Rotherham Hospital rolled out the red carpet on Friday 20th February for a Royal Visitor.

Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Cornwall met patients and staff to learn how the Rotherham Osteoporosis and Bone Health Service is helping people in the area.

HRH, who was visiting the hospital in her capacity as President of the National Osteoporosis Society was welcomed to the hospital by the Lord Lieutenant for South Yorkshire, Mr David Moody.

After meeting civic dignitaries and representatives from health organisations in Rotherham, representatives from The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust, including some of the volunteers who make such a vital contribution to the hospital, HRH was given an escorted tour of the Rotherham Osteoporosis and Bone Health Service Unit by Dr Mary Holt, the Lead Consultant of the Service.

During her tour of the unit HRH was given an explanation of how the Service’s DXA bone density scanner works and discussed the service the unit provides with patients and staff.

After her tour HRH met other members of the team who play a vital part in the Unit, and local members of the National Osteoporosis Society, among others.

The Duchess then unveiled a plaque to commemorate her visit and was invited by Brian James, Chief Executive, The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust to sign the hospital’s visitor book.

Finally, nine year old Erin Page presented HRH with a posy and the Duchess left to applause from the large group of people who had gathered.

"Her Royal Highness’s visit meant a tremendous amount to all the people involved in the Unit"

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Continued overleaf on page two, first column...
During the adverse weather conditions which swept across the country, staff from all parts of the hospital did a fantastic job to make sure Rotherham Hospital kept on caring for our patients.

Three people in particular played a vital part in keeping the hospital open. Nigel Smith, Glenn Ford and Dean Brooks normally tend to the grounds and gardens, but during the winter they ensure that the roads and paths are kept gritted to ensure business as usual is maintained.

During the difficult period all three have attended site at very short notice, working in the early hours or late at night. They have used more than 20 tonnes of road salt during a ten day period and used snowploughs to clear the site of snow.

On one occasion members of the Estates and Security staff rolled up their sleeves and joined in to assist the Gardeners, to clear the snow from pavements, roads and car parks, because the conditions were so severe.

Nigel Smith, Head Gardener at Rotherham Hospital said: “I’d like to thank Glenn and Dean for all their hard work, and coming in when the need was there to make sure the job got done.”

Pete Jolley, Operational Estates Manager added: “We have a fantastic group of caring and dedicated people working at the hospital, and staff from all across the hospital put in very special efforts throughout the snowstorms to ensure the hospital maintained access for patients, visitors and staff.

“Nigel, Glenn and Dean especially put the hospital, their colleagues and our patients first. They worked through extremely adverse conditions in such a conscientious and professional manner, and I want to thank them on behalf of the Trust for an incredible job.”

Dr Holt, Consultant Rheumatologist and Lead Consultant of the Rotherham Osteoporosis and Bone Health Service Unit, said: “Her Royal Highness’s visit meant a tremendous amount to all the people involved in the Unit. It will help raise awareness locally of the importance of detecting osteoporosis and the ways in which the Rotherham Osteoporosis and Bone Health Service is leading in the treatment and prevention of this condition.”

Brian James, Chief Executive of The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust said: “We’re delighted that Her Royal Highness chose to visit Rotherham to see first hand the excellent work of the Rotherham Osteoporosis and Bone Health Service, and meet both users of the service and the dedicated staff who deliver such a high quality service to the citizens of Rotherham and patients from other areas who choose Rotherham Hospital for their treatment.”
The hospital pharmacy has re-opened after a one million pound refit which has seen the installation of robots that will revolutionise the dispensary process.

The previous pharmacy system had been virtually unchanged for the last 30 years with medications picked by hand from alphabetical shelved storage systems. Although the old system worked, dispensing prescriptions could be time consuming and lead to patients or wards waiting longer for their medication.

Chief Pharmacist, Ian Cawthorne said, “The new technology will mean that the department is better able to utilise employees and resources to meet the needs of service users”.

“The whole place was completely gutted so that we now have a more functional space for the pharmacy employees as well as for the robotic dispensary machines which are about three meters high and seven meters long”.

“We anticipate that the benefits of the robotic systems will be that the turn around time for prescriptions will be faster, leading to improved quality of service. Although the number of times that errors were made in the drugs dispensed were very low the new system should virtually eliminate any opportunity for errors in the future. This work is all about improving the speed of discharge of patients and improving risk management, while at the same time bringing the service up to 21st century standards”, added Ian.

The pharmacy re-opening means that the temporary dispensary on A Level has been relocated back to the main facility on C Level. Staff and patients coming to collect prescriptions will be directed to C Level. The pneumatic tube system for the pharmacy will once again be functioning and can be used to get prescriptions to the department.

“We are really pleased with the quality of the refit for the department. It will make a considerable difference to both the way that we work, and to the service we can deliver to the patients, wards and departments that we serve”, added Ian Cawthorne.
Patient greetings cards service via email is launched

The electronic greeting system has been launched making it easier for friends and relations of patients to keep in touch.

The patient greetings scheme has been developed by Patient Information Officer Michelle Gibson who submitted the concept and won the idea of the month and the idea of the year awards for innovative new service.

Patient greetings works by allowing a friend or relation of a patient to log onto the Trust website, choose one of seven greetings cards and complete a message form enabling them to send their greetings and well wishes to the patient in hospital. Once the form is received by the Trust the message will be printed on to the greetings card that the person chose and the card will be delivered to the patient on the ward by one of the hospital’s dedicated volunteers.

Patient Information Officer, Michelle Gibson said, “It has taken a while to get everything in place to make the scheme work, but we have finally got everything arranged for the first greetings to arrive. This is a really exciting service for us to be able to offer and adds to the work that is going on around the organisation in developing the standard of service we deliver”.

“For some relatives or friends who may find it difficult to get to the hospital or for those who may live a great distance away, this service offers the opportunity to get a message hand delivered to a patient, which can be of real emotional benefit to patients”.

“We have designed several different greetings cards including a Christmas card, for those who are in our care over the festive period. There is a card for the birth of a child as well as some more general ‘thinking of you’ and ‘hope you get well soon’ messages. They are great designs and I hope that anyone wishing to send a greeting thinks that at least one of the designs is appropriate for the person they want to send it to”, added Michelle.

Posters are being displayed around the organisation to let people know that this new service is available. Those wishing to send a greeting need to log onto: www.therotherhamft.nhs.uk/inpatient_greetings and follow the instructions for completing the form and choosing a card.
Gamma Scanner Appeal weathers the storm

Despite the doom and gloom of the economy, the Gamma Scanner Appeal is continuing to garner support and it is thanks to people like you.

Before Christmas, the Appeal Committee handed over the first £50,000 to the hospital – the first huge step towards our target. The cheque was presented by Committee Members to The Earl and Countess of Scarbrough, as patrons of the Rotherham General Hospital Gamma Scanner Appeal.

This milestone was reached in large part thanks to a Fashion Show which was kindly hosted at the home of the Earl and Countess of Scarbrough on 6th November. The event, which was attended by over 100 guests, raised over £11,000 for the Appeal and was a roaring success.

Guests were welcomed with canapés, champagne and treated to a glittering catwalk show, featuring the latest trends and some glamour for the festive season. The event would not have been possible without the hard work and enthusiasm of the Countess of Scarbrough, Kelly Clark who supplied the womenswear and had a huge hand in organizing the show and members of the Gamma Scanner Committee themselves. And the Appeal keeps moving forward. With £63,800 raised at the end of December and donations of over £10,500 since January, we are incredibly grateful to the people of Rotherham and neighbouring areas for their continued support.

Rotherham Hospital Charity arrives in the 21st Century

If you ever surf the internet and use a search engine, then you could now search on line and raise money for our charity at the same time. By using www.everyclick.com you can register and choose Rotherham Hospital Charity as your chosen charity. Everyclick then donates 1p for each search you make and this will help us to provide enhanced patient care and patient services in your hospital – at no cost to you.

You can also use this site to set up fundraising pages if you want to raise money for a charity and sponsors can donate on line. The funds would then come straight to Rotherham Hospital Charity.
I'm exercising for the first time in my life at Motorcise Healthy Living Centre

Mum Mandy Hughes has the body she always wanted—and it didn’t involve Lycra or competing with young body beautifuls.

Weighing 12 stone and standing at 5ft 1in, she hated the idea of gyms and the huge pressure they place on clients looking toned, fit and athletic. Just 12 months later, Mandy, of Nantwich, Cheshire, had shed three-and-a-half stone, dropped from a size 18 to a size eight, and cut her body fat to a perfect 22 per cent—all thanks to Motorcise.

Mandy, who runs a car parts supplies business with her husband, has been exercising at Motorcise three times a week since November 2001. She said: “Being overweight, the thought of a conventional gym was intimidating, as I felt there was too much pressure to look good.

“As soon as you walk through the door at Motorcise you feel relaxed and happy with the friendly and helpful attitude of the staff. The atmosphere was so easy going and friendly. I am now fitter, healthier and have much more energy. Joining Motorcise is certainly a life changing experience, for the better, and I challenge anyone to try it and say it does not work.”

Mandy is just one of thousands who have transformed their life by using Motorcise’s state-of-the-art exercise machines.

“I challenge anyone to try it and say it does not work.” - Mandy Hughes

The revolutionary motorised machines help to achieve weight loss, increase joint flexibility, improve posture, boost energy levels and improve sleep patterns. It takes just 30 minutes to use them all, by which time every muscle group from the neck down has been fully exercised.

The risk of high blood pressure, heart disease, stroke and thrombosis are reduced by 3:1 and average inch loss in the first eight to 10 weeks is between eight and 12 inches—ensuring you go down at least a full dress size.

The décor and furnishings and even the lighting have been carefully selected to create the right ambience. Centres are air-conditioned to maintain the perfect environment all year round. The centres offer a relaxed atmosphere—without the hoards of beautiful twenty-somethings that leave many feeling daunted and unmotivated.

Motorcise centres are extremely popular because they offer more than just exercise—staff and members socialise freely, offering advice, tips, support and friendship.

Motorcise Healthy Living Centre

Rotherham 32-34 Bridgegate • tel: 01709 821122
Open Monday to Friday 9.00am – 8.00pm, Sunday 9.00am – 2.00pm
Facilities for ladies only • 40 centres nationwide • www.motorcise.com
Rotherham Hospital celebrates its 30th Anniversary

Staff and patients celebrated the hospital's 30th birthday on December 11th 2008 with a variety of events. Six magical characters from the Sheffield Lyceum Theatre's Christmas Pantomime 'Aladdin' visited the Children's wards to spread a little festive cheer and raise some smiles.

Out on the hospital wards, staff were provided with 'celebreak' boxes to help patients and themselves celebrate the 30th anniversary in style, and each member of staff was given a mug and voucher from Costa Coffee.

Other staff, visitors and patients celebrated with a cup of coffee and a piece of cake in the Rooftop Restaurant, to a backdrop of a display of photographs taken at the Hospital during the last thirty years.

The Mayor and Mayoress, other guests and staff heard a short speech from Hospital Chief Executive Brian James and from the Trust Chairman Mrs Margaret Oldfield.

During the speech, Brian reflected that the Trust has just enjoyed perhaps the most successful year in its history, achieving a double excellent in the Annual Health Check and leading the way nationally in areas such as access times, infection rates and cancer targets.

In recognition of this success – which is very much the result of the hard work and dedication of staff – Brian announced that staff would be receiving a ‘thank you payment’ of £100 for full time staff and £50 for part time staff.

The Trust has had low waiting times at the heart of its priorities since becoming a Foundation Trust. Low waiting times are good for patients and their GPs. When patients get seen quickly, if there is something wrong, it is rapidly diagnosed so treatment can commence without any further advancement of disease or disorder. If there is nothing wrong, patients are reassured as rapidly as possible. This helps GPs, because they know that when they refer, the patient will be seen very quickly. They can then focus on their task of seeing their other patients speedily and effectively.

The NHS has set a national minimum standard of 18 weeks from referral to treatment for routine cases. Here at the Trust, we have been working hard over the last year to halve this maximum to 9 weeks (2 weeks outpatients, 1 week investigations, 6 weeks in patient waiting list). The good news is that the vast majority of Specialities have now achieved this. In fact the current median wait for outpatient services at Rotherham is 10 days and the median wait for inpatients is 17 days, which are amongst the shortest waits delivered anywhere in the country.

We have been strongly supported in this ambition by NHS Rotherham and our surrounding primary care trusts through commissioning this level of service from us.

As a result of the above, more and more patients are choosing to come to Rotherham Hospital, enabling us to invest further and faster to improve services.”
We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has contacted the Foundation Trust Office in the past 6 months and a thank you to all members who have responded to surveys.

Website Survey – thank you for your feedback!
In the last edition of Foundation Trust newsletter, we asked readers to complete a short questionnaire to provide their feedback on the Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust website to find out how we can improve the site in the future.

We had an good response to the survey and received almost 100 completed questionnaires:

You told us…
The top five features you’d like to be able to find on our website (in order of preference) were:
• Up to date waiting times
• Treatment pathway information
• Department opening times
• Information on procedures
• Visiting times.

You also told us your main priorities (in order of preference) for the new site included:
• Secure/password protected areas
• Virtual “3D” tour of the hospital
• Glossary of terms
• Discussion forums
• Links to other useful sites
• Details of services & internal departments.

Some respondents explained that they do not currently visit the website on a regular basis, while the majority told us that they were able to find the information they required. Those unable to find information quickly and easily provided some excellent suggestions as to what other features which might be included on the website (including public transport information, performance details and clear contact details).

Now that we have a clearer understanding of your views and opinions, we’re able to incorporate these into plans for the new website. Proposals are now being drawn up for the new site and over the forthcoming months, you’ll begin to notice improvements on our current website. We will keep you up to date with developments via this newsletter.

As members of the Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust, we value your views and feedback and would like to take this opportunity once again to say a huge thank you to everyone who completed the questionnaire.

Welcoming Service feedback
We also surveyed new members who had attended Out-patients for their views on the Welcoming Service located at Main Reception. So far, we’ve received over 35 responses and:

You told us…
• 11 people did not notice the Welcoming Service and felt that the service should be more prominent
• 12 people noticed the service but did not use it
• 10 people noticed and used the service
• Of these, the majority used the service for directions only
• Only 1 person used the service to request a wheelchair.

You also told us the main changes you would like are:
• Floor plans or maps available from the Welcoming Service
• More staff on the desk
• A Quick Questions window.

Feedback gained from this survey will be used to influence the new reception facility in the main entrance.

Inside this issue of Your Choice, we’ve enclosed a questionnaire asking for your views on car parking.
Improving care for people with Dementia

**Personal Information Diary**

The Personal Information Diary was developed following feedback and comments from people with dementia and their carers regarding their admission to the Rotherham Hospital. It was apparent that many staff used to caring for acutely ill patients had little understanding of the effects of the dementia and how to care for these patients in the acute setting.

The Diary was developed in conjunction with members of the Alzheimer’s Society, Carers, Matrons (Health Care for Older People) and the Mental Health liaison Nurse.

The aim of the Patient Information Diary is to:

- Build up a holistic picture of the needs and preferences of individual patients who may not be able to share the information themselves.

- Aid communication between health care workers and carers to provide a consistent, individualised, person-centred approach to care for patients with Dementia. There is a question and answer section, which may be utilised as a two-way communication tool.

- To improve the patient’s experience in the acute health care setting.

The information contained in the Patient Information Diary is useful to plan and implement individualised daily care in the absence of the usual main carer e.g. a preference for the order that garments are put on when dressing.

It also contains information to assist staff who may not have a knowledge of dementia to understand how the condition affects the daily lives of the individual with the illness e.g. how the individual may be unable to respond to a direct question of ‘are you in pain’ but exhibit specific behaviour when they are e.g. rubbing their head.

The diary is the property of the patient and should be used on the patient journey to future health care settings.

The Personal Information Diary was recognised and awarded the first prize in the 2008 Patient Information Literature Awards by the British Medical Association in 2008 as being an excellent information/education leaflet.

As The Personal Information Diary is due for re-printing it is currently being reviewed with members of the Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber Mental Health Team (RDaSH). Currently RDaSH have a version used for patients in the Mental Health Setting and it is envisaged one Information Diary could be produced both for patients admitted into the acute trust and patients admitted to RDaSH.
Looking for Quality Childcare?

Parents with children from 3 months to 5 years need look no further! Leapfrog Day Nursery in Rotherham, now part of The Busy Bees Group, offers fantastic day care for your child.

Leapfrog Day Nursery in Rotherham is committed to providing quality care for every child in a safe, caring environment, whilst also meeting each child's individual social, physical and emotional needs. The nursery is open from 7am – 6pm, Monday to Friday and has some fantastic facilities including: secure access throughout, for your piece of mind, and large, fully equipped Base Rooms designed specifically for babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers. Each room has their own Base Room Manager who plans and co-ordinates the children's activities throughout the day. Other facilities at the nursery include a Sensory Room - to help calm and encourage the children's senses, a fantastic Library Room, and a secure, sheltered outdoor play area.

The nursery currently offers dance lessons and a cookery club to the pre-school children as part of their extra curricular activities.

The nursery provides fresh home cooked meals every day, with snacks and drinks available throughout the day. The chef will also cater for special dietary requirements.

Michelle Lovell, who has a wealth of nursery experience, and plenty of enthusiasm, manages Leapfrog Day Nursery in Rotherham. Michelle has been with The Busy Bees Group for nearly 10 years, starting as a Nursery Nurse, before gradually working her way up to Nursery Manager. Michelle currently holds a BTEC National Diploma in Childhood Studies and is in her final year of a Foundation Degree in Children and Young Peoples Services.

Michelle upholds the caring and friendly environment of the nursery and works with the dedicated staff team to ensure that the quality childcare at Leapfrog continues. She builds a strong and trusting relationship with every parent to ensure that their needs, as well as their child's needs, are met. Throughout the year the nursery holds lots of fun filled activities for the children, as well as open days and fun events for the whole family!

For more information contact Nursery Manager, Michelle Lovell, on 01709 836 669

Part of the Busy Bees Group

Childcare you can trust at Leapfrog in Rotherham

Children 3 months to 5 years
Open from 7am until 6pm
Friendly qualified staff team
Sensory room
Soft play areas
Dance sessions available
Located within the grounds of Rotherham Hospital

Viewing afternoons every Friday, 2-4pm

For more information about our nursery please call Michelle on 01709 836 669

Leapfrog Day Nursery, Oakwood Hall Drive, Rotherham S60 2UD
www.leapfrogdaynurseries.co.uk
In the past three years we have come a long way and we are one of the most highly regarded Foundation Trusts in the country.

The next stage of our extraordinary journey has now been mapped out and forms our Service Development Strategy 2 which is entitled The Way Ahead.

This strategy covers the next three years of our journey. It is exciting in its ambition and has a strong sense of vision. This is thanks to the extensive consultation process which took place, a consultation process in which you played an important role.

We would like to thank you for your input, your comments and even your questions and concerns. As members, you have a valuable role to play in designing our future and we have taken your contributions on board.

With your continued support, we will be successful in implementing this strategy and will be sure to face the future from a position of strength.

From all of us at The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust, a big thank you.

If you would like to receive a summary of the Way Forward, please contact the Foundation Trust Office who will happily send a copy out to you.

It’s election time again

It’s election time again and this Spring there were seven Public Governor posts up for election. The following five candidates were elected unopposed subject to suitability checks:

Sandra Waterfield Rother Valley South
Anthony Wilkinson Rother Valley West
Jeanette Mallinder Wentworth Valley
Frank Hodgkiss and Lew Vizard Wentworth North

A contested election has taken place for a public governor for the Rotherham North constituency. The candidate elected subject to suitability checks is:

Val Lindsay Rotherham North

This will leave 1 vacant Public Governor post and 2 vacant Staff Governor posts:

Public Governor
Rotherham South

Staff Governors
Support Staff
Other Directly Employed NHS Staff.

Anyone interested in any of the vacant Governor posts should contact the Foundation Trust Office.
A ground breaking new project that uses evidence based criteria to determine the correct level of care for a patient has been launched at Rotherham Hospital.

InterQual is a software tool that will benefit patients by helping to reduce their length of stay in hospital. It will also help reduce the number of inappropriate admissions, and assist in identifying the services that are needed to ensure the best treatment for each individual patient.

InterQual will be used to supplement and support clinical decision-making.

In a UK first, InterQual will be used across Primary and Secondary health care in the Rotherham area through a partnership between The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust, NHS Rotherham and Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council.

It has been launched initially on three wards at Rotherham Hospital supported by the appointment of three new Case Managers, and will be rolled out across Rotherham Hospital through 2009.

With InterQual – which the Trust has purchased from McKesson UK, healthcare IT solutions and services specialist - patients are assessed on admission and during their stay in hospital against a set of clinical criteria that supports decisions about the appropriate level of care, ensuring prompt patient discharge at the appropriate time, including admission avoidance. The system also helps case managers to identify delays and bottlenecks that prevent timely discharge.

The implementation of InterQual will support the Trust’s ongoing work on preventing avoidable admissions and improving the discharge process.

Brian James, Chief Executive of The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust said: “InterQual will play a vital role in the ongoing improvement of the care we offer people in the Rotherham area. Used hand in hand with the experience and skill of our clinical staff we can ensure more than ever that patients are cared for by the right person, in the right place, at the right time.

“It is fantastic news as well that we are implementing InterQual in partnership with NHS Rotherham and Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council”.

“Using the same tool to help determine whether an individual patient requires admission or not, whether they are at the right level of care, and when it is appropriate to discharge, also helps keep down the costs of providing health care – while the quality of care improves”.

All members of the public are entitled to attend the Rotherham Hospital Annual General Meeting. In addition to the AGM, the Council of Governors holds meetings every three months to discuss Trust issues. Public members are entitled to attend these meetings or alternatively you can write down your thoughts or suggestions about changes at Rotherham Hospital and send them to your Governor, care of Foundation Trust Office, Level D, Rotherham General Hospital, Moorgate Road, Rotherham S60 2UD.

Council of Governors Meeting
Wednesday 15th July 2009 at 5.00pm

Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 9th September 2009 at 5.00pm

All members of the public are entitled to attend the Rotherham Hospital Annual General Meeting. In addition to the AGM, the Council of Governors holds meetings every three months to discuss Trust issues. Public members are entitled to attend these meetings or alternatively you can write down your thoughts or suggestions about changes at Rotherham Hospital and send them to your Governor, care of Foundation Trust Office, Level D, Rotherham General Hospital, Moorgate Road, Rotherham S60 2UD.
In order to deliver on our ambitious plans we need to make some massive changes to our facilities. As an operation that provides care around the clock, we need to be able to make transformational change without compromising the level of care and service we provide to patients and their families.

Onwards and upwards: purchase of former Lombard Bank site

One of the ways we will ease the pressure on the hospital as we progress with our redevelopment plans is through the purchase of the former Lombard Bank site, a mere 200 yards from our existing site. The site will provide accommodation for staff that don’t need to be based in the main hospital building. The site could also provide up to 250 new car parking spaces.

Chief Executive, Brian James said: “The former Lombard Bank site will be a great asset to the hospital. Its location so close to the main hospital and with potential for housing a number of our key non-clinical staff as well as providing additional car parking spaces make it the ideal facility for us.

“The purchase of the site additionally means we can move forwards more quickly with elements of our redevelopment programme that will bring substantial improvements in the quality and safety of our services and facilities for patients using Rotherham Hospital.”

Among the improvements that can now be set in motion thanks to the purchase, are the development of a new Mental Health facility and the refurbishment of the Oakwood Hall building.

Electronic and integrated approach to managing patient records

Rotherham Hospital will be implementing a new Electronic Patient Record (EPR) system and this will play a vital role in improving the quality, safety and efficiency of care we can offer our patients, and provide computer assisted support to our staff in providing that care.

The new system will revolutionise the way patient information is utilised to support clinical decision-making across the Trust and will drive significant improvements in patient care, timely intervention and patient safety.

The system plays a vital role in the Trust’s ambitious plans to maximise the potential of technology to deliver paperless medical records within the next three years.

Chief Executive, Brian James adds: “This is a fantastic development for everyone who is involved with the Trust and Rotherham Hospital; we have taken a significant step into the future of Health Care in this country”.

Over the next eight years The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust will undertake a massive programme of development which is designed to improve patient experience and ensure that Rotherham Hospital becomes and remains the Hospital of Choice.

The details of the 8 year plan are still being finalised but the first phase of the transformation plan involves several exciting initiatives which will have a positive impact on patient experience in the most direct way.

Paving the way for a Hospital of Tomorrow

In terms of the main Hospital site, the first stage of our programme to refurbish and upgrade facilities will see a new patient and carer reception and an information and resource centre within a new main public entrance.

More significantly, it will also see an exciting and innovative programme of ward refurbishment and a range of other improvements as the hospital looks to become a showcase for best-practice in patient safety and efficiency in healthcare design.

Chief Executive, Brian James said: “The ward upgrades will be in line with our innovative Future Ward model, incorporating four-bedded en-suite bays and single-bedded en-suite rooms, but will also include an array of technological, environmental, service and facilities improvements emerging from several major ongoing programmes of work all of which are taking place as part of our ground-breaking Hospital of Tomorrow project.”

These are exciting times for Rotherham Hospital but change is challenging so we know we have a long way to go and need your support to help get us there. We will share more details of our plans as we move through the process and we will continue to benefit from your involvement.
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Offices & Chapels of Rest

Rotherham
01709 363706
or 01709 812158
6 Broom Valley Road Rotherham S60 2QH
The Funeral Home Coleridge
Road Maltby S66 7L

Alzheimer’s Society
Providing information, day care, advice and support for those with a dementia, their carers and families.

Tel: 01709 835 836
Alzheimer’s Society,
38 Moorgate Rd, Rotherham. S60 2AG

Oak Tree Solicitors
7 Lordens Hill, Dinnington, Sheffield, S25 2QE

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Call us for an appointment on 01909 562 103
Ginette McCaffery of Oak Tree Solicitors accepted as a member of solicitors for the elderly

SOLICITORS FOR THE ELDERLY

SFE is an association of lawyers who specialise in legal services for older people and their carers. Members of SFE have a wealth of experience within this key legal area and they are required to have spent a substantial amount of time working for elderly clients. The aim of this national association is to improve the knowledge and service provided on legal issues including, tax planning, wills, enduring powers of attorney, long-term social and health care and other retirement issues.

Contact Ginette McCaffery on Tel: 01909 562103
Email: oaktreesolicitors@talktalk.net

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The Carlton Park Hotel

Bigger and Better than ever!

On 1st March 2009 the Carlton Park Hotel re-opens its doors following the major fire at the hotel in August of last year, which will no doubt be a relief to its thousands of loyal customers. On Friday 1st August 2008, Moorgate awoke to the sound of fire engines attacking the flames of the popular three star hotel in an attempt to minimise the damage. Seven months on and the Carlton Park Hotel is back Bigger and Better than ever.

Carlton Bar

Deep mahogany paneling adorns the dramatically improved Carlton Bar which retains its warm welcoming fire and wide range of cask ales at competitive prices. Why not pop in after work and take advantage of the happy hour from 5pm – 6pm every weekday featuring an impressive range of drinks at discounted prices? The brand new bar menu features everything from light bite options perfect for lunchtime to hearty evening meals, served until 10pm. Live sporting events are shown on the new 50” flat screen televisions throughout the year.

Restaurant

The popular restaurant offers a more formal affair including a three course Table d’Hote menu which changes daily and an extensive A La Carte menu which changes to reflect the season. Booking is essential as the restaurant is usually flowing with residents eager to sample such delights as Gateaux of Lobster and Prawns and Slow Roasted Belly Pork. Sunday Lunch is served from the carvery in true traditional fashion with a choice of two roast joints carved by the Chef and a range of seasonal vegetables.

Carlton Park Spa

Now open to the public, the Grecian themed Carlton Park Spa offers a little bit of paradise away from the buzz of the hotel’s restaurant and bar areas. Slip into the calm, warm waters of the starlit swimming pool, treat your skin to an hour in the sauna and steam room or spend the afternoon chatting with friends in the Jacuzzi after your workout. The gymnasium area features a range of cardio-vascular equipment which is ideal for shedding those unwanted pounds along with multipliers and LCD televisions with a choice of channels. Membership is available from as little as £25.00 per month. Please call for more details.

Accommodation

The hotel’s eighty bedrooms have also benefited from the refurbishment programme and now boast brand new 32” flat screen televisions and DVD players for guests, which represent something of a modern twist on a traditionally styled property. Complimentary WiFi is also available throughout the hotel.

Calendar of Events

The Carlton Park Hotel is renowned for its themed party nights which are back with a bang. Our current Calendar of Events which runs to the end of June has an array of events to suit all tastes including themed buffets and cabaret entertainment.

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New Tracking System developed at the Trust to help keep patients safe

An innovative new system for tracking the progress of patients in hospital, in order to help ensure a swift response should their condition seriously deteriorate, has been developed at Rotherham Hospital.

In Rotherham a two-tiered Early Warning Scoring System has been developed by the Critical Care Outreach team, and will play an important role in the hospital’s work to continually improve the safety of its patients.

The new system was developed following recent clinical guidance from the National Institute of Clinical Excellence and National Patient Safety Agency and local discussions.

Currently only patients who are at high risk of deterioration plus post-operative and trauma patients are monitored using a physiological track and trigger system, known in Rotherham as the ‘Patient At Risk’ (PAR) scoring system.

The planned changes will involve the new PAR scoring tool being included on the routine observation chart for use on all inpatients, as well as the continuing use of the PAR chart. In line with NICE and NPSA best practice recommendations, the new system involves three levels of response and represents a major change in the model used for recognising and responding to deteriorating patients.

Both the clinical monitoring chart and the PAR chart are presently being redesigned and will be introduced across the Trust following training on the new system.

Jackie Bird, Chief of Quality & Standards/Chief Nurse at Rotherham Hospital, said “The changes to the clinical observation chart and the upgrading of the PAR scoring system, which are being carried out in line with our Patient Safety Strategy published in November 2007, represent a significant advance in the way that we recognise and respond to the early signs of deterioration in patients and can ensure timely attendance from appropriately skilled staff.”

The new system was developed by Derek Bainbridge, Nurse Consultant, Critical Care; Dawn Adsetts, Sister, Critical Care Outreach; Dr Jon Clark, Consultant Anaesthetist, Critical Care.

The Trust is working collaboratively with Sheffield Hallam University to evaluate the impact of this new system on staff and patients, and with Yorkshire and Humber Strategic Health Authority who funded the study.

This mixed methods service evaluation will be carried out in five stages by the team of Dr Ann McDonnell and Dr Angela Tod of Sheffield Hallam university, Kate Bray, Research Assistant based at Rotherham Hospital, Derek Bainbridge, Dawn Adsetts and Dr Jon Clark from Rotherham Hospital.

Derek Bainbridge said, “This gives us the opportunity to evaluate these planned changes and their impact on the knowledge, skills and confidence of nursing staff. We can also evaluate the utility and acceptability of the systems to patients and staff.”

STOP PRESS

The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust named as one of the best performing Trusts in the UK in Caspe Healthcare Knowledge System’s top hospital awards.

Below: Sister Dawn Adsetts and Sister Sam Burgin discuss details of the Patient Risk Form with student nurse James Craig.