



## NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE APPOINTED

Dear Colleagues

*This is my first message to you since taking over as Chairman on 1<sup>st</sup> October. Over the last few weeks I have been going round the two hospitals meeting as many people as possible and finding out about the extraordinary scale and diversity of activities we undertake within the Trust. I aim to get around everywhere, so if you haven't seen me yet, look out for me and say hello when you do.*

*It is clear that we have made significant progress in the last few years. However we continue to perform poorly in both the national patient and staff surveys. Expectations are increasing all the time. We can and must do better in these important areas. I would like to see us improve our performance and this is a journey we must make together to become the hospital of choice in our area.*

*My first task as Chairman has been to select a Chief Executive for the Trust. I am delighted to announce that Andrew Liles, who is currently Chief Executive of Royal West Sussex Trust which runs St. Richard's Hospital in Chichester, has accepted the post of Chief Executive. Andrew was the outstanding candidate through the open recruitment process and was the unanimous choice of the selection panel. Andrew is an experienced Chief Executive and brings energy and enthusiasm to the role. I am confident that he is the right man to lead this organisation through our Foundation Trust application while improving our internal and external image. I would like you to join me in congratulating him on his appointment.*

*I would like to take this opportunity to thank Paul Bentley for the excellent job he has done over the last year as Chief Executive. It would have been easy for Paul to have been a passive caretaker in the role. Instead Paul has impressed with his leadership and determination. He has steered this organisation ensuring improvements in our performance and put us on the road towards our Foundation Trust application. Personally I have appreciated the support he has given me through my appointment as Chairman.*

*Due to his commitments in Sussex Andrew is unable to join us full-time until 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009. However he plans to visit us from time to time over the next three months and already has a good understanding of our priorities. I will be discussing with Andrew and Paul how best we manage things in the interim and an announcement will follow shortly.*

*This is an exciting time for the Trust as we move forward towards Foundation Trust status. We have a very positive future but it can only be achieved as a team. Please join Andrew and I as part of the team that ensures our vision of Ashford and St. Peter's as a Foundation Trust becomes reality.*

Yours sincerely

**Aileen McLeish**  
Chairman

Andrew Liles (pictured right) has been Chief Executive of the Royal West Sussex NHS Trust which runs St. Richard's Hospital in Chichester since March 2006. Prior to that he was Director of Strategy at Epsom and St. Helier University Hospitals and acting Chief Executive at Southampton University Hospitals. He began his career in the NHS as an NHS management trainee. Andrew has a degree in Economics and Industrial Relations, an MA in Health Studies and participated in the NHS Leadership Centre's NHS Directors Programme. Andrew is married and lives in Brighton.

Andrew says: "As a future Foundation Trust Ashford and St. Peter's has a very bright future providing a complete range of local and specialist health services. I am looking forward to being a part of that future and working with staff, stakeholders and local people to ensure that the best possible standard of healthcare is available locally."



# Recognise the **extraORDINARY!** Staff Appreciation Awards 2008

All our employees and volunteers make a valuable contribution towards the care of our patients and the Trust wishes to demonstrate their appreciation of those staff and volunteers who have made a sustained and **extraORDINARY** contribution to the work of the Trust and our community.

Around the Trust we are placing postcards where you can set out the extraordinary difference staff in the Trust make or why you're proud of the NHS. Once you've completed your post card put it on the display for everyone to see. **We also want you to complete a nomination form for any employee, volunteer, group of employees or volunteers, who you think meets the criteria and should be considered for an award.** Nomination forms, together with the Appreciation Awards Policy can be found on the intranet under Appreciation Awards or on the tables with the **extraORDINARY** postcards.

Forms should be returned to Liz Davies, PA to the Director of HR, no later than Monday 20th October. Nominations received after this date will be considered for the following year's Appreciation Awards ceremony.

The Awards Panel will meet to consider applications, and successful nominations will be invited to the awards ceremony.

This year's awards ceremony will be held on Thursday, 20 November in the Clubhouse, Foxhills, Ottershaw, Surrey. All details of nominations and successful awards will be posted on the intranet after the 20 November and a special edition of Aspire will be circulated to all staff.



## MAJOR INCIDENT EXERCISE DEBRIEF

The Major Incident Exercise 'cold' debrief will be held on Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2008, in the Post Graduate Education Centre. The event is open to all staff, who either took part in the exercise or who are interested to learn from the event should they be called upon to respond to a real incident. The debrief will commence at 1.30 pm and is scheduled to last for 2 ½ hours. The event will enable those staff involved in the exercise on 18<sup>th</sup> September, to feedback their experiences and to highlight any lessons learnt and areas for improvement, as well as, areas of good practice that they wish to share. More info from **Jacky Bush, Emergency Planning Officer 01932 722121/[jacky.bush@asph.nhs.uk](mailto:jacky.bush@asph.nhs.uk)**

## WORRIED ABOUT GLOBAL FINANCES?

Whatever your worried about PPC—the positive people company is available to help staff and volunteers. Professional, impartial, independent advice, information and support just when you need it. Confidential and free, qualified advisors can provide information and counselling services and are available to you and your family household members. Call 0800-282193 or visit [www.ppcworldwide.com](http://www.ppcworldwide.com).



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## CONGRATULATIONS MARTHA

Congratulations to Dr Martha Wrigley PhD RN (pictured right) who has recently gained her PhD from the University of Southampton. Martha has achieved this honour whilst working at her job as Cardiac Research Co-ordinator. At present the department has around 100 patients in trials investigating new therapies for heart disease including innovative pacing techniques as well as drugs for the treatment of ischaemic heart disease. Her thesis involved the impact of developing heart disease on members of the patient's family and how this could be turned to good use by encouraging the wider social network to change their behaviour and reduce their own risk of heart disease.



## LOTTO CONTINUES TO SUPRISE

The Trust Lotto continues to surprise us all with an increasing number of members every month. We now have 377 players—11.5% of our total staff! The Trust Lotto monthly cash prize is a guaranteed £1,000, but with more and more members of staff join the scheme each month and income increasing additional prizes may be possible. In December, the Lotto will be drawn twice for both the guaranteed £1,000 prize and the addition of a Lotto Bonus Prize: a Luxury Weekend for two, all expenses paid. Maintained as a secret until now - this truly magical weekend has been arranged with the utmost decadence in mind, designed to spoil and indulge you in the most relaxing of seaside settings. You, that special person in your life, or a friend will be treated to a luxurious 5 Star hotel with award winning restaurants, fine wines, spa treatments and theatre tickets all included to help you make the most of this idyllic escape from the humdrum and stresses of everyday life. We will reveal more in the coming weeks to tempt you even further - remember you have to be in it, to win it! Find your [Trust Lotto application form](#) on the Intranet today and you could be our next winner!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO** Angelo Pohlen, OCS Patient Services Manager at Ashford and St. Peter's who was voted OCS 'Employee of the Year' within the OCS' Integrated services division. Angelo is pictured with some of his team.



**...putting people at the heart of everything we do...**