Trust launches hundred day public consultation

On 10 July the Trust launched the Public Consultation Document – Delivering a healthy future in west Hertfordshire – Next Steps in “Investing in Your Health”. The consultation will end on October 16 2006.

The Trust is consulting on two options.

Centralisation of emergency care at Watford General Hospital, with planned surgery either:

1. at St Albans City Hospital, in advance of the Independent Sector Treatment Centre (the Surgicentre) being built at Hemel Hempstead General Hospital site.

2. or at Hemel Hempstead General Hospital in advance of the Independent Sector Treatment Centre (the Surgicentre) being built at Hemel Hempstead General Hospital site.

Community and primary care based services, such as outpatients, diagnostics and intermediate care will still be provided at all the sites, and in both options, when the Independent Sector Treatment Centre opens at Hemel Hempstead General Hospital in mid 2008, the majority of planned operations will take place within this facility.

There will displays in local libraries in the next couple of months, and you can also come and talk to us about the consultation in the following supermarkets and shopping centres:

- **25 August** - 10.30am-1.30pm
  Asda, Hillfield Road, Hemel Hempstead

- **30 August** - 10.30am-1.30pm
  Asda, St Albans Road, Watford

- **7 September** - 10am-3pm
  Marlowes Shopping Centre, Hemel Hempstead

- **13 September** - 1 day
  Harlequin Shopping Centre, Watford

**QUESTION TIME EVENTS**

- **14 September** - 7pm
  St John’s Church Hall, Boxmoor, Hemel Hempstead

- **26 September** - 3pm
  Lecture Theatre, Watford General Hospital, Vicarage Road, Watford

- **6 October** - 10am
  Civic Offices, St Peters Street, St Albans

For Question Time event, places are limited, so please telephone Eileen Whitehouse on HHGH 2684 to book your place.

To keep updated on consultation events and public meetings click onto the consultation website. (www.westhertshospitals.nhs.uk/consultation.htm) or you can telephone free on 0800 093 7345 for up-to-date information on events in your area. The full list of public events will be regularly updated.

To find out more and to read the document click on www.westhertshospitals.co.uk or go to the Trust intranet. If you want further copies you can telephone Eileen Whitehouse on HHGH 2684 or by emailing consultation@whht.nhs.uk

The pre-consultation event at Beecham Grove Baptist Church on 22 June proved to be very successful. Over 70 people attended, including staff, GPs, councillors and members of the local community. The plan is to invite the same group back together in October following the consultation to feedback and inform on progress.
PEER SUPPORT BREASTFEEDING PROGRAMME LAUNCHED

In May, in association with the Watford and Three Rivers Primary Care Trust, the Trust launched the Peer Support Breastfeeding Programme.

Seven mothers have enrolled to become voluntary Peer Supporters. Specialist peer training will be offered to the mums over a twelve week course and on completion of the training their role will be to support any woman in the Watford area who wishes to breastfeed their child.

Infant Feeding Co-ordinator, Jenny Woods said: “The training programme is a fantastic idea as it will provide new mothers with invaluable support and encouragement from women who have been through the breastfeeding experience themselves. The volunteers will understand the new mums’ concerns and the training combined with first hand knowledge provides realistic and practical support.”

The peer counsellors will work on a voluntary basis and they need to be a mother and have experience of breastfeeding at least one child.

Non-Executive Directors Appointed

The Trust has recently appointed three new non-executive Directors.

Colin Gordon is a former Non-Executive Chairman and Chief Executive of Kenwood Appliances Plc with extensive experience in strategic planning, organizational turnaround and acquisitions.

Syed Hasan is a mechanical engineer having worked extensively in the oil and gas industry both in the UK and abroad. He is currently a volunteer driver for the Trust and spends time advising schools on young enterprise schemes as well as an independent consultant within the oil and gas industry.

Katherine Charter was previously a Director for Whitbread Plc before giving up full time work to bring up her family. Formerly a non-executive director of Dacorum PCT she now devotes a lot of her time and expertise to health and education matters.

Trust welcomes new Medical Director

Welcome to Professor Graham Ramsay who recently joined the Trust as Medical Director from the Atrium Medical Centre in the Netherlands where he was a Director.

Professor Ramsay trained in Dundee and Glasgow and is specialised in Surgery and Intensive Care. He joined Atrium Medical Centre (AMC) in 2003, after 10 years at the University hospital in Maastricht where he was Professor of Surgery and head of the Intensive Care and Trauma Departments.

Professor Ramsay has published extensively. His main research interests are in infection and severe sepsis (organ failure resulting from the response to infection)

New Turnaround Director Appointed

In June, Martin Matthews joined the Trust as Turnaround Director. Martin took over from Nigel Armitt who has left the Trust to take up a post working with Three Rivers and Dacorum PCT.

For the last thirteen years Martin has been working as an Interim Chief Executive and Turnaround Director in a number of companies.

Recent Retirements

Mr. Beacon, Consultant Surgeon - Orthopedics
Mr. Crisp, Consultant - Urology
Mr. Chaudhary, Consultant Surgeon - Breast Service

Non-Executive Directors

Appointed

The Trust has recently appointed three new non-executive Directors.

Colin Gordon is a former Non-Executive Chairman and Chief Executive of Kenwood Appliances Plc with extensive experience in strategic planning, organizational turnaround and acquisitions.

Syed Hasan is a mechanical engineer having worked extensively in the oil and gas industry both in the UK and abroad. He is currently a volunteer driver for the Trust and spends time advising schools on young enterprise schemes as well as an independent consultant within the oil and gas industry.

Katherine Charter was previously a Director for Whitbread Plc before giving up full time work to bring up her family. Formerly a non-executive director of Dacorum PCT she now devotes a lot of her time and expertise to health and education matters.

Trust welcomes new Medical Director

Welcome to Professor Graham Ramsay who recently joined the Trust as Medical Director from the Atrium Medical Centre in the Netherlands where he was a Director.

Professor Ramsay trained in Dundee and Glasgow and is specialised in Surgery and Intensive Care. He joined Atrium Medical Centre (AMC) in 2003, after 10 years at the University hospital in Maastricht where he was Professor of Surgery and head of the Intensive Care and Trauma Departments.

Professor Ramsay has published extensively. His main research interests are in infection and severe sepsis (organ failure resulting from the response to infection)

New Turnaround Director Appointed

In June, Martin Matthews joined the Trust as Turnaround Director. Martin took over from Nigel Armitt who has left the Trust to take up a post working with Three Rivers and Dacorum PCT.

For the last thirteen years Martin has been working as an Interim Chief Executive and Turnaround Director in a number of companies.

Recent Retirements

Mr. Beacon, Consultant Surgeon - Orthopedics
Mr. Crisp, Consultant - Urology
Mr. Chaudhary, Consultant Surgeon - Breast Service
On Tuesday 18 April 2006, over 30 mums, babies, children and staff had a wonderful time celebrating the ABC’s fifth birthday.

The innovative low risk Birthing Centre was opened at Watford General Hospital in April 2001 and has proved extremely popular with mothers and babies.

The Centre provides a fully integrated, midwife-led service for women who wish to have their baby in hospital but in a homely environment without medical intervention. Using water for labour has been particularly popular and the Trust has the highest number of water births in the United Kingdom.

Nora Lucey, Consultant Midwife, who set up the unit said: “We are so excited to celebrate the unit’s fifth birthday. We are very proud of the service all our midwives give to women and babies. The Centre offers all the advantages of having your baby at home but is only a floor away from obstetricians and high-tech back-up if necessary.

“Judging from the feedback from mothers, the Centre has proved to be very popular, allowing them to choose how they wish to deliver their baby.”

On 29 June the Trust organised a caring event that was designed to allow staff to take time out from a busy day to come and find information of all kinds either to support those caring for others at work or at home, or to help individuals when planning for their own future.

The event took place in the Postgraduate Centre at Hemel Hempstead General Hospital and a number of external organisations, invited at the request of some of the staff, displayed information on stands throughout the day. Organisations such as Carers in Herts, the Alzheimer’s Society, Stroke Association, RNID, and Crossroads, were able to provide carers with details of local support that would be available to them, whilst in the other lecture theatre, there was information on pensions, general financial advice and guidance from a life coach on offer.

Many people were also able to take advantage of the complimentary therapy treatments that were available such as Indian Head Massage, Reflexology and Reiki, and went back to work feeling thoroughly relaxed afterwards.

Angela Kelly, a Radiographer from St Albans City Hospital came along with a colleague from Watford as they both have elderly fathers. They were able to pick up lots of useful information about the support available to them, how to get hold of necessary equipment, and the benefits they can claim.

Some of the Theatres staff from St Albans City Hospital came along to see what it was all about and found the Pensions advice and other financial information highly beneficial to them. They all managed to find time to have a treatment and left feeling completely de-stressed.

Elaine Donald, Head of Nursing Clinical Support Division, talked to representatives from the Alzheimer’s Society, MS Society and the dieticians amongst others, which she found very helpful to her role at work. She was also appreciative of the therapies and the lovely lunch, which in the middle of a stressful and busy week were most welcome.
A day in the life of three chaplains

This day began (or rather yesterday ended) at 12.48 am as I walked away from Maternity. There I had seen a new life, heralded by a surprisingly strong pair of lungs. In a hospital, birth, death – and the myriad of situations in between which we know as life – exist side by side. This is the stuff of the chaplain’s day, and no two days are ever the same. When the pager goes, or we enter a ward, we do not know exactly what we will be facing because each encounter is different. That’s what makes the chaplain’s experience so rich and so rewarding.

So who are we? The Team consists of Carol Nolan, Spiritual and Pastoral Care Co-ordinator and site chaplain at Watford General Hospital; Geoff Cook, Hospital Chaplain to Hemel Hempstead General Hospital and St Albans City Hospital; Lynn Bassett, Roman Catholic Chaplain working across all four sites. In addition, we have a small army of volunteers who work with us.

It is impossible to describe a typical day, but these are some of the events that are typical of what a day may hold for us:

9.00am As the day begins we might be on our way to conduct a funeral, offering support and some means of closure to families who have lost loved ones.

9.30 am Another of the team may attend the weekly Palliative Care Multi-Disciplinary Team meeting. Here, patients for whom there is no cure, but still a need for highest quality care, are discussed with MacMillan nurses and other health care professionals. At this critical time of life, good spiritual care is recognised as highly significant for the quality of life of the whole person.

10.00 am Meanwhile the bleep chirps stridently. A chaplain is needed in ITU. A seriously ill patient is losing the battle for life. A chaplain is requested to support his relatives and, perhaps also, to say prayers. The importance of religious rites and rituals to some people at key stages of life’s journey cannot be underestimated. Ascertaining the needs of the patient and family and providing the appropriate support is not only the pledge of the NHS but also an important factor in the future well-being of all concerned. The Spiritual and Pastoral Care Department has contacts with a wide range of faith-representatives who may be contacted via the chaplain or through the switchboard.

11.00 am A chaplaincy visitor knocks on the office door. She has completed her ‘round’ of one ward, visiting every patient who is happy to receive her as a friendly face, a listening ear. Today she has the names of two people who would like to see the chaplain.

1.00 pm If it is Tuesday, there is Roman Catholic Mass in the chapel at Hemel Hempstead. If it is Thursday, there is Mass at Watford at 1.15. Church of England Eucharist is celebrated on Wednesday at 1.30 in Hemel Hempstead. There is a buzz in the chapel as volunteers, staff and patients gather for the service. Afterwards, special ministers take Holy Communion to the wards, to many Christians; it is an important source of support.

2.00 pm Visits to the wards are the bread and butter of our day. Mrs Smith would like support and prayer prior to her operation. Mr McDonald is very poorly and his family have asked that he receive a special anointing. Jenny has never considered herself religious, but she has lots of concerns and is desperate for someone to help her make sense of what is happening to her. Regardless of religious affiliation or none, each person has their own spiritual needs and a stay in hospital can bring these needs to the fore. Anger, depression, questioning – Why me? What is the meaning of this? Chaplains offer time and a special expertise. Of course, everything is held in strict confidence.

There are many more elements which may be part of a chaplain’s day: training – helping other staff to identify and respond to spiritual need; contributing to Trust policy and planning; meeting with outside agencies; supporting and caring for staff; developing our own service.

5.00 pm The normal working day draws to a close but the service goes on: there’s always a chaplain on-call to respond to those out-of-hours emergencies.

The names and situations have been changed for confidentiality.

Lynn Bassett/Carol Nolan
Think Clean Week – a great success

For the second year running the Trust took part in a week long ‘Think Clean Week’. The aim of the week was to demonstrate the Trust’s continued commitment to fighting MRSA and other infections and to promote the importance of hospital cleanliness to staff, patients and visitors.

During the week teams of hospital auditors, led by Modern Matrons, visited wards and departments to check the cleanliness of the environment and find solutions to any cleanliness problems found.

Gary Etheridge, Chief Nurse/Director of Patient Services, Quality & Risk said - “The Trust takes hospital cleanliness extremely seriously and this week was a good way of reminding staff, patients and visitors of the importance of a clean hospital environment.

“It is was really gratifying to see how everyone has worked so hard to make this week a success and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support and hard work.”

Displays were held in the staff restaurants highlighting the importance of infection control, waste management and cleaning initiatives. Wards and departments took part in a competition to find the best ‘Clean your hands’ Campaign and Executive and Non-Executive Directors shadowed staff members as part of the week.

Mona Walker, Director of Nursing and Allied Health Professionals, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Strategic Health Authority and Ginny Edwards, Head of Targeted Support, Department of Health visited the Hemel Hempstead hospital site to see how the Trust was supporting ‘Think Clean Week’.

Congratulations to the following winners of Cleanyourhands Poster Campaign. They will be receiving their prizes in an award ceremony in August.

**Watford General Hospital**
- 1st Prize - Heronsgate Ward, WGH
- 2nd Prize - ITU, WGH
- 3rd Prize - Langley Ward, WGH

**Hemel Hempstead General Hospital**
- 1st Prize - Hanover Ward, HHGH
- 2nd Prize - Cleves Ward, HHGH
- 3rd Prize - ITU, HHGH

**Highly Commended**
- Children’s Assessment Unit, HHGH
- Phlebotomy Team, HHGH

**St Albans City Hospital**
- 1st Prize - Phlebotomy
Public Trust Board Meetings
3rd August
31 August
21 September - 4.00pm (AGM)
26 October 2006
Please check the Trust website www.westhertshospitals.nhs.uk for times and venues

Rumours @
At times of change and uncertainty, it is important for every member of staff to have accurate up to date information about the organization for which they work.
To support day to day communication with managers and other channels of communication, the new Rumours@ site has been set up to allow staff to ask questions about rumours or information they have heard and want to know if it is fact or fiction.
Simply email rumours@whht.nhs.uk with your query and an answer will be posted within three working days. The Rumours@ administrator may receive similar questions about a single topic and in this case they will try to answer the questions as one. Answers will be posted on the intranet.

Strategic Health Authority
Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Strategic Health Authority ceased to exist from Friday 30 June and has been replaced by the East of England Strategic Health Authority based in Fulbourn, Cambridgeshire.

Open Staff briefings
Are you interested in the future of the Trust, how services are changing and how they will affect you?
Open staff briefings by members of the Executive Team will be held across the Trust on the first Tuesday of every month.
This will be your opportunity to be updated on current and future plans for the Trust.
All staff are very welcome to attend any of these sessions - no pre-booking necessary.
For further information, please telephone the Communications dept on HH x2620.

1 August
- Watford 10.30-11.30 Terrace Meeting Room
- Hemel 10.00-11.00 Post Grad Centre
- St Albans 3.30-4.30 Post Grad Centre
- Mount Vernon 9.30-10.30 Post Grad Centre

5 September
- Watford 12.30-1.30 Terrace Meeting Room
- Hemel 9.00-10.00 Post Grad Centre
- St Albans 1.00-2.00 Post Grad Centre
- Mount Vernon 9.30-10.30 Post Grad Centre

3 October
- Watford 11.30-12.30 Terrace Meeting Room, Hemel 9.00-10.00 Post Grad Centre
- St Albans 10.00-11.00 Post Grad Centre
- Mount Vernon 9.30-10.30 Post Grad Centre

7 November
- Watford 1.00-2.00 Terrace Meeting Room
- Hemel 10.00-11.00 Post Grad Centre
- St Albans 10.00-11.00 Post Grad Centre
- Mount Vernon 9.30-10.30 Post Grad Centre

5 December
- Watford 9.30-10.30 Terrace Meeting Room
- Hemel 9.00-10.00 Post Grad Centre
- St Albans 10.00-11.00 Post Grad Centre
- Mount Vernon 9.00-10.00 Post Grad Centre

Standards for Better Health
As part of the Healthcare Commission’s ‘Annual Health Check’, which has replaced star ratings, every Trust in the country, must declare whether they have met the necessary level of performance during the year to 31 March 2006. This assessment measures the Trust’s performance against 24 standards in areas including safety, clinical effectiveness and patient experience.
In October the Healthcare Commission will announce annual performance ratings, which will have two elements, Quality of Care and Use of Resources.
To view the document click onto our website www.westhertshospitals.nhs.uk or go to the Trust’s intranet site.

Trust goes live with PACS
PACS (Picture Archiving & Communications System) has now been installed in Watford General, Hemel Hempstead General and St Albans City Hospitals and has gone live in the radiology department at Watford General Hospital.
PACS enables images such as X-rays and scans to be stored electronically and viewed on video screen, offering huge clinical benefits across the Trust, such as:
Faster delivery of medical images, leading to speedier availability of results.
Flexible viewing with the ability to manipulate images on screen, offering patient x-rays and scans taken before the go lives will continue to be available in their current form.
To find out more about PACS please visit the website: www.connectingforhealth/pacs or locally email belinda.barton@whht.nhs.uk.

Rumours @
At times of change and uncertainty, it is important for every member of staff to have accurate up to date information about the organization for which they work.
To support day to day communication with managers and other channels of communication, the new Rumours@ site has been set up to allow staff to ask questions about rumours or information they have heard and want to know if it is fact or fiction.
Simply email rumours@whht.nhs.uk with your query and an answer will be posted within three working days. The Rumours@ administrator may receive similar questions about a single topic and in this case they will try to answer the questions as one. Answers will be posted on the intranet.

Strategic Health Authority
Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Strategic Health Authority ceased to exist from Friday 30 June and has been replaced by the East of England Strategic Health Authority based in Fulbourn, Cambridgeshire.

Open Staff briefings
Are you interested in the future of the Trust, how services are changing and how they will affect you?
Open staff briefings by members of the Executive Team will be held across the Trust on the first Tuesday of every month.
This will be your opportunity to be updated on current and future plans for the Trust.
All staff are very welcome to attend any of these sessions - no pre-booking necessary.
For further information, please telephone the Communications dept on HH x2620.

1 August
- Watford 10.30-11.30 Terrace Meeting Room
- Hemel 10.00-11.00 Post Grad Centre
- St Albans 3.30-4.30 Post Grad Centre
- Mount Vernon 9.30-10.30 Post Grad Centre

5 September
- Watford 12.30-1.30 Terrace Meeting Room
- Hemel 9.00-10.00 Post Grad Centre
- St Albans 1.00-2.00 Post Grad Centre
- Mount Vernon 9.30-10.30 Post Grad Centre

3 October
- Watford 11.30-12.30 Terrace Meeting Room, Hemel 9.00-10.00 Post Grad Centre
- St Albans 10.00-11.00 Post Grad Centre
- Mount Vernon 9.30-10.30 Post Grad Centre

7 November
- Watford 1.00-2.00 Terrace Meeting Room
- Hemel 10.00-11.00 Post Grad Centre
- St Albans 10.00-11.00 Post Grad Centre
- Mount Vernon 9.30-10.30 Post Grad Centre

5 December
- Watford 9.30-10.30 Terrace Meeting Room
- Hemel 9.00-10.00 Post Grad Centre
- St Albans 10.00-11.00 Post Grad Centre
- Mount Vernon 9.00-10.00 Post Grad Centre

Standards for Better Health
As part of the Healthcare Commission’s ‘Annual Health Check’, which has replaced star ratings, every Trust in the country, must declare whether they have met the necessary level of performance during the year to 31 March 2006. This assessment measures the Trust’s performance against 24 standards in areas including safety, clinical effectiveness and patient experience.
In October the Healthcare Commission will announce annual performance ratings, which will have two elements, Quality of Care and Use of Resources.
To view the document click onto our website www.westhertshospitals.nhs.uk or go to the Trust’s intranet site.

Trust goes live with PACS
PACS (Picture Archiving & Communications System) has now been installed in Watford General, Hemel Hempstead General and St Albans City Hospitals and has gone live in the radiology department at Watford General Hospital.
PACS enables images such as X-rays and scans to be stored electronically and viewed on video screen, offering huge clinical benefits across the Trust, such as:
Faster delivery of medical images, leading to speedier availability of results.
Flexible viewing with the ability to manipulate images on screen, offering patient x-rays and scans taken before the go lives will continue to be available in their current form.
To find out more about PACS please visit the website: www.connectingforhealth/pacs or locally email belinda.barton@whht.nhs.uk.
The annual Nursing & Midwifery Conference ‘Celebrating our Success’ was held on Friday 12 May, which coincided with international Nurses Day. Over 120 Trust staff and guests attended the event.

The theme of this year’s conference was ‘Building and Nurturing a Culture of Excellence’ and once again the day was a tremendous success. The standard of presentations – both displays and spoken presentations – were very high and reflected the hard work and innovation undertaken by Nurses and Midwives over the past year to improve the patient experience.

Guest speakers included John Badham, Associate Director – the Board Development Programme/Professional Nurse, Theresa Shaw, Chief Executive of the Foundation of Nursing Studies and, back by popular demand, Dame Lorna Muirhead, the immediate past President of the Royal College of Midwives; Dame Lorna agreed to return again this year following her inspirational address in 2005.

Gary Etheridge, the Trust’s Chief Nurse/Director of Patient Services, Quality & Risk said: “We were delighted that our guest speakers took time out of their busy schedules to join us to celebrate National Nurses Day. “The conference has been designed specifically to highlight and share the outstanding work being carried out by our nursing and midwifery staff throughout the Trust, which impacts positively on care delivery.

“Our staff work extremely hard and provide excellent standards of nursing and midwifery care...”

To highlight the significance of the date of this year’s Conference a number of Nurses wore historical uniforms, depicting nursing through the ages.

A special thank you to everyone who organised the event and to our sponsors 3M, Pegasus, Smith & Nephew, Profile Respiratory, Smiths Medical and Molnlycke and The Royal Archives & Museum for supplying the uniforms.

“Cause for celebration - nurses conference a great success”
Casting memory of tiny fingers and toes

Lisa Haycock from Babyprints.co.uk presented Kate Turner and her team from the Maternity Unit at Watford General Hospital with a cheque for £744.

Lisa has been offering individual impressions and solid casts mounted in frames to new mums at Watford General Hospital for over a year. In return for displaying the products in the maternity wards and clinics in Watford General Hospital the company agreed to donate a percentage of all orders received to the maternity unit.

Lisa Haycock said: “Our service has proved very popular with new mums who really like to have a keepsake of their new born baby. We also combine a baby’s cast with one of their older brothers and sisters.

“The youngest Watford baby I have worked with was just 3 days old and the smallest was 4lbs.1oz.”

Kate Turner, Senior Sister, Katherine Ward said: - “I am delighted to accept this donation, it is an excellent service which mums are very pleased with. It is really a lovely idea as a keepsake of your baby.”

Calling all junior fun runners

Entry is now open for the fifth annual Manches Moor Park 10k & Junior Fun Runs which will be held on Sunday 24 September 2006 at Merchant Taylors School.

From 250 runners in 2002 to 780 last year, this event has raised nearly £100,000 for the Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre (LJMC), the cancer support and information centre at Mount Vernon Hospital (once a part of WHHT).

The unique, traffic-free 10k route starts with a lap of the school’s playing fields, before passing out into the private Moor Park Estate, over Rickmansworth and Moor Park Golf Courses and returning to the school grounds. The Junior Fun Runs are confined to the school grounds.

Further information and entry forms are available from www.moorpark10k.org.uk, or call Buzz Coster at the LJMC (01923 844107). Team entries welcomed so challenge your colleagues and come along for a great, fun day!

Fundraising campaign a success for Dermatology Unit

A really big thank you to local fundraisers who raised £6,000 to purchase an additional UV light cubicle for the Dermatology Department at Hemel Hempstead General Hospital.

Dr Julia Schofield, Consultant Dermatologist said: “We are absolutely delighted to receive this additional cubicle. This means that with two machines we can see and treat more patients in the unit.

“I would like to say a really big thank you to everyone who has helped raise the funds.”

The UV light cubicle is used to treat patients with skin conditions like Psoriasis, Eczema, Vitiligo and rare forms of skin lymphoma.

Local students raise funds for Breast Care Unit

Well done to local students from Parmitters School in Garston who have raised £500 for the Breastcare Unit at St Albans City Hospital.

They raised the money by selling cakes, sweets and drinks at break and lunchtimes as well as selling ribbon pins and holding a “guess the weight of the cake” competition.

Money was also raised from a “Pink Party” where the fundraisers wore pink fancy dress and held a number of different games and competitions. A number of the students raised further cash by shopping in the local shops, wearing pink bras over their clothes and holding Breast Cancer Awareness posters.

Ashley Redmond, Head of Year 11 said: “I was really proud of the hard work and effort the girls put into raising money for a very worthwhile cause. £500 is a substantial amount of money collected in such a small space of time.”

Copy for the next edition should be sent to Eileen.Whitehouse@whht.nhs.uk by 20 October 2006