



RESPONSE

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AMBULANCE SERVICE STAFF NEWSLETTER

121093

ESTATE GETS NEW LOOK

THE Service is investing a large sum of money in its estate this coming year.

The main changes will be made to Ambulance Headquarters. The new development will incorporate the training centre while fleet maintenance moves to premises on Cowley Street (see next issue).

£3/4m Development

Work starts on the £3/4m development on 1 November and will take ten months.

"By establishing the training centre at Headquarters we'll be able to apply for accreditation with the NHS Training Directorate. We'll be doing the majority of our training, including paramedic, in-



■ An artist's impression of the new-look Headquarters.

house. It will also give more income generation possibilities," said director of support services John Simons.

Developments/improvements are:

- Admin offices
 - One-way traffic flow system
 - One main reception
 - All departments corridor-linked
- Anyone wishing to see the plans should contact John Simons.

Wilford

Another estate investment is the refurbishment of Wilford station. The improvements are necessary to meet the recommendations of the ORH Report which confirm the continued need for Wilford plus increasing manning levels at the station.

John said: "We are already compiling a shopping list and hope the station will be finished by next March."

AMBULANCE STATION OFFICER GOES DUTCH

STATION officer Peter Branthwaite is going Dutch!

For Peter, of Hucknall and Eastwood stations, has been awarded the 1993 Travelling Scholarship to Europe, worth £1,500, by the Association of Chief Ambulance Officers.

And he will embark on a three week fact-finding trip to Holland, including cross-border co-operation between Belgium and Germany.

Peter competed against ambulance staff from all over the country and scooped the award with a compelling application on the benefits he would gain from the scholarship.

He will study how the Dutch Ambulance Service handles cross border co-operation with its Belgian and

German neighbours. And he'll also investigate the effects on their work of EC handling and lifting regulations.

Peter said: "I am delighted. The award of the scholarship is as much an achievement for Nottinghamshire Ambulance Service as for me.

"I chose Holland because it's very similar to Nottinghamshire with a mix of major urban areas among attractive countryside. I hope to share what I learn with services across the country."

On his return Peter will present a detailed report to the Association of Chief Ambulance Officers and will also give an address at the National Ambulance Conference 1994.



■ Peter Branthwaite

JUST WASH AND GO

- with Wilford Ambulance Station

MONEY came flooding in when staff at Wilford Ambulance Station raised £300 for vital equipment - by washing cars in their own time.

Nine 'washers' got through 60 cars in six hours with everything raised going towards the purchase of a pulseoximeter.

■ Ambulance technician Dave Winter and ambulance care assistant Elaine Mellor put the final polish on one of the cars.



NOTTS AMBULANCE HEAD FOR THE HILLS

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE is the first service in the country to test the 'all-terrain' Ford Maverick four-wheel drive vehicle which will enable crews to reach sick and injured people in off-road situations.

Fleet engineer Mike Crosby said: "The

tests have been going very well. If we take the vehicle into our fleet we will be better equipped to get on to racecourses in heavy going to attend to injured jockeys.

"But there are 1001 other scenarios where it could be useful - air crashes and other accidents where standard vehicles

couldn't cope."

Also undergoing tests is the first in a new generation of Ford Turbo Diesel Transits.

This latest model from Ford has a computerised engine management system - similar to an aeroplane.

Thumbs up from down under!

An ambulanceman's life is a bit like Crocodile Dundee's

THERE are killer snakes, biting spiders and floods.

A Nottinghamshire ambulance station? No - Adelaide, Australia.

And these were just some of the emergency calls Notts-born, ambulance officer Tony Lacy of Adelaide described to colleagues when he visited Beechdale ambulance Headquarters.

Tony said: "Three of the world's most deadly

snakes live in Australia.

"They start waking up at this time of year - our spring - and are washed down the creeks. So when we get a call saying a snake has turned up in the middle of town, we take it seriously."

And his verdict on Nottinghamshire's service - "The standards are excellent and the introduction of paramedics and Trust status are tremendous advances."



■ Adelaide ambulance officer Tony Lacy (left) presents John Simons with a commemorative plaque and tries out the Maverick.

HEALTH

CHANGES are taking and initiatives are being introduced in Health and Safety

The Service must prepare for the Health & Safety Executive Inspector who will visit all stations and departments from March '94.

He will examine documents and managers and staff about Health & Safety issues. It's important that everyone is aware of the following:

- Health & Safety Accident Book edition will soon be distributed to all stations by Amanda Hickey.
- Do not destroy old accident reports.
- Ensure you know where the Book is kept.
- Make sure you know where the Box is kept and that its contents are up to date.

SERVICE GOES GREEN!

THE Service has signed a 'Corporate Commitment' concentrating on green issues.

And Philip Winstanley has been appointed energy manager to implement the new policies.

The Energy Management 'Declaration of Commitment' is a national campaign to encourage businesses to cut their energy bills and reduce environmental damage.

An estimated fifth - a staggering £10 billion - of the nation's fuel bill could be saved through increased energy efficiency.

"Energy efficiency is terribly important, but the initiative must come from businesses - including our Service," said Philip.

Simple investments in energy conservation can produce large savings.

And it's the aim of the Service to save

a minimum of 3% per annum for five years on the total energy bill.

Quarterly assessments to test the efficiency of the boiler houses have been set up and a standard set temperature will be introduced in offices, workshops, garages and stations' accommodation blocks.

Staff can do their bit by:

- Turning lights off when not in use
- Not leaving taps running
- Use recycled paper
- Where possible turning engines off
- Turning down thermostats

• Reporting over-heated areas.

Philip has already been involved with design of the new buildings and refurbishments eg Headquarters, Cowley Street and Wilford. He will soon visit all stations to discuss the implications of the energy policies.



■ Philip Winstanley

Bilsthorpe Crews Are Praised

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ambulance crews who attended the triple-fatality at Bilsthorpe Colliery have been highly praised for their professionalism.

A total of 25 staff - from Kings Mill and Newark - worked in rotation for the 36 hours the Service were in attendance at the pit.

Rescued

A massive roof fall crushed and killed three miners. Three others were rescued by the mines' rescue teams and treated for superficial injuries and shock.

Malcolm Hinchley, assistant director operations, said: "Our crews were praised for their professionalism and general support by the mines' rescue teams and British Coal nursing staff."

"The roof fall meant that the ventilation was impaired and temperatures underground rose to 110F. Working conditions were extremely difficult."

Highest Levels

He added: "This is the first major underground incident we have attended for some time. We intend to keep our training at the highest levels to prepare for any similar incidents."

AMBULANCE BECOMES A PLACE FOR...



LEADING ambulance man Peter McGovern turned up at Mansfield Breweries two-month fund-raising campaign for the Service.

Peter served the children's 'cocktails' lunchbox at the Burnt Stump, Arr.

And paramedic Sleight was also to help the restaurant beat the clock...

For the ambulance got 10p to saving equipment for children's cocktails and hot 'Hutch' sold during and October.

And customer table within nine minutes.

So Richard's restaurant could...

LAND AND SAFETY UPDATE

place
intro-
ety.

ne Health
will visit
January

nd talk to
& Safety
ne is fully

k - A new
all depart-

cords.

Accident

First Aid
are com-

plete and up-to-date.

- Managers will follow-up any handling and lifting accidents which will receive close scrutiny.

- Quarterly Health & Safety inspections must be carried out on time by the manager and the Health & Safety representative. Any action to correct defects must be documented.

Six-Monthly Report

Another change includes a six-monthly report analysing accidents to staff. This will be presented to the Trust board and Health & Safety committee before being distributed throughout the Service.

The report is designed to highlight the following:-

- Accident trends
- Risk areas eg manual handling

- Station/departmental comparisons
- Individuals with two or more accidents in the previous six months

Director of support services John Simons said: "We will be able to discover the cause of accidents, which will then help reduce injuries and sickness absence. This should lead to improved working practices and a more efficient service."

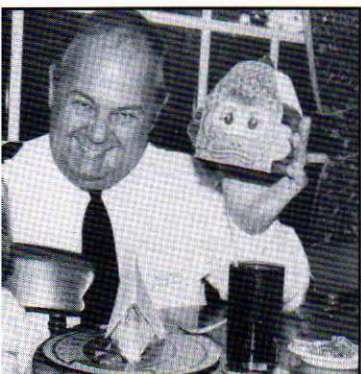
Another current initiative is the revision of the Trust's Health & Safety at Work Policy.

This document has a new 'reader-friendly' style and includes the recent changes to legislation and practice.

A copy will be available early next month on every station and department for staff to read and refer to.

See next issue for Health & Safety update on the Lumbar Motion Monitor.

AMBULANCE STAFF COME WAITERS FOR THE DAY



■ LEFT:
Peter serves
Grace
Townsend,
2, from
Calverton
with a Doris
Duck crea-
ture box and
her cocktail.

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regor from
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September

s get the 'Hoagie' free if it doesn't arrive on the
minutes!

as checking that staff at the Landlords Table
meet their nine minute deadline.



■ ABOVE: Richard times Burnt
Stump chef Kevin Franklin as he
prepares the Hoagie.

DAVE DELIVERS BRONTE SISTER

LEADING ambulance paramedic Dave Allen made a special delivery when he helped bring a baby into the world.

And it was a 'first' for Worksop-based Dave who has 27 years experience with the Service.

It all started in the early hours of a September Friday morning when he was called to the home of mother-to-be Donna Johnson.

Eight minutes later Dave had successfully delivered Bronte, a healthy seven pounds and 14 ounces. And giving a helping hand was ambulance technician Malcolm Briggs.

Dave said: "I have assisted at many births but this is the first time I've actually delivered one."

■ Dave and Malcolm with the family.



ORH UPDATE

THERE'LL be no job losses as a result of the ORH Report on emergency cover - but there will be some adjustments to establishments and grade mixes at stations.

The Report recommendations are now being actioned. A seminar was held in September for operational managers and copies of the report have been sent to all stations. A Management Staff Committee (MSC) sub-group has been set up for consultations on implementing the recommendations. The members are - Malcolm Hinchley, Brian Barber, Derek Medlock, David Price, Malcolm Davis, Nigel Valentine and Roy Parsons. The group is led by director of operational services Pat Slevin.



■ Pat Slevin

Changes

Over the next few weeks the representatives will arrange meetings at each station to discuss the reasons for the changes and to hear staff views and suggestions. The comments will then be discussed at the next sub-group meeting in November.

Pat Slevin said: "I must stress that redundancies and downgradings are not being considered in achieving the recommendations."

"Transfer of individuals from one station to another is a remote possibility but the MSC sub-group is confident that this can be achieved by volunteers or natural process."

"We are doing everything in our power to ensure the changes are introduced smoothly and systematically."

QUALITY QUOTE

'I would like to record my appreciation of the humour and professionalism of your two officers who attended to my father.'

**Mrs R W Clarke,
Mapperley Plains,
Nottingham**

NOTTS AMBULANCE QUALITY IS EXAMPLE FOR UK

STAFF initiatives which have helped make Nottinghamshire Ambulance Service one of the best in the UK are featured in a new quality guide for the entire National Health Service.

The 'A-Z of Quality' launched by Health Secretary Virginia Bottomley, contains 300 examples of 'best quality practice' - selected from over 2,500 entries nationwide.

The 260-page reference book is intended to stimulate innovation in quality care for patients.

The two Notts initiatives are:

*Making non-emergency ambulance crews part of the hospital care team for stroke vic-

tims and devising special handling techniques. It has meant an improvement in treatment and ambulance staff becoming involved in the rehabilitation process too.

"Measuring the quality of pre-hospital emergency care through a quality clinical audit of the ambulance emergency service. The benefits include better treatment, continuous monitoring of performance and a better relationship between accident and emergency departments and the Service.

Business manager Pat Durston, who is responsible for quality, said: "Our selection for the guide is a tribute to everyone in the Service."

Thanks Friends!

THE public continue to dip into their pockets for the service.

And two stations to benefit from their generosity are West Bridgford and Stapleford.

Radcliffe on Trent Lions raised over £600 when shoppers at Safeway, Gamston, donated £1 to enter a prize draw which helped buy a pulseoximeter for West Bridgford.

And Stapleford Ambulance Station also purchased one thanks to members of The Equalizer WMC of Albert Avenue who raised £2,000 through a sponsored slim, football match, custard pie throw and bike ride.

■ **TOP RIGHT:** From left are Equalizer WMC fundraising organisers Graham Glazebrook and Debora Welch presenting the pulseoximeter to Stapleford station officer Arthur Jamison.

■ **RIGHT:** From left, vice president of the Lions Club Rob Evison and president Betty Whitaker hand over the pulseoximeter to acting station officer Jean Cragg and Safeways deputy manager Steve Hayward.



STAFF NEWS

WELCOME to Care Assistants: Teresa Fletcher (Carlton); Robert Little (Arnold). **Transport Drivers:** Frank Shelton; Christopher Greenfield; Glynn Massey. **Personnel:** Janet Daft. **Switchboard:** Teresa Austin. **Control Assistants:** Janine Wherritt; Sarah Berridge. **Liaison Assistant:** Karen Connelly.

CONGRATULATIONS on achieving Leading Ambulance Paramedic status to: David Bright (Wilford) and Kelvin Foster (Newark).

CONGRATULATIONS on achieving Ambulance Technician status to: Roger Linnel (Eastwood); William Vardy (Kings Mill); Dean Bird (Worksop); Paul Unwin (Kings Mill).

CONGRATULATIONS on achieving Ambulance Paramedic status to: Nigel Valentine (Beechdale); Peter Spencer (Kings Mill); Lee Fowler (Carlton); Alan Hobson (Kings Mill).

CONGRATULATIONS to Julie West on being promoted to personal secretary.

GOOD LUCK to the following who have moved from Control and Communications to become Ambulance Care Assistants: Mathew Freer and Elizabeth Topps.

BEST WISHES to following who are leaving the Service: Control assistants Samantha Kolfe and Shelley Summerville; care assistant Tony Eadson (Kings Mill); vehicle cleaner Denise Richard (Hucknall).

QUALITY QUOTE

'I am sending my heartfelt thanks to the two paramedics from Eastwood Station who came out to my mother Mrs D Seale. My family and I would like to thank them for their marvellous care and attention - she could not have received better service if she had been the Queen.'

Margaret and Alan Peto, Selston

NEWARK ARE TOP OF THE FORM!

NEWARK Station is top of the form!

All forms surveyed for their Quarterly Clinical Audit were 100% accurate.

Newark's reports gave clear and concise patient history matched with superb treatment and speedy transportation to hospital.

Chief executive Mike Handy said: "This audit sets a very high standard. I congratulate the staff for the very conscientious and professional way they have completed this important documentation."

AMBEX '93

NEWARK paramedic Ron Charlesworth represented the Service at Ambex '93.

During his two day visit to the annual ambulance exhibition, in Harrogate, Ron attended lectures ranging from drugs to childbirth.

Ron said: "I would recommend the experience to all my colleagues." ■ Ron Charlesworth



PARAMEDICS ARE IN A HURRY

A TEAM of runners from Beechdale Ambulance Station raised over £1,000 by taking part in the Robin Hood Marathon.

The team - Bob Arberry, Graham Sutton, Malcolm Dean, Chris Buckland, Graham Peacock and Steven Peacock - were raising the money for a disabled athlete to take part in the next paraplympics.

Dave said: "We all finished within 2½ hours - it was a really good team effort."

If anyone would like to make a donation contact Dave at Beechdale Ambulance Station on 296295.