

# Happy New Year

Dear Members

Firstly let me wish you a very happy and prosperous New Year!

2009 promises to be an exciting and, if the first few days are anything to go by, an extremely challenging year. I am going to start this newsletter however by formally welcoming to the Trust our full Council of Members who are now all in situ, ready to begin their work on your behalf. You can find details of the Council and the constituencies that they represent further on in this issue of our newsletter. The formation of this body of members, who act as your representatives and advise the Trust on a wide variety of matters, is a key benefit of the attainment by the Trust of Foundation status and will allow a much greater public say in the manner in which the Trust develops and performs. I really look forward to working with the Council throughout the coming year. Council meetings are held in public and details of the dates and times may be found in this issue.

Also within this issue are some details relating to our exciting new development of a new outpatient facility for East Northants. The unit has been discussed at some length in the local press and when built will provide a wide range of enhanced outpatient services and diagnostic facilities from a new building adjacent to Rushden and Diamonds football ground. This location will allow easy access for a wider number of our patients from across the East Northants area. Please let us know what you think of these plans. There are more details on our website [www.kgh.nhs.uk](http://www.kgh.nhs.uk) and we will be holding drop-in sessions in Rushden, details of which are in this publication.

In the meantime the hospital is experiencing unprecedented levels of demand for our services, primarily driven by the cold and flu symptoms which have affected us all over the Christmas and New Year period. This outbreak has badly affected many of our more vulnerable patients and the whole of the Northamptonshire healthcare system (and indeed the whole country) are struggling to cope as a result.

I hope that you have not personally been affected by these seasonal illnesses and when I write again in the Spring I trust that the whole situation will look brighter. In the meantime have a good start to the year and we will write again later in the year to update you on progress with our developments which are continuing despite the pressure we find ourselves under.

Best wishes

*Steve Howe*  
Chairman

## Council of Members

### What is a Council Member?

Council Members provide an important link between the hospital and the local health community, enabling us to gather views from local people and to feedback what is happening within the Trust. They reflect your interests and are working on your behalf to improve health services for the future. By passing on ideas and suggestions you can help them carry out their role effectively.

The full Council of Members is made of two groups. The first group is elected by members from their own area. These are called constituencies.

<b>ELECTED STAFF MEMBERS</b>	
Andrew Steel <i>Medical Practitioners &amp; Dental Practitioners</i>	Paul Fantini, Geoffrey Sergison <i>Non Clinical Staff</i>
Margaret Paragreen, Jonathan West, Carolyn Ginns <i>Nursing, Midwifery &amp; Other Clinical</i>	
<b>ELECTED PUBLIC MEMBERS</b>	
Frank Adams, Elizabeth Cairney, Priscilla Davies, Alexander Gordon, David Moody, Glenda Weston <i>Kettering</i>	Marian Holloman, Eunice Jones, Jim Morrison, Sheila White, Emma Wilson. <i>East Northamptonshire &amp; Bedford</i>
Gordon Reynolds, Kenneth Elms, David Bradford, James McKechnie <i>Corby</i>	Paul Bell, Dr Martin Adams, Jennifer Dixon, Katherine Forsdyke <i>Wellingborough</i>
Peter Radcliffe <i>Harborough District</i>	Ian Pridding <i>Daventry &amp; Northampton</i>

The second group are appointed by key organisations that work closely with the Trust.

<b>APPOINTED MEMBERS</b>	
Chris Pallot <i>Northamptonshire Primary Care Trust</i>	Sir Patrick Walker <i>North Northants Development Company</i>
Cllr Barbara Ainge <i>Wellingborough Borough Council</i>	Cllr. Rosemary Bromwich <i>Northamptonshire County Council</i>
Dr Sue Allen <i>The University of Northampton</i>	Pat Jackson <i>Northamptonshire Local Involvement Networks</i>
Rosemary Hadaway <i>Nene Valley Community Action (Voluntary Sector)</i>	Mags Maguire <i>Corby VCS Ltd</i>
Cllr Maurice Bayes <i>Kettering Borough Council</i>	Cllr Mark Pengelly <i>Corby Borough Council</i>
Cllr Andy Mercer <i>East Northamptonshire Council</i>	Cllr Alistair Swatridge <i>Harborough District Council</i>

The Trust Board is accountable to the Council of Members. In addition to monitoring the performance of the Trust, the Council has a wider role which includes ensuring that the local community and staff have a greater say in how services are developed and delivered by the NHS Foundation Trust.

## What Council Member do?

Council Members have two roles – statutory duties that they have to carry out and non-statutory duties that are carried out in agreement between the Trust and the Council.

The statutory duties are:

- Selecting and appointing the Chairman and Non Executive Directors
- Approving the appointment of a Chief Executive
- Approving the salary of the Chairman and Non Executive Directors
- Advising the hospital's Board of Directors on a range of issues
- Attending meetings of the Council
- Appointing the Trust's External Auditor
- Receiving the annual reports and accounts

The non-statutory duties which we hope to develop will be:

- Participating in Council working groups and contributing to Council activities
- Assessing the patient and visitor experience and helping in the development of improvement programmes
- Understanding the requirements of the Code of Governance of NHS Foundation Trusts published by Monitor and available to view on the Monitor website at:  
[www.monitor-nhsft.gov.uk](http://www.monitor-nhsft.gov.uk)
- Developing the Membership Strategy and increasing membership
- Publishing a quarterly newsletter distributed to all members
- Discussing the hospital's future development

## What Council Member can't do?

Whilst welcoming your ideas, suggestions and general comments, it is not the job of the Council of Members to deal with individual complaints about the hospital, or the care and treatment received. In the first instance verbal advice can be sought from the Patients Advice and Liaison Service. Any formal complaint should be made in writing to the Chief Executive, not to PALS or a Council Member.

## Council Meetings

Date	Time	Venue
19th February 2009	5.00pm	Conference Centre, Kettering Leisure Village
21st May 2009	1.00pm	Conference Centre, Kettering Leisure Village
17th September 2009	5.00pm	Conference Centre, Kettering Leisure Village
17th December 2009	1.00pm	Conference Centre, Kettering Leisure Village

## Our Plans for Additional Outpatient Services in East Northamptonshire

We plan to develop a new outpatients unit on land adjacent to the Rushden and Diamonds football ground on the edge of Irthlingborough by Chowns Mill roundabout, where we can provide approximately 40,000 outpatient appointments per year. The majority of these outpatients would come from the East Northants area.

Most of these appointments would be moved from the main hospital site in Kettering although Included within our plan is the intention to relocate clinics currently provided from Rushden Memorial Clinic - an old Victorian building which can only accommodate 8,000 clinic appointments



**Front View**



**Aerial View**

We believe this project will:

- Improve access and result in shorter journey times for many people who currently have to travel to Kettering for their services
- Improve quality by providing outpatients from modern fit for purpose accommodation
- Improve the main KGH site by moving services that enable us to continue with site developments and reduce pressure for car parking spaces.
- Provide patients with more choice

### The Trust is displaying its plans to improve outpatients facilities on:

Dates	Venue	Time
Monday 19th January 2009	Rushden Library, Newton Road, Rushden	9am-5pm
Wednesday 21st January 2009	Rushden Memorial Clinic, Hayway, Rushden	9am-5pm

For further information on the East Northants Outpatient's services please visit:  
<http://www.kgh.nhs.uk/about-us/east-northants-outpatient-services-plan/>

**Anyone with views on the issue can also write, email, or phone the Trust using the following:**

Freepost: East Northants OPD, Freepost Plus RRHA-UHCL-YJJG Kettering General Hospital  
Rothwell Road Kettering NN16 8UZ

Telephone: 01536 491222

Email: [eastnorthantsopd@kgh.nhs.uk](mailto:eastnorthantsopd@kgh.nhs.uk)