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From: NHS GGC, General Notification
Sent: 31 January 2025 10:21
Subject: North Sector Newsletter - January 2025
Importance: High



January 2025

Topics in this Newsletter:

- Acute Services - North Sector Excellence Awards 2024/2025.
- Antoinette Parr receives MBE.
- Civility Saves Lives.
- Singing at Stobhill brings Christmas Cheer.
- Assisted Conception Service at the GRI.
- A Light in Darkness - CAMHS Unit
- GRI Support & Information Service
- Staff Wellbeing Resources

Acute Services - North Sector Excellence Awards 2024/2025



The Acute Services - North Sector Excellence Awards 2024/2025 were held on Tuesday at the GRI, and there was terrific attendance to celebrate the achievements and efforts of colleagues.

After receiving a number of nominations from staff, the panel selected seven winners to recognise their incredible work throughout the last year.

- **Evelyn Taylor** - Leader of the Year
- **Practice Development Adult Acute Dietetics** - Innovation of the Year
- **Trisha Cairney** - Employee of the Year
- **North Frailty Service** - Team of the Year
- **Louise Murphy** - Volunteer of the Year
- **Antoinette Parr** - Honouring Compassionate Leadership
- **Alan Philip Rae** - Honouring a Legacy of Care

Over the coming months, we will publicly recognise these individuals and teams through the NHSGGC channels and this newsletter. [Our story with Antoinette Parr, who recently received her MBE, can be found here.](#)

It's never too early to start thinking about next year's awards. If one of your North Sector colleagues should be recognised for their work throughout the next 12 months, please nominate them. Details on how to do this will be shared towards the end of 2025.

Well done again to all the nominees and winners!



Evelyn Taylor - Leader of the Year



Trisha Cairney - Employee of the Year



North Frailty Unit - Team of the Year



Louise Murphy - Volunteer of the Year



Antoinette Parr - Honouring Compassionate Leadership



Alan Philip Rae - Honouring a Legacy of Care

Antoinette Parr receives MBE



Back in July, we reported that Antoinette Parr, General Manager, Medical Illustration and Clinical Physics for NHSGGC, had been made a Member of the British Empire for services to NHS Scotland, Motherwell Diocese, the Scout Movement and St Augustine's Roman Catholic Church in her hometown of Coatbridge, Lanarkshire.

On finding out about the award at the time, Antoinette said: "Receiving an MBE is incredibly humbling. I couldn't believe it when I received the letter from the Cabinet Office telling me of the award. I was so excited but couldn't tell anybody; I was sworn to secrecy for five weeks!"

"The reaction from family, friends, colleagues and my local community was wonderful and overwhelming. It brought real joy to everyone and smiles all

around. For someone who likes to stay in the background, suddenly, I was in the foreground.

“I love doing what I do, and I don’t do it alone. I am surrounded by great, like-minded people, all focused on the same thing, helping to achieve so much. I have worked in the NHS for 42 years, and I have loved every minute of my time working alongside excellent colleagues who support patient care.”

In November, she received her award in person from Prince William at Windsor.

“It was the most wonderful day, incredibly special,” she said. “Prince William presented it to me with my family standing close by. We had a lovely conversation covering all parts of the reason for the award. He was genuinely interested in what I did and gave me all the time I needed to tell my story.

“He wanted to know about all the aspects of volunteering and how I fit everything in while doing a busy job. I said that it brings me great joy, especially working with young people, and when you have joy in your heart, you have the energy to do whatever you need to do. I said, “Volunteering is not a chore; it is a joy”.

“He said the Cubs will be excited to see the MBE and hold it. I agreed they certainly were, but with “grubby Cubby hands” maybe I’ll not let them hold it! He laughed out loud and even gave me a solution.

“I still cannot stop smiling and sometimes cannot believe I received this award. I am doing everything I love, and in doing what I do, the rewards and blessings are marvellous.

“I see it in the Cub Scout who punches the air when he has managed to climb the highest wall, the elderly dementia lady in the nursing home whose face lights up when I arrive from the parish, and the young man who couldn’t read but after working with he now reads books with his 5-year-old. This is just to name a few.



On Tuesday, Antoinette also received an award in this year's North Sector Staff Excellence Awards. During the panel discussion to choose the winners, the team decided they wanted to pay a special tribute in Honour of her Compassionate Leadership.

They said the award was given "In heartfelt recognition celebrating an individual whose genuine care, kindness, and compassion have left a profound impact on everyone they encounter. This tribute acknowledges Antoinette's ability to uplift others through her thoughtful actions, meaningful conversations, and unwavering support, creating a ripple effect of positivity across the workplace.

"Antoinette exemplifies the values of care, compassion and connection, leading by example and showing us the transformative power of even the smallest gestures of civility and kindness.

"With warmth and authenticity, she inspires us all to be better colleagues and individuals, leaving a legacy of kindness that will be remembered for years to come."

"These awards have made me realise what people think about me", added Antoinette. Many have taken the time to write testimonies and submit them for these awards. I am so honoured, and it means so much to me. I am full of joy, and so happy."

Civility Saves Lives



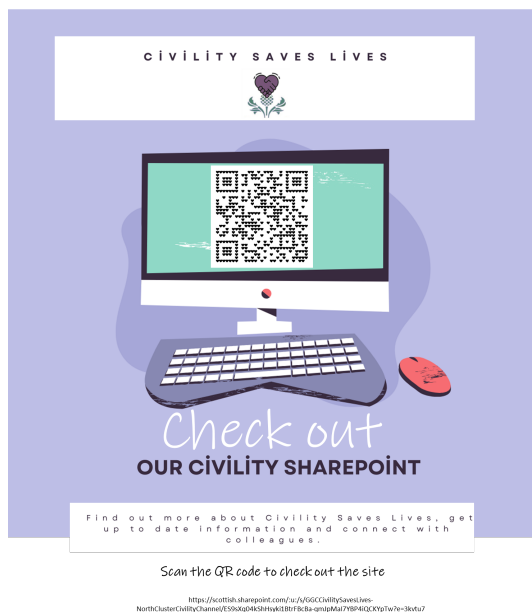
Civility is simply about how we treat each other. Part of being a great place to work is working together to continuously uphold and demonstrate our NHS values of; care and compassion, dignity and respect, openness, honesty and responsibility, quality and teamwork. Civil work environments matter because they reduce errors, reduce stress and foster excellence.

Back in 2023 we held a series of Civility Awareness Events across the North, starting an important conversation in our workplace, and we have seen a number of local events and actions being taken by teams and departments since!

A group of staff volunteers meets monthly to discuss and find practical ways to take Civility Saves lives forward in the North. Membership is open and informal, all staff based at GRI site, Stobhill and Lightburn, including colleagues from all teams, units and directorates are welcome.

Some of the actions take include:

- **Our Civility North SharePoint site:** The aim is to have a single place to find out more about Civility Saves Lives, find up to date information and connect with colleagues. [Click here to find out more](#)
- **Civili –tea (or coffee) resource group:** Like a Book Club but just for discussion and engagement on different media resources on the topic of Civility at work – [click here to find out more.](#)
- **Awareness raising events**
- **Professionally trained a number of Civility Leads:** NHSGGC has also delivered a professionally developed Civility Leads Training, and some of our very own have completed this training. [Click here for our North Civility Leads](#) and for [all GGC Civility Leads Here](#).



Feel free to join the Civility Working group, we want to include everyone when they can make it. Sessions will be hybrid and held at one of the GRI, Stobhill or Lightburn sites. We hope you can join us and input into the conversation and action.

Meeting	Location	Room Booked
Jan 15th @ 2pm	GRI	DL Theatre
Feb 20th @ 230pm	Lightburn	Physio Gym
Mar 13th @ 2pm	GRI	DL Theatre
Apr 10th @ 230pm	Stobhill	Seminar room 5
May 8th @ 2pm	GRI	DL Theatre
June 19th @ 2pm	GRI	DL Theatre
July 17th @ 2pm	Lightburn	Physio Gym
Aug 14th @ 2pm	GRI	DL Theatre
Sep 11th @ 2pm	GRI	DL Theatre
Oct 16th @ 2pm	Stobhill	Seminar room 5
Nov 13th @ 2pm	GRI	DL Theatre
Dec 18th @ 2pm	GRI	Staff R&R hub

[Register for the sessions here.](#)

For any other questions, suggestions or support around Civility contact Claire Robertson, Senior Organisational Development Advisor,
Claire.Robertson@ggc.scot.nhs.uk.

[You can watch the Civility Saves Lives Video Here to learn more.](#)

Singing at Stobhill brings Christmas Cheer



Staff across the Stobhill Hospital site, including Elaine Melville, Volunteer Services Manager, the "TAN", Therapeutic Activity Nurses, Estates, Facilities, Support Services, and others, worked with Amitashuri Yule, the Chaplain at Stobhill, to bring volunteers from the Nemo Arts Mental Health Charity Choir to sing at both the Ambulatory Care and Mental Health Hospitals on the Stobhill campus.

Greg from Nemo Arts, the choirmaster and piano player, conducted the choir, which brought good cheer to staff, students, patients, families, carers, volunteers and visitors. They all enjoyed (and some sang along to!) the songs they'd all been practising and sang on the day.

Some choir members even overcame their fear of heights to be on and sing from "the bridge" across the Atrium in the New Stobhill building.

Many thanks to everyone who helped coordinate this delightful celebratory event!

Assisted Conception Service stall at the GRI



The GRI recently hosted an informational stall about the Scottish Government and NHS Scotland's Egg and Sperm Donation Campaign. This was hosted as a chance for people to learn more about the campaign and register their interest.

The demand for egg and sperm donations is high and they are needed for some of the one in six couples who experience fertility problems, as well as same sex couples.

Donating your eggs or sperm is something that requires careful consideration. Donors must be:

- aged 18–35 (egg donors) or 18-45 (sperm donors).
- generally healthy with no significant illnesses or inherited diseases.
- be able to provide a biological family history.
- a non-smoker.
- egg donors must be able to commit to the programme for about three months, and sperm donors must be able to make regular donations (10-20 donations over 3-6 months).

If it's right for you, then you have the potential to give the joy of starting a family to those people in Scotland who need the help of donors to become parents.

[Click here to learn more or register your interest in becoming an egg or sperm donor.](#)

A Light in Darkness - CAMHS Unit



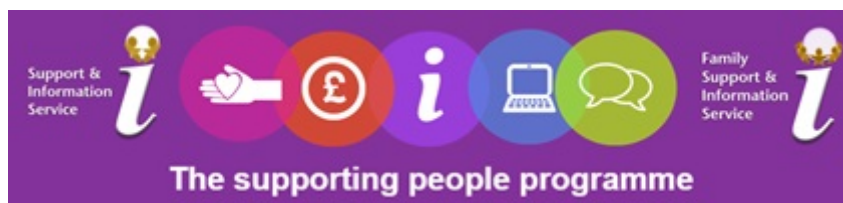
Amitashuri Yule, Chaplain/Spirituality and Wellbeing Practitioner, works at the CAMHS Unit, Skye House, on the Stobhill Hospital campus. She recently led creative nature-based activities with young people. These activities involved story-telling and meaning-making sessions during the summer and winter of this year.

For Winter Solstice, with the support of art teacher, Ms Devine, and other staff, Amitashuri foraged from Springburn Park's evergreen trees and bushes. On the day of the event, the young people used the winter foliage to decorate wreaths that Ms Devine had made from recycled newspaper.

There were opportunities to use the language and symbols of the winter season, or "Yule", including darkness and cold. This inspired the young people to draw pictures, write poems, and set intentions for themselves, one another, the wider community and the world, as we recognise that we are moving towards the lighter days from hereon.

As they did this, they envisioned those intentions and wishes growing through and beyond spring as we planted them, via narcissus bulbs, in a collective pot. These will grow in the gardens of Skye House for future community members to enjoy.

GRI Support & Information Service



The Glasgow Royal Infirmary Support & Information Service is based on the Ground Floor of the Queen Elizabeth Building in GRI.

They are open Tuesday - Friday 10am - 4pm and are here to support patients, carers and staff who use GRI.

They can offer support in a variety of non-clinical matters, helping to signpost people to the most appropriate service that matters to them. This includes:

- Money Advice (Benefits, Income Maximisation Checks etc).
- Home Energy Services - support to anyone struggling with these bills.
- Carers support services.
- and much more.

We can also provide small food parcels to vulnerable patients on discharge on request.

Feel free to pop in and say hello! You can also email them with any enquiries on ggc.sis@nhs.scot or call 0141 531 9127.

Staff Wellbeing Resources

This time of year can be a difficult time for people and we want to ensure staff have access to the most appropriate services and resources that they need.

Mental Health And Wellbeing - Mental health and Wellbeing is just as important as physical health. The hub provides links to further information and services available that can help improve your mental health and wellbeing.

More info : [Mental Health and Wellbeing - NHSGGC](#)

NHS Credit Union - NHS Credit Union exists to financially empower employees and their families, by offering savings and affordable lending products to meet our members' needs.

More info: [NHS Credit Union – People Not Profit](#)



Home Energy Scotland - With the weather changing, the cost of energy might be on your mind at the moment.

Home Energy Scotland is pleased to be working with staff in the North Sector to offer you support with free and impartial energy advice and support.

More info: [Home Energy Scotland](#)

Active Staff - Thinking about working on your physical health 2025? Active Staff have a range of fitness classes on offer for people of all fitness levels.

More info: [Active Staff](#)

How to get in touch

We are keen to highlight the success stories throughout the North Sector and would encourage anyone to get in touch. No matter how small you think your success is, please let us know. We have a fantastic team across the sector and want to showcase the great work that is carried out by our amazing staff. If you have any ideas or recommendations for the newsletter, please contact your line manager who will advise on how to get in touch with the newsletter team.

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