics	Grantham
£500	856	Julie Jackson	Ward 5	Grantham
£250	96	Maureen Gavey	Endoscopy	Louth

# NHS equality and diversity projects moving on

**NHS**  
Lincolnshire

United Lincolnshire Hospitals **NHS**  
NHS Trust

Four projects being run by the NHS in Lincolnshire to improve equality of access to services and jobs are coming on in leaps and bounds.

The projects form part of the national Pacesetters programme, which tests out innovative and new ways of working that address inequalities in health, health services and employment.

United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust and NHS Lincolnshire joined the programme in 2008 and are running projects on:

- Black and minority ethnic (BME) women and access to breast screening
- Older people and self care of diabetes in hospital wards and nursing homes
- The representation of disabled people in the workforce

- Improving the collection and monitoring of workforce equality data

Diversity Manager for the hospitals trust, Rachel Taylor, said that after a lot of hard work to explore all of the issues in these areas, some very exciting developments are being planned to significantly improve access to NHS services for many groups of people within Lincolnshire.

"The breast screening project is being delivered in partnership with HMP Morton Hall and has looked at some of the barriers that women face in accessing screening. We have already identified that we can help educate women from BME groups about breast screening, by providing them with information and support, to improve the uptake," she said.

"The project focusing on older people with diabetes will result in the

production of training resources for staff on the self care of diabetes. We also hope to be able to tailor more of our hospital buildings and equipment to their needs."

In addition, more training for NHS staff and managers is being developed to help in improving access to employment and employment opportunities for deaf, deafened or hard of hearing people, and work is ongoing to improve the monitoring of the NHS workforce so that more is known about the experiences of staff groups.

"It is incredibly exciting to see these projects all moving on. We have now finished much of the research work and can use what we have learned to make sure we introduce changes that really make a difference in reducing health inequalities and reducing inequality in employment," said Rachel.

# New booking system speeds up cancer appointments

Patients with suspected cancers will now be able to walk away from their GP with a hospital appointment date, thanks to a new booking process being introduced in Lincolnshire.

The previous paper referral booking system took longer, as dates for hospital appointments were sent to patients with suspected cancer by post after they saw their GP.

Now, all of these appointments can be made directly in Lincolnshire GP practices using the electronic Choose

and Book system.

Cancer Services Manager at United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust, Julie Pipes, said this is brilliant news for all patients who will be going through a difficult time after being told they are suspected of having cancer.

"To know that they have a date for their appointment will relieve a lot of stress for people, and they can leave their GP knowing that they will see a specialist within 14 days," she said.

"From the hospitals' perspective this system will put us more in control

of getting patients seen within our two week target time."

Commissioning and Performance Manager for NHS Lincolnshire, Andy Hill said: "The new system is more efficient and will reduce the number of declined or cancelled appointments, ultimately improving the service for patients. In other areas the introduction of this new approach has proved to be a considerable success, receiving enthusiastic support from both patients and clinicians."



■ A patient receiving her appointment straight away at her GP practice



■ The mobile breast screening unit set up at County Hospital, Louth

# Breast screening appointments available in Louth

A free breast screening service will be provided to women aged between 50 and 70 from five Lincolnshire GP practices.

The mobile screening unit, run by the Lincolnshire Breast Screening Service, is now situated in the car park at County Hospital, Louth and will be there for approximately three to four months.

The screening service will be automatically inviting ladies registered with Dr King and Partners Medical Practice in North Somercotes, Dr Massey and Partners in North Thoresby and Dr Staunton and Partners, Dr Pike and Partners and Dr Dwyer and Partners in Louth.

Ladies aged between 50 and 70 from these practices will be automatically invited for screening, but ladies aged 70 and over may ring the administration office for appointments

on (01522) 573999.

Screening Office Manager Alysa Page said: "Little is known about how to prevent breast cancer but the earlier it is found the better the chance of successful treatment.

"One in twelve women over 50 will be affected by breast cancer. The United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust's mobile service is part of the NHS initiative to reduce this life threatening disease," she said.

The mobile service tours the county on a regular basis, but only visits one area at a time and appointments must be made to use the service.

"It is important that women keep their appointments or contact us to change them to a more convenient time," added Mrs Page.



**"One in twelve women over 50 will be affected by breast cancer. The United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust's mobile service is part of the NHS initiative to reduce this life threatening disease."**

## Top quality breast screening service in Lincolnshire

Women in Lincolnshire are now being screened for breast cancer regularly and efficiently.

The NHS in Lincolnshire has been working for the last three years to bring down the amount of time county women have to wait to have their regular breast screening.

Now, women across the county are being consistently screened for breast cancer every 36 months, meaning cancers are being picked up and treated earlier.

Radiology Breast Services Manager at United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust, Bernadette Trzcinski, said it is very important that women aged between 50 and 70 are given the opportunity to be screened every three years.

"In the past we had problems in meeting the target to invite all of our women for screening every 36 months, but we have worked incredibly hard to ensure that we now consistently achieve this target every month," she said.

"The waiting time has been brought down in a number of ways, last year we invested in a new mammography machine for Lincoln County Hospital, which increased the numbers of women we could screen.

"This now works alongside our other screening centres and our mobile screening vans to provide a comprehensive screening service across the county, which we attempt to make as convenient as possible for the women."

She said the wait has also been brought down thanks to the screening centres working closer together and better scheduling for the location of the mobile screening vans.

"Our staff have worked very hard to ensure we maximise the use of the facilities that we have, and that has resulted in women being seen within the screening round length over the last year," she said.

"We are delighted at the improvements that have been made which enable us to offer a consistent and high quality service to the women of Lincolnshire."

Lead Manager for Specialist Commissioning at NHS Lincolnshire, Andy Rix, said: "Congratulations to our breast screening providers for achieving the 36 month screening target and improving services for women in Lincolnshire. Their ongoing work to make continued improvements to the service has been recognised and commended by NHS Lincolnshire."



■ A patient being screened at the Boston Breast Unit

## Birthday donation to Lincoln Breast Unit

A pair of local ladies have made a birthday donation of over £1,000 to the Breast Unit at Lincoln County Hospital.

Karen Topliss and Margaret Thompson grew up together, living on the same road and even holding a joint 18th birthday party, and five years ago discovered that they both had breast cancer.

Karen said she discovered she had cancer five months after Margaret had told her the news.

"We made a pact that if we were still around at 50 we would have another joint birthday party and ask for money for the breast unit at Lincoln

instead of presents. We did just that and now have a total of £1,250 to hand over," she said.

Macmillan Breast Care Nurse Specialist, Andrea Dean, said: "We are all grateful to Karen and Margaret for their generosity. We will be using the money to improve patient care."

Consultant Breast Surgeon, Anzors Gvaramadze, said the unit would be looking to invest in liposuction equipment in partuclar.

"This can be used in a new reconstructive technique that produces a better cosmetic appearance for ladies undergoing breast reconstruction," he said.



**"We will be using the money to improve patient care."**

■ The ladies handing over their donation to the Lincoln Breast Unit (pictured back row left to right) Macmillan Breast Care Nurse Andrea Dean, Sister Anne Brewer, Breast Care Nurse Beth Croft, Consultant Breast Surgeon Anzors Gvaramadze and (front row left to right) Margaret Thompson and Karen Topliss

# School pupils' silent study in aid of hospital unit

Patients on the Stroke Unit at Lincoln County Hospital are benefiting from a generous donation by a local school - raised during a sponsored silence.

The unit has recently been handed a cheque for £247.90, which was raised by pupils and staff at Lincoln's Yarborough School.

Enterprise Coordinator at the school, Katie Vause, has been on a fundraising mission since her grandfather Bernard Woodward was cared for on the hospital unit.

Katie said she was so impressed with the care and dedication shown by the staff that she wanted to do something for them.

"I talked about how I wanted to do something for the unit a while ago at a school enterprise group meeting and everyone was really supportive and came up with the idea of doing a fundraising fortnight," she said.

"Students did a lot of work and sold cakes, as well as doing a sponsored silence for a day."

On top of the £247.90 raised by the

school, the unit has also been handed a further £200 from donations collected at Mr Woodward's funeral.

Stroke Lead Nurse at Lincoln County Hospital, Julie Skelton, said the money will be used to purchase entertainment items for patients on the unit to make their stay more enjoyable.

"We want to thank Katie and the school for their support and generosity. It's very kind of them to raise this money for our patients", she said.



**"Katie said she was so impressed with the care and dedication shown by the staff that she wanted to do something for them."**



■ The school pupils' cheque being donated to Lincoln Stroke Unit. Pictured (left to right) Stroke Lead Nurse Julie Skelton and Junior Sister Sue Chapman with Katie Vause and Yarborough school pupils Cheryl Williams and Amy Wakefield

## Surgeon offers revolutionary hip resurfacing treatment in Lincolnshire

Patients with osteoarthritis in Lincolnshire are benefiting from a revolutionary procedure which means they don't need to go through a full hip replacement.

Consultant Trauma and Orthopaedic Surgeon, Mohammad Maqsood, has been using hip resurfacing to help patients at Lincoln County Hospital for three years and the procedure has benefited more than 40 patients so far.

This procedure involves putting a metal implant into the top of the thigh bone and the hip joint to replace the deteriorated joint. This implant can

be easily inserted into the body and causes much less tissue damage than a traditional total hip replacement.

This means that patients can regain movement more quickly and return to their original lifestyle.

Mr Maqsood said: "Total hip replacement is a well established procedure for osteoarthritis of the hip joint, but is best for older patients as it can leave the patient with a limited range of movement.

"Younger patients with fractures or certain diseases of the hip joint, like Perthes' disease or congenital hip



■ Patient Tony Goss enjoying walking his dogs after undergoing a hip resurfacing procedure



■ An X-ray of Mr Goss' hips before the operation

■ An X-ray of Mr Goss with the new metal hip implant



**"This procedure involves putting a metal implant into the top of the thigh bone and the hip joint to replace the deteriorated joint. This implant can be easily inserted into the body and causes much less tissue damage than a traditional total hip replacement."**

dislocation, may develop osteoarthritis prematurely. These patients usually need more range of movement after surgery and some of them would like to take part in certain sports. This group of young patients can be better helped with hip resurfacing," he said.

He said that hip resurfacing has many benefits for patients as it does not involve cutting back the bones of the hip joint too much.

"It means if the procedure has to be revised, which is likely in younger patients in particular, the revision can be done easily. We have had

excellent feedback from our patients on this procedure and how much it allows them to get on with their lives again," he said.

Mr Maqsood said this procedure is equally suitable for older patients with good bone quality and provides benefits including less risk of dislocation, quick recovery and early discharge from hospital.

Tony Goss (70) from Waddington, near Lincoln, had a hip resurfacing procedure carried out by Mr Maqsood in May last year and within six months was able to return to his hobby of

training dogs for agility competitions.

"I am highly delighted with what Mr Maqsood has done for me. Before the operation I had to use sticks to walk about, but since I've recovered I'm able to do everything I could always do before," he said.

"The procedure was very straightforward and it has allowed me to return to training my dogs, which is a hobby that involves a lot of running and other physical activity. Without this procedure there's no way I'd have been able to continue. I'm so grateful."

# New dedicated head of nursing for children and premature babies



■ New Head of Nursing for Paediatrics and Neonatal Services Terry Vine

A new head of nursing has been appointed in Lincolnshire's hospitals to improve the care of children across the county.

Terry Vine has recently started work as Head of Nursing for Paediatrics and Neonatal Services at United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust.

This is a newly created post that will bring more structure to the women's and children's team at the Trust. Terry will be responsible for managing a team of matrons and nurses to ensure that the highest standard of care is provided

for children and premature babies.

Terry said he is really enjoying returning to work in the clinical area that he enjoys, having worked in a different role for five years.

"All of the paediatric services we provide offer excellent care to patients and we have fantastic staff working for us," he said.

Inpatient paediatric and neonatal services are provided at Lincoln County Hospital and Pilgrim Hospital, Boston and a Monday to Friday paediatric day service is provided at Grantham and

District Hospital.

Terry is also responsible for community based paediatric and neonatal home care services across the county.

Terry has extensive paediatric and neonatal nursing experience and has worked at Great Ormond Street Hospital, Hackney Children's Hospital, University College London Hospital and the Royal Free Hospital in London.

"I am looking forward to working hard with my colleagues to continue to develop the high quality services we have on offer here in Lincolnshire," he said.

## New specialist breast surgery introduced at Pilgrim hospital

A new consultant is planning to put care for breast cancer patients in Boston on the international map.

New Consultant Breast Surgeon, Ambika Anand, has recently started work in the Breast Unit at Pilgrim Hospital, Boston and is the first oncoplastic breast surgeon to work there.

Mrs Anand has started to provide surgery for women with breast cancer which incorporates both tumour removal and plastic surgery in one operation.

She started working at Pilgrim as a locum in August 2009 and has already made a huge impact in the management of breast cancer patients, introducing oncoplastic surgery for Boston ladies for the first time and providing a high standard of cosmetic and oncological care.

Mrs Anand started her medical

training in Delhi, India, but latterly completed her breast training at both St Bartholomew's Hospital and the Royal Marsden Hospital in London.

Having moved from a research team, Mrs Anand is also committed to offering and promoting clinical and collaborative research with patients with breast cancer in Lincolnshire.

"My experience in teaching medical students, nurses and trainees will be a valuable asset to the department and I am keen to get involved with undergraduate and postgraduate medical education at Pilgrim," she said.

"I aim to be a leader with vision and will use my skills to develop services at the Boston Breast Unit. I aim to get the unit on the map not only nationally but also internationally for the quality of care that it provides."



■ New Consultant Breast Surgeon Ambika Anand



"My experience in teaching medical students, nurses and trainees will be a valuable asset to the department and I am keen to get involved with undergraduate and postgraduate medical education."

## Hospital surgeon takes on new role at university

A surgeon working within Lincolnshire's hospitals has been made a visiting professor at the University of Lincoln.

Mohammad Maqsood, an Orthopaedic and Trauma Consultant at Lincoln County Hospital, has recently been informed that he has been given the role of visiting professor in the School of Natural and Applied Sciences at the university.

A visiting professorship is awarded to individuals of national academic and/or professional standing, whose association with the department of the university will provide advice and counsel in that discipline nationally and internationally.

The position means that Mr Maqsood will be able to lecture on orthopaedics and trauma surgery and allied sciences to students, and

should also help and supervise them to perform research in this field. He should also be able to use the university's expertise to develop more research projects in the area of trauma and orthopaedics in Lincolnshire.

Mr Maqsood said he was delighted to hear that he had been made a visiting professor.

"I am very proud. Taking up this role should mean that we can attract wider attention to the significant pieces of research I am currently doing around the links between smoking and fracture healing," he said.

"I am very keen to set up a new Lincoln Trauma Research Centre in collaboration with Lincoln County Hospital and the University of Lincoln, which would be a model institute for research on fracture healing, cartilage repair and sports injury management."



■ Trauma and Orthopaedic Consultant Mohammad Maqsood, who has recently been made a visiting professor at the University of Lincoln

## Early retirement

### Had enough of working life?!

Would you like to retire early and access your pensions benefits?

- Anyone aged between 50 – 60 with two years or more in the NHS pension scheme can apply
- Benefits will be reduced to cover the extra cost of being in payment longer
- Certain criteria must be met
- Reduced benefits must be more than the statutory standard (GMP) otherwise they will not be paid
- Dependants benefits will not be reduced

Please contact:

Pensions Department on: (01522) 577168, 577357, 577273, 577240 or 577354.



■ Macmillan Cancer Information Facilitator at Lincoln Bev Gambles

# Lincolnshire hospitals given grants for new innovation projects



■ A patient being assessed in A&E

Two projects running in Lincolnshire's hospitals have been given grants for the quality of innovation they demonstrate.

NHS East Midlands has allocated £2 million over the next three years for the development of 28 innovative projects across the region to deliver higher quality services at a lower cost and enable NHS organisations to put their ideas into practice.

Two successful bids were made by United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust and a total of £192,000 has been split between the projects.

The reforming emergency care programme is a joint initiative with other health and social care organisations in Lincolnshire and has been awarded £38,000 to link A&E computer systems to local GPs and walk in centres.

The project has been piloted at Lincoln and means that patients attending A&E will have a choice of where to be treated, to ensure they receive the right care in the right setting. Patients with minor illnesses may decide to be treated in A&E, or alternatively they can opt to be treated in the local walk in centre or at their GP practice the following day.

Emergency Care Programme Director, Peter Buckley, said: "This

award allows us to provide patients with a more complete service by directing them to where their needs will be best met. This will free up time within our A&E Department, as the staff will be treating patients who need to be there."

The releasing medical time to care project has been awarded £154,000 over two years to make the working day of medical staff more productive.

The Trust is one of the leading organisations in the country for implementing the Productive Ward project, which helps ward nursing teams release time to care by focussing on the things that add value to patients and reduce wasted time.

Assistant Director of Clinical Improvement, David Furley, said the Trust is the first in the country to involve junior doctors in the productive projects and help them identify areas where they can save time for patient care.

"I was excited when junior doctors asked us to work with them to identify the things that waste their time and to help them to focus on the things that add value to patient care. This is a great opportunity to make sure that wherever possible junior doctors spend the majority of their time with patients," he said.



**"NHS East Midlands has allocated £2 million for the next three years for the development of 28 innovative projects across the region to deliver higher quality services at a lower cost..."**

**WE ARE  
MACMILLAN.  
CANCER SUPPORT**



**"Macmillan's aim is to provide as many people as possible with correct and up to date information."**

## Macmillan news

A team of Macmillan cancer information facilitators work across Lincolnshire's hospitals and in the community to provide support, advice and information to cancer sufferers, their friends and family and those interested in cancer issues.

In this regular column, they will provide an update of the work they are currently doing:

### Outreach in the county

Macmillan's aim is to provide as many people as possible with correct and up to date information. To support this, the Macmillan information centres in Lincolnshire's hospitals are aiming to bring information to members of the public who may not be able to access them. They are providing outreach sessions to provide more information and support.

### Sleaford library

Macmillan's first outreach session took place at Sleaford Library on Thursday 11 February.

The library is being refurbished so the sessions will be started again on a monthly basis commencing Thursday 8 April from 9.30am to 12.30pm and once a month thereafter.

### Workplace venues

The Macmillan cancer information service is looking at taking information to workplaces across Lincolnshire. The service aims to visit workplaces around the county in a system similar to the library outreach. The launch of this service coincided with a visit of the Macmillan mobile unit to RAF Waddington in February.

### Health care professionals

Macmillan centres are primarily focused on the public and people

affected by cancer, however health care professionals can access the services too. Macmillan can provide accurate and comprehensive information regarding treatments and signpost to other agencies and services such as the Macmillan welfare benefits team in Lincolnshire.

Any health professionals or students who would like to spend time in one of the centres to gain more information on the service and the role of the facilitator are welcome to do so.

### Health care events

Cancer Talk Week took place in mid January and was aimed at children and younger people. Many school children come across cancer whether among their family or friends or themselves, and Cancer Talk Week is aimed at helping teachers and schools to cope with difficult situations that may arise. Macmillan provides a teaching pack and DVD on how teachers can best support their colleagues to provide children with the most appropriate and accurate information.

### Gainsborough outreach

These events take place on the second Tuesday of each month from 10am to 1pm at the Volunteers Bureau in the Lindsay Centre, Gainsborough. A Macmillan cancer information facilitator and a member of the carers team from Lincolnshire County Council are available for members of the public to talk to and see if they can help in any way.

### Gynaecology outreach

These sessions will take place on the first Tuesday of each month in the Outpatients Department at Lincoln County Hospital between 9am and 12pm.

Information on cancers that affect women will be available at the sessions along with a member of Macmillan staff to answer any questions.

For more information about any of the above articles please contact the Macmillan Cancer Information Facilitators on:

**Bev Gambles**  
(01522) 573799

**Caroline Boyer**  
(01522) 573088 or  
Caroline.boyer@ulh.nhs.uk

**Jenny Wilson**  
(01476) 464978.



■ Macmillan Cancer Information Facilitator at Grantham Jenny Wilson

# Hospital staff awarded for their care, courtesy and kindness to patients

A team of staff in a Lincolnshire hospital have been recognised for the care, courtesy and kindness they show to patients with an award.

The Care, Courtesy and Kindness Awards are run by NHS Lincolnshire, and members of the public were this year asked to share their experiences of excellent healthcare by nominating NHS staff across the county.

Staff in the Lincoln Renal Unit, based at Lincoln County Hospital, received two nominations and were chosen to receive an award at a ceremony in February.

The awards recognise members of staff, teams or services which provide excellent support to patients or carers, who display the highest levels of care, courtesy and kindness and who treat each person as an individual.

Claire Young, who is the daughter of one of the renal unit's patients and nominated the staff for the award, said: "All the staff at Lincoln Renal Unit are

outstanding in their dedication and care to all the patients on dialysis. The unit itself is a happy place where you are surrounded by cheerful staff and cheerful patients.

"Dialysis is not a nice thing to go through, but it is made all the better by being at the Lincoln Renal Unit," she said.

Chair of the Lincolnshire Kidney Patient's Association and patient of the unit, Tony Perry, said: "The nursing staff have the care and welfare of the patients at heart. Patients are greeted warmly no matter how pressured staff are, and friendly banter encourages the patients to relax, which is important."

Matron at the renal unit, Martin Gerrish, said the whole team are delighted to have been chosen for the award.

"We are proud to have been nominated for this award which recognises the quality of care that we provide to our patients."



■ The team from Lincoln Renal Unit picking up their Care, Courtesy and Kindness Award. Pictured (from left) are Chief Executive of NHS Lincolnshire John McIvor, Sister on the renal unit Karen Pammenter, Consultant Nephrologist Dr Jane Little and Matron Martin Gerrish with Chairman of NHS Lincolnshire Richard Childs



**"Patients are greeted warmly no matter how pressured staff are, and friendly banter encourages the patients to relax, which is important."**

## Generous fundraisers help cancer patients

Cancer patients in Lincolnshire are benefiting from a generous donation by a group of dedicated fundraisers.

The Coningsby Friends of Boston Hospital have donated a substantial sum to the Oncology and Haematology Department at Pilgrim Hospital, Boston, which will be used to purchase a special pump to administer chemotherapy to patients.

Chairman of the friends group, Richard Balcomb, said they have been

fundraising for over 30 years, and every year they ask for a list of items wanted by different areas.

"This time we saw that Ward 7A wanted a Baxter pump and we decided that we would provide the money for them to buy it," he said.

"We have never donated to oncology before and this is such a good cause so we are pleased that we were able to help."

The group presented a cheque for £1,695 to Sister on Ward 7A, Bee Hulley, at the hospital in January.

"The Baxter pump is an essential piece of equipment for oncology patients. It is used to deliver chemotherapy treatment and medication. The pumps that we already have are always in constant use," she said.

"This donation is a great help to our patients and we are so grateful. Without these pumps, patient treatment might be delayed and it is essential that our patients get the treatment they need on time."



■ Chairman of the Coningsby Friends of Boston Hospital, Richard Balcomb (right) handing their donation to Sister Bee Hulley (second right)

## Lincolnshire hospitals have the face of the NHS

A hospital worker in Lincolnshire has been chosen as the face of the NHS following a national competition.

Victoria Rawlinson, who works as a Personal Assistant to the clinical management team at Grantham and District Hospital, applied to be the face of NHS Jobs after hearing about a competition through a staff newsletter.

NHS Jobs is the website for recruitment for the whole of the NHS in the UK. Late last year they invited NHS staff to apply to have their photo on the website and promotional material to represent real staff members.

Victoria said she found about the competition last September in the United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust's electronic staff newsletter Newsline, and was really keen to apply.

"NHS Jobs were celebrating the launch of their new-look website and were searching for real staff to represent the diversity of the NHS workforce and feature on their website and in promotional materials," said Victoria.

"I had to write a 300 word explanation about why I should be the face of NHS Jobs and then a few weeks later I was told I had made it to the final 30."

The top 30 entries were then invited to a photo shoot before the final 15 new faces of NHS Jobs were chosen at the end of January.

"I wanted to be the face of NHS Jobs because it is something different. Opportunities like that don't come around every day and you only live once, I want to do as much as I can. I like working for the NHS and I hope that this will encourage others to join the NHS in Lincolnshire," she said.

Assistant Director of Human Resources at the Trust, Denise Langley, said: "We are really keen to promote Lincolnshire's hospitals as great places to work. I hope that Victoria's enthusiasm for her job will show people how enjoyable working for the NHS can be."



■ The new face of NHS Jobs Victoria Rawlinson

# Pilgrim hospital slashes carbon emissions with new energy centre



**“The hospital’s energy centre incorporates a range of low carbon technologies, including combined heat and power and a biomass boiler using renewable, locally sourced wood fuel.”**



■ The new biomass boiler within the energy centre at Pilgrim Hospital, Boston



■ An oil fired boiler in the new energy centre

Carbon emissions from a Lincolnshire hospital are being drastically cut with the opening of a new energy centre.

United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust recently installed a new energy centre at Pilgrim Hospital, Boston which will significantly reduce energy consumption and carbon emissions.

The work was carried out under a public private partnership arrangement between the Trust and Cofely- GDF Suez. The company will continue to operate and maintain the plant for 15 years, with guaranteed year-on-year energy savings for the Trust.

The energy centre was also recently highly commended at the Combined Heat and Power Association Awards.

Environmental Services Manager at the Trust, Kevin Thoy, said: “We have a strong commitment to sustainability and the new energy centre will reduce our carbon footprint significantly, as well as freeing up funds that can be diverted to

improving facilities for patients.

“Cofely’s experience in low carbon technologies, combined with an understanding of the health sector, proved invaluable in choosing the best solution for the hospital in both the short and long term. Cofely also helped us to secure the extra funding, including a £200,000 biomass grant from Lincolnshire County Council,” he said.

The hospital’s energy centre incorporates a range of low carbon technologies, including combined heat and power and a biomass boiler using renewable, locally sourced wood fuel.

Crucially, the design also offers a high level of flexibility, which will enable the hospital to take advantage of the most economical and sustainable fuels at any time. For example, the boilers used to supplement the biomass plant have dual fuel capability and can be switched to bio-oil in the future if this becomes economically viable.

# Friends donate furniture to complete new patient day room

Members of a hospital fundraising group have tried out the comfortable new furniture they have purchased for a ward day room.

The Boston League of Hospital Friends have purchased chairs and tables for a new day room that has been created for patients on Ward 6B at Pilgrim Hospital, Boston.

Members of the group visited the ward in January to see the new room and the items they purchased.

The day room has been created to help patients spend some time out of their beds and in a more home-like environment during their stay in hospital. The room is used for patients to socialise, play games, work with occupational therapists and eat meals.

Consultant in Psychological Medicine on Ward 6B, Dr Gillian Garden, said the ward previously had no day room.

“The room was used as a storeroom, but staff on the ward recognised that it could be better used

as a day room to aid the rehabilitation of our patients,” she said.

“So we set about creating a new space and have been able to make it into a lovely area for patients thanks to the generosity of the league of friends.

“The room has really improved the quality of care that we can provide to patients on the ward.”

Chairman of the Boston League of Hospital Friends, Juliet Tait, said they were delighted to see how the room had been transformed.

“It has a really warm and cheerful atmosphere and we hope that patients enjoy using it. We are very pleased to have been able to help the hospital in this way.”

In addition to the day room furniture, the league of friends has also recently purchased two new state-of-the-art beds to be used in a small unit dedicated to patients with confusion and challenging behaviour on the ward.



■ (left to right front) League of friends members Audrey Howard, Rachel Murphy and Juliet Tait with (left to right standing) Brian Halls and Tony Vaughan try out the new furniture they have purchased for the day room on Ward 6B

# Midwives raise money for equipment

A group of staff on the maternity ward at Pilgrim Hospital, Boston are on a fundraising mission to purchase some additional new equipment for their area.

The Pilgrim Maternity Fundraising Group formed in August last year after staff on the maternity ward decided that they wanted to start raising money.

Group leader and midwife Sue Pearson-Tipp said they got together after discussions on how to enhance the efficiency and care they provide for women and their babies.

"Our first thought was that we could do with more automated blood pressure machines that are used on mums who are admitted to the antenatal assessment unit and maternity ward with problems with their blood pressure," she said.

"We already have one, but there

are times when serial recordings are required, so we decided that we could use two extra, and fundraising would be a fun way to do it."

The group have already held a tombola and started raising money towards their £5,000 target for the new equipment.

"We have a bungee jump planned and several of our husbands and partners have agreed to a sponsored waxing. We also received our first charitable donation the other day from someone who heard about our plans, which is brilliant," said Sue.

"It would be lovely if members of the public would like to get involved in the group and help us raise the money."

If anyone would like to get involved with the Pilgrim Maternity Fundraising Group then contact Sue Pearson-Tipp or Michaela Mitchell on (01205) 445144.



■ Midwife Sue Pearson-Tipp (far right) along with other members of the Pilgrim Maternity Fundraising Group

## Legacy donation buys new hospital equipment



■ The donation of the new urology equipment with the family of Ida Meades who donated the money (pictured left to right) Angela and Ashley Wilson, Consultant Urologist Nazeer Dahar, DOCATEF members Ian Wilson and Graham Rodwell and Theatre Sister Alison Cox



■ The donation of the new camera with (left to right) DOCATEF members Ian Wilson and Graham Rodwell, dental department Secretary Glenys Hobart, Ashley Wilson, Consultant Orthodontist Fred Calvert, Associate Specialist in Oral Surgery Fiona Evans and Angela Wilson

A cancer charity has donated two hi-tech new pieces of equipment to help patients at a Lincolnshire hospital.

DOCATEF (the Detection of Cancer and Treatment Fund) has presented the Urology Department at Pilgrim Hospital, Boston, with a new stack system. This is used for the treatment of kidney cancers using keyhole techniques.

The group has also donated a new camera kit to the hospital's maxillofacial team, which helps in the diagnosis of facial and oral cancers.

Secretary of DOCATEF, Noreen Evison, said they funded the purchases with a legacy they had received from Boston lady Ida Meades who passed away two years ago.

"We chose to purchase these items as they will help speed up diagnosis of cancer and that, in turn, will improve the treatment of patients," she said.

Associate Specialist in Oral Surgery at Pilgrim hospital, Fiona Evans, said the new camera allows them to take photographs of the insides of patients' mouths, which has many benefits.

"This is a very high precision camera, so it means we can take photographs of the same area months apart, and the quality of the images means we can compare how the inside of the mouth looks. This means we can monitor patients' progress very easily," she said.

"It also comes in useful so that we can show patients what is going on inside their mouths when they are suffering from cancers or other conditions, as otherwise it is very difficult to see inside your own mouth."

Consultant Urologist Nazeer Dahar said the stack system purchased for their department has dramatically altered the care they can provide for kidney cancer patients.

"This is the first piece of equipment of its kind in Lincolnshire, and it enables us to carry out kidney biopsies and removal surgery using keyhole techniques. It is very advanced," he said.

"The fact that we can do these procedures using keyhole surgery brings great benefits to patients; the operation is shorter, the recovery time is much shorter and the wound created is much smaller and heals more easily.

"This new equipment has meant that, in most cases, patients can leave hospital within 48 hours of their operation, which is much shorter than with open-wound operations of this kind. We are extremely grateful to DOCATEF for everything they have done for us over the years."

## Human Resources news

The Improving Working Lives (IWL) World Café forums have recently been held for staff at Grantham, Lincoln, and Boston hospitals and will soon be heading to Louth.

The forums have proved to be a great success with staff attending from all disciplines and all bands. The staff discussed good practice and 'what good would look like' in the following areas:

- Human resources and strategy
- Flexible working
- Partnership working
- Support for carers and childcare
- Training and development
- Healthy workplace
- Equality and diversity

The attendees discussed how the forums gave in-depth knowledge of diverse working practices and areas for improvement. The interactive exercises, which formed part of the forums, allowed for sharing expertise and knowledge with staff who were keen to provide ideas and thoughts on the topics. Those who attended the forums found them to be a valuable way of engaging staff.



"The attendees discussed how the forums gave in-depth knowledge of diverse working practices and areas for improvement.."

## New consultant microbiologist takes up post at Lincoln

A new consultant microbiologist has been appointed to support the provision of the clinical microbiology and infection control service at Lincoln County Hospital.

Dr Peter Wilkinson recently started work at the hospital and will be working with the infection prevention team as well as advising healthcare staff on the control, management and prevention of infections.

Dr Wilkinson previously worked for the Health Protection Agency (HPA) where he was based at the Centre for Infections in London. He has also been a consultant microbiologist and director of the laboratories at the former Public Health Laboratory Service in Plymouth, Nottingham and then the Trent and East Midlands regions.

"I am very pleased to have this opportunity to play an active role in advising on the care of patients in Lincoln's hospital and in its wider community," he said.

"I am looking forward to working with a strong team in providing quality patient care for the people of Lincolnshire."



■ *New Consultant Microbiologist Dr Peter Wilkinson*

## New nurses will improve care for patients with learning disabilities

Two new nurses have been appointed to help patients with learning disabilities when they go to hospital in Lincolnshire.

Busi Mafusire and Rebecca Eccles have recently started work as Primary Care Health Liaison Nurses for adults with learning disabilities.

Lincolnshire Community Health Services have employed both nurses who will support patients at Lincoln County Hospital and Pilgrim Hospital, Boston.

The role ensures that patients with learning disabilities and their carers are kept fully informed about all aspects of their health care. By working closely with each individual, the nurses work to communicate vital information in the best way for that person to fully understand.

# Staff awarded for dedicated service to the NHS

Staff who have worked for the NHS for more than 25 years have been thanked for their dedication at a series of long service awards ceremonies.

United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust recently arranged three long service award ceremonies for staff, which took place in January and February.

Awards were handed out to over 100 members of staff from Lincoln County Hospital, County Hospital, Louth, Pilgrim Hospital, Boston and Grantham and District Hospital who have served for the NHS for either 25, 30, 35, 40 or 45 years.

They were all thanked for their hard work and dedication by Acting Chief Executive Bernard Chalk and Chairman Paul Richardson.



■ *Long serving members of staff from Grantham and District Hospital with Acting Chief Executive Bernard Chalk and Trust Chairman Paul Richardson*

## New consultant plans to improve haematology services for children and mothers

Children and expectant mothers suffering from blood disorders are benefiting from the appointment of a new consultant to Lincolnshire's hospitals.

Dr Bethan Myers has recently started work as a Consultant Haematologist at Lincoln County Hospital and has plans to improve the service for children and pregnant women.

"I would like to establish a separate paediatric haemophilia clinic together with the paediatricians, as children currently have to come to our adult clinic. I think it would be a better experience for them if they were able to go to their own dedicated clinic, in addition to having the combined input from paediatric and haematology consultants in one place."

Dr Myers also has plans to create

an obstetric haematology clinic for pregnant ladies at the hospital, as well as treating her other patients for blood disorders such as anaemia and platelet problems.

"I am very pleased to be working here at Lincoln. Everyone has been very welcoming and I hope to do my best to improve the patient experience," she said.



**"I would like to establish a separate paediatric haemophilia clinic together with the paediatricians."**



■ *New Consultant Haematologist at Lincoln County Hospital, Dr Bethan Myers*

## Hospital staff wear pink for Haiti



■ *Staff and patients on the children's ward at Lincoln County Hospital wearing pink clothes to support the Haiti earthquake appeal*

Staff working on the children's wards at Lincoln County Hospital have been dressing up in pink to raise money for children in Haiti.

All of the staff on Lincoln and Ruston Wards decided to wear at least one item of pink and sell cakes and novelty pencils for a day in February to raise money for the Haiti Children's Earthquake Emergency Fund.

The idea came from Staff Nurse Sharon Birkin, who said she thought it would be nice to do something for other people.

"I know that if we were in the same position we would want someone to help us, so we have done our best to raise as much money as

possible. We have already collected £208," she said.

The cakes ran out quickly, but the hospital restaurant kindly donated some more to be given out on the wards.

Playleader on Ruston Ward, Donna Wilkinson, said: "We were so pleased that all the staff joined in, even the doctors. We would like to thank everyone who contributed to the day."



**"We were so pleased that all the staff joined in, even the doctors."**

# Foundation Trust members update

All members of United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust should now have received their Foundation Trust membership packs. From now

on, every member will be sent a copy of each edition of ULH News to keep them updated with the latest news from Lincolnshire's hospitals.

If you are a member and have not received your membership pack, or if you are interested in finding out more about becoming a member, please contact the Foundation Trust office on (01522) 572301.

## Apply to be a member

If you are interested in becoming a member and you are 16 or over, please complete and return this form to: **FREEPOST, Foundation Trust Office, Lincoln County Hospital, Greetwell Road, Lincoln. LN2 5QY.**

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- Mixed- White and Asian
- Mixed- Any other mixed background
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- Asian or Asian British- Bangladeshi
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### Do you have a particular interest in any of our services?

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- Transport
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- Patient involvement
- Cleanliness
- Hospital improvements

### Do you consider yourself to have a disability?

- Yes
- No

### If so, what kind of disability do you have?

- A sensory disability
- A physical disability
- A learning disability
- A mental health problem
- Any other special needs (please specify)

### How did you hear about our Trust?

- Letter
- The media
- Through a Trust employee
- Internet
- Consultation or other meeting
- Poster
- Leaflet or consultation document

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The data we collect will only be used to contact you about membership matters and will be stored in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### New interim Medical Director

Paul Dunning, a new interim Medical Director has been appointed to Lincolnshire's hospitals.

Following an internal recruitment process and a formal interview, Paul Dunning has been announced as the new interim Medical Director of United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust, replacing Dr David Boldy who stepped down from the position in February.

Mr Dunning, a Consultant Vascular Surgeon at Lincoln County Hospital, took up the post at the end of February.

He will continue to undertake a small clinical commitment and will be undertaking the medical director role for four days per week.



■ New interim Medical Director Paul Dunning

### How to contact us

ULH News is produced by the Communications Department at United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust, but we'd love for you to get involved too.

If you have an interesting story to tell or a message to get across to Lincolnshire's hospital or health community, please share them with us so that we can include them in the next edition of ULH News.

For more information, or to submit an item for the newspaper, please contact Media Officer Anna Temple at [anna.temple@ulh.nhs.uk](mailto:anna.temple@ulh.nhs.uk) or call (01522) 573986.

## Lincoln MP visits brand new hospital ward

MP for Lincoln and Public Health Minister Gillian Merron has visited staff and patients on a brand new ward at Lincoln County Hospital.

The new £2.8m Navenby Ward opened in January, providing 23 additional beds for cardio and respiratory patients.

The ward also contains two negative pressure rooms to provide specialist infection control facilities for respiratory patients and a bariatric suite to care for grossly overweight patients who need specialist equipment and facilities to ensure high standards of care, privacy and dignity.

Ms Merron spent time meeting the

staff on the ward, talking to patients and looking at how the new facilities are being used.

"This is a fantastic new facility for Lincoln. The hospital is constantly offering new, better and higher quality facilities. Talking to patients, they really appreciate the bright, new environment, quality of care and standard of cleanliness. The ward has a great atmosphere and a great team. I really enjoyed my visit," she said.

Junior Sister on Navenby Ward, Katie Sleight, said: "It was really nice for staff and patients to see the local MP. It's great for her to be taking an interest in the hospital and the work that goes on here."



■ MP for Lincoln Gillian Merron (second from left) with some of the staff on Navenby Ward

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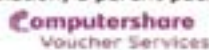
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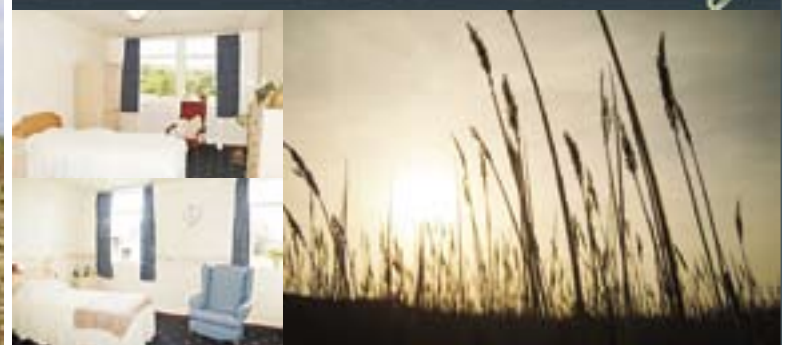
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### Family Information Service



Are you a parent or carer with children? Looking for help or information on:

- o childcare
- o benefits
- o children with additional needs
- o or leisure activities?



The Family Information Service provides free information for parents, their children and for young people.



Freephone 0800 195 1635  
Email [fis@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:fis@lincolnshire.gov.uk)  
Website [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/fis](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/fis)





## SCORER STREET

**Promoting life skills to enhance individuals' confidence towards a more independent lifestyle**

### **Who are we?**

122 Scorer Street is a small residential care home providing 24hr care 365/6 days a year for two adults with a learning disability/high functioning autistic spectrum disorder.

### **We provide services for adults:**

- \* Aged 18+ years
- \* With a Learning Disability/High Functioning Autistic Spectrum Disorder

122 Scorer Street works with each resident as an individual, to assess their needs and agree a plan of care to support and assist the individual to remain as independent as possible and to attain their goals.

# Tel: 01522 804 167

122 Scorer Street. Lincoln. LN5 7SX

[adrian@scorerstreet.co.uk](mailto:adrian@scorerstreet.co.uk) [www.scorerstreet.co.uk](http://www.scorerstreet.co.uk)



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

