Time to look back on Stobhill’s proud history
ROYAL WELCOME AWAITS
STOBHILL INPATIENTS

ON Friday 18th March, the last of Stobhill's inpatients will be transferred to Glasgow Royal Infirmary and the old Nightingale wards in the main hospital will close.

For more than a century, from its early days as a Poor Law Hospital where patients were ashamed to be treated, to the present day where New Stobhill Hospital has been crowned the best wee hospital in the world, Stobhill has faithfully served the people of north Glasgow and East Dunbartonshire.

In this special commemorative edition of Health News we look back at the proud history of Stobhill and celebrate its role as one of Glasgow’s major inpatient hospitals. We also look forward to the future of inpatient healthcare in a special feature on the new South Glasgow Hospital – the largest ever hospital development in the UK – and see just how far healthcare has come since Stobhill’s foundation stone was laid in 1901.

£35million GRI expansion as Stobhill inpatient services and casualty unit move

EVERY year, hundreds of thousands of people attend Stobhill Hospital for diagnosis and treatment.

The vast majority of attendances are on an outpatient or day-case basis, and a brand new £100million hospital opened two years ago on the Stobhill campus to provide state-of-the-art accommodation for these services.

A much smaller number of patients - around 13,000 patients a year - need to be admitted to Stobhill Hospital overnight for investigation and/or treatment of a health problem.

From 18th March 2011, patients who would have been admitted to

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Stobhill will go instead to Glasgow Royal Infirmary and the wards in the main hospital block will close.

Chief Executive, Robert Calderwood, explained: “Stobhill inpatient beds are moving to Glasgow Royal Infirmary (GRI) as part of a long-term plan to concentrate inpatient hospital services on three sites in the city.

“These plans were agreed in 2002 and have been the subject of a huge amount of public engagement since then. “The vast majority of patients will not be affected by the changes. All outpatient services will continue to be provided locally, including pre-operative assessment and post-operative follow-up care.

Thousands of operations will also be carried out locally in the purpose-built day surgery unit at New Stobhill Hospital.

“Patients who need to be admitted, however, will go to the GRI. This will include anyone

MORE than £6million has been invested in extending the Accident and Emergency Department (pictured right) and creating an assessment unit and dedicated X-ray facilities.

A further £13million has been spent upgrading 16 wards within the hospital and the ITU (pictured left) has benefitted from a £4million extension to accommodate the additional activity from Stobhill.
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admitted to hospital for planned surgery or as an emergency.”

Stobhill’s Casualty is also closing on Friday 18th March. After that date, patients requiring emergency treatment for a serious injury or illness will go instead to the Emergency Department at the GRI.

Patients who need urgent care for a minor injury can attend the Minor Injuries Unit (MIU) based at New Stobhill Hospital. The MIU is run by highly experienced Emergency Nurse Practitioners who will assess and either treat a minor injury or, if they find a more serious problem, arrange to send the patient to another hospital.

The MIU opens from 9.00am to 9.00pm every day. Outwith these times, patients with minor injuries should go the Emergency Department at the GRI.

In preparation for the transfer of Stobhill services, £35million has been invested in the Glasgow Royal Infirmary to enhance and expand the hospital.

Mr Calderwood continued: “£6million has been invested in extending the Emergency Department and creating an assessment unit and dedicated X-ray facilities.

“A further £13million has been spent upgrading 16 wards within the hospital and the ITU has benefitted from a £4million extension to accommodate the additional activity from Stobhill.”

Rehabilitation services for older people will remain on site at Stobhill. A brand new £19million rehabilitation unit will open on the Stobhill campus in March 2011. Older people who need to stay for a longer period in hospital will be transferred to this unit from Glasgow Royal Infirmary.

The unit will also accommodate 12 short-stay beds for patients who only need to stay one night after a planned operation.
STOBHILL SERVICES ON THE MOVE

What’s moving to Glasgow Royal Infirmary

Casualty
Coronary Care Unit
Inpatient services:
Acute medical receiving
Acute surgical receiving
Cardiology
Gastroenterology
General medicine
General surgery
Geriatric assessment
Respiratory medicine
Rheumatology
Inpatient theatres
Intensive Therapy
Unit (ITU) and High Dependency Unit (HDU)

THE new rehabilitation unit at Stobhill.

What’s staying at Stobhill

New Stobhill Hospital
All outpatient departments and clinics
Cardiac Rehabilitation
Day Hospital
Day Surgery
Dental
Endoscopy
GP Out-of-Hours Emergency Service

Imaging (X-ray, CT, MRI, ultrasound)
Minor Injuries Unit
Nuclear Medicine
Renal Dialysis
Therapy services e.g.
Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech and Language Therapy, Dietetics and Podiatry services.

Elderly rehabilitation wards
Mental health inpatient services
Eriskay House
MacKinnon House
Rowanbank Clinic
Skye House
Marie Curie Hospice
One hundred years of history and more...

The early days as a haven for the poor

In late nineteenth century Scotland, all health care had to be paid for privately. Voluntary hospitals such as Glasgow Royal Infirmary had first class facilities and staff but were expensive.

Poor Law hospitals were created to provide basic free treatment to the very poor. The standards of medical care provided at these facilities fell considerably short of that in the voluntary hospitals.

Overcrowding was a significant problem, with patients - usually children - having to share a bed at busiest times and surgery carried out on the wards or even in the ward kitchens within sight and earshot of other patients.

To address the problem of overcrowding, Glasgow Parish Council decided in 1899 to build a new Poor Law hospital in the north of Glasgow. Forty seven acres of land was purchased for £6,000 at Stobhill and a competition was launched to find the architects to design the new hospital. The foundation stone was laid on 16th September 1901, and thus began three years of construction to create the 1,867-bedded hospital.

Hundreds attended the opening ceremony.
STOBHILL was formally opened on 15th September 1904. Patients being admitted to Stobhill had to declare themselves as paupers and were often ashamed to go to the hospital. To save embarrassment, birth and death certificates gave the hospital's address - 133 Balornock Road - rather than its name.

Patients at Stobhill were often in the last stages of diseases like tuberculosis or other illness brought on by poor living and working conditions. Four long-stay wards cared for the ‘old, feeble, helpless and blind’ until they ‘passed on’ and ten wards were created for children taken into care by the Parish Council. A school was built nearby.

On arrival at the hospital patients were examined by the medical superintendent and given blue hospital clothes. Forbidden items, such as matches, alcohol or food, were removed and a record card was made out for the patient, red for Catholics and white for Protestants.

Wards were single sex. Patients had prayers twice a day and church on Sundays. If they were well enough they helped out around the hospital. The hospital employed two policemen to enforce rules and stop patients from running away or going to the pub (see page 9). But there were treats too, including an annual trip to Largs and day trips to local villages.
Caring for the wounded during World War 1

IN September 1914, at the beginning of the First World War, the hospital was requisitioned by Royal Army Medical Corps staff of the Territorial Force and re-designated as the 3rd and 4th Scottish General Hospitals.

Wounded servicemen arrived by specially converted 'ambulance trains' terminating at a temporary railway platform built within the hospital grounds. A staff of 240 Territorial Force nurses and volunteers from the St Andrew’s Ambulance Association cared for over 1000 patients at a time, suffering from battlefield wounds, until the return of the hospital to civilian use in the spring of 1920.

Equal pay was a touchy subject... even in 1903

IN 1903, Emmeline Pankhurst’s suffragette movement was in its infancy and the rights of women to equality, especially in pay, were decades away.

That year a list of appointments and annual salaries at Stobhill was published and included the following:

- Senior Assistant Medical Officer - £150
- Junior Assistant Medical Officer - £110
- Dispenser - £75
- Barber - £67
- Porter - £65
- Matron - £110
- Assistant Matron - £60

The comparison of the assistant matron's salary with the porter's would, even in 1903, have been the subject of some comment!
They locked mystery writer up in asylum

ONE of the most astonishing stories to emerge from the dark and distant past of Stobhill Hospital surrounds the case of the mystery author of 1910 – locked up in an asylum for attempting to publish an article about life in the hospital!

The article was uncovered by Glasgow City archivist R.A Dell around 1970 in a bound “Collection of Prints of the Parish of Glasgow.” The anonymous author was apparently a well-educated employee at the hospital and his article – Inside a Glasgow Hospital – included a preface explaining that it had been written as a souvenir of the hospital.

While various officials of the Parish Council had given the article its blessing, the author states that Stobhill’s Medical Superintendent (Dr William Core) had expressly forbidden him to publish any such paper.

He writes at length on his efforts to obtain official permission and then describes how one day he was coerced into calling at the head office of the Parish Council and that he was there “certified as a fit patient for an asylum and taken forcibly forthwith to Woodilee Asylum.”

He was detained in Woodilee for a total of 16 months, during which time he made two escapes. On the first occasion, four months after his incarceration, he was at liberty for a month, during which time he obtained THREE certificates of his sanity from eminent medical practitioners in Motherwell, Edinburgh and Leith.

On his return to Woodilee these certificates were ignored and he was locked up again for another year!

Eventually released and free to go into print, his paper provides considerable interesting information about the hospital in its early years. Writing in a flowery Edwardian style, he describes the beauty of the grounds, the types of patient admitted and the architecture and use of the various buildings.

Most interestingly, he goes on to suggest that a statue should be erected representing the Medical Superintendent, with his “grim and stern countenance, with the head gardener on his knees at his feet wiping the Superintendent’s boots with his handkerchief.”

With this single paragraph the reader may now understand why such serious steps were taken to prevent this author from bursting into print!

He states that during the building of the hospital such was the quagmire in which the vast army of workmen had to operate that many horses, and indeed workers, “succumbed under the struggle.”

More than 100 years on, the article provides a vivid and fascinating insight into life inside the hospital, and a chilling reminder of the dangers of daring to defy authority in Edwardian Scotland.

A wee dram... for medicinal purposes?

WHEN the hospital opened in 1904, two policemen were employed to patrol the grounds, preventing patients from leaving without authority and to ensure that male and female patients did not fraternise!

It would appear that their efforts to prevent the men from absconding to the nearest pub in Auchenairn were not outstandingly effective.

So prevalent were these unauthorised trips to the local public house that the Medical Superintendent complained to the landlord.

So prevalent were these unauthorised trips to the nearest pub in Auchenairn that the Medical Superintendent complained to the landlord.

The publican’s response was to display a notice in the bar – which remained for 20 years - that stated in boldest print that patients in “hospital blue” would not be served!
The original hospital has seen more than a century of improvements.

Growing into a modern hospital

A NEW radiology department in 1928 was the first step in transforming Stobhill into a modern general hospital.

A much-needed 110-bed maternity unit opened in 1931 and Stobhill became a teaching hospital in 1937. In 1938 plans were made to upgrade Stobhill to include 250 beds for sick children, an outpatients department and an accident and emergency block. The plans were put on hold when war broke out the following year and Stobhill had to wait a further fifteen years before undergoing further development.

A groundbreaking Geriatric Unit opened in 1953. Then came a new Pharmacy (1961), a premature baby ward (1962), the Edwards Unit for Mothers and Babies (1963), a staff library (1964), the Clinical Teaching Centre and the Group Training School (1967) and a modern Pathology Department (1968). In the 1970s new theatres and a postgraduate medical centre were added and wards were upgraded.

MRS Lucy Baldwin, wife of Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin, visits the newly opened maternity unit in 1931.
Stobhill doctor who turned medical life into a drama

JAMES Bridie was the pseudonym of Scotland’s greatest playwright of the 20th century.

From 1925 until 1938, however, he was fondly known to staff and patients at Stobhill Hospital as Doctor Osborne Henry Mavor.

Born in 1888, Mavor studied medicine at the University of Glasgow, then served as a military doctor during World War I, seeing service in France and Mesopotamia.

In 1925 he joined the staff at Stobhill as consulting physician. Looking after his patients by day and writing by night, he produced a number of serious and comedic works including Some Talk of Alexander, The Anatomist and A Sleeping Clergyman.

His comedic plays saw success in London, and in 1938 he left Stobhill to become a full time writer. Despite this, he returned to the army during World War II, again serving as a doctor.

His witty autobiography One Way of Living was compulsory reading for generations of Glasgow medical students interested in medical life in the early 20th century.

It includes a hilarious description on how he had “pulled a whole harpful of wires” to get the job as consulting physician at Stobhill, where, he wrote: “I found the science and art of medicine laid out for me in neat row after neat row.”

Bridie was also the main founder of the Citizens Theatre in Glasgow and worked as a screenwriter with the director Alfred Hitchcock in the late 1940s.

Following his death in 1951, the Bridie Library at the Glasgow University Union was named for him, as is the annual Bridie Dinner that takes place in the Union.

A DATE IN HISTORY

1900 - Glasgow’s infant mortality rate was 153 per 1000 live births.

1904 – Stobhill Hospital, with a bed complement of 1867, officially opened.

1914 – On the outbreak of WW1, Stobhill requisitioned by military for care of wounded soldiers. More than 200 nurses cared for many thousands during the four years of the war.

1929 – Local Government Scotland Act paves the way for the removal of Stobhill’s Poor Law Hospital status to that of general hospital.

1930 – Dr Adam Barr, one of Scotland’s leading obstetricians, takes up post at Stobhill and later, with Dr Andrew Tindall, devises the pioneering Tindal-Barr Apparatus for the administration of obstetric analgesia by GPs.

1933 – Mr James Paterson begins pioneering neurosurgery.

1948 – National Health Service introduced.

1953 – New geriatric unit opens.

1961 – New pharmacy opens.

1963 – Edward Unit for Mothers and Babies opened by Princess Alexandra.

1970 – Stobhill recognised as Britain’s largest acute general teaching hospital.

2009 - New Stobhill Hospital opens.
IN 2000-2001, the people of Glasgow were consulted on plans to modernise the city’s hospital services.

Some of Glasgow’s hospitals, including Stobhill, were no longer fit-for-purpose to deliver modern 21st century inpatient healthcare.

The plans proposed that Stobhill’s inpatient services would transfer to Glasgow Royal Infirmary and a brand new £100million hospital would be built in the grounds to deliver diagnostic services, outpatient care and day surgery.

New Stobhill Hospital opened in May 2009 and treats 400,000 patients every year. It has won many design awards and was voted the world’s best hospital of its size in 2010.
Baby, look at him now!

Alastair made news as world’s FIRST test tube baby boy

STOBHILL made worldwide headlines on 14th January 1979 when the world’s first test tube baby boy was born at the hospital.

The hospital was flooded by international news crews desperate to get a glimpse of baby Alastair MacDonald.

At the time, mum Grace, was very surprised by all the media attention.

She said: “When Alastair was born, I thought ‘why all this interest?’ I was part of a programme that was considered controversial at the time so the women were asked not to tell anybody that they were involved.

“I assumed that there would have been dozens of women successful before me.”

In fact, Alastair was only the second baby

MORE than 30 years on, Alastair, now a systems engineer in the Royal Auxiliary Fleet, recalls how he first found out about his famous arrival into the world.
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born through the in-vitro fertilisation technique developed by pioneers, Professor Bob Edwards and Mr Patrick Steptoe. The world’s first test tube baby, Louise Brown, had been born only six months earlier.

Grace, from Lennoxtown, first found out about the trials in 1975 when she read by chance an article in the Lancet medical journal whilst visiting a friend in Stirling.

She had been under the care of Stobhill gynaecologist, Dr David Mackay-Hart, for a few years and he had broken the news to her three years previously that she could not have children.

But Grace was determined not to give up hope.

“When I read the article, I went to see Dr Mackay-Hart right away. I told him that I wanted to write to Mr Steptoe and try to get on the programme,” she said.

“He knew how stubborn I was and told me to go for it.”

Grace went to see Patrick Steptoe at the clinic in Oldham in 1975 and believes that Dr Mackay-Hart’s support was vital in getting her on the clinical trial in February 1977.

The first attempt was unsuccessful but on the second cycle of treatment, Grace produced one egg which was successfully fertilised.

Grace knew immediately that she was pregnant. Within days she had gone off coffee and cucumber so she wasn’t surprised when Professor Edwards came to tell her the good news.

She remained in Oldham for two months, her family convinced that she was getting special treatment for cancer as she couldn’t tell them about the trial.

“When I got home and was able to share the good news, my family thought the pregnancy was natural. I didn’t tell them otherwise. Not even the staff at Stobhill, with the exception of Dr Mackay-Hart, knew the circumstances of the pregnancy. When it came to discussing my due date, the staff couldn’t understand why I was so sure of when I fell pregnant – but I knew to the very second!”

On Hogmanay, Grace’s waters broke and Dr Mackay-Hart advised her to make her way into Stobhill. Two minutes into the New Year her contractions stopped but it was decided to keep Grace in hospital until Alastair was born.

He was due on St Valentine’s Day but on 14th January the contractions started once again. Patrick Steptoe, who wanted to deliver the baby, was in Cambridge and Grace pleaded with the staff to call him before telling anybody else. She laughs as she recalls: “The nurses thought I’d flipped!”

Sadly for Patrick, Alastair didn’t await his arrival. Dr Mackay-Hart delivered the 5lb
Baby, look at him now!

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12 oz baby one hour before he and Bob reached the hospital.

The media ‘circus’ persisted until Grace took Alastair home and friends and neighbours in Lennoxtown blockaded the street with their cars whilst Grace and her husband sneaked Alastair into their house through neighbours’ back gardens.

Once the initial attention died down, the family were pretty much left alone. Grace remained close to the IVF pioneers and Alastair knew them as Uncle Patrick and Uncle Bob. He only learned of his place in history at the age of nine when the news that Patrick Steptoe had died flashed onto his television screen.

“I would lie awake at night and think about what if it hadn’t worked. I was quite overwhelmed by what ifs. “I simply wouldn’t be here if it wasn’t for the work of Bob and Patrick, which was accomplished with very little resources, and I was delighted when Bob gained recognition for his pioneering work last year when he won the Nobel Prize for medicine. I hope that recognition in his own country follows this.

“I am also amazed by what my mum and the other ladies went through. They were all there for one another, spurring each other on so at least one would be successful. I am so proud of my mum and of my place in history.”

Stobhill FIRST to store blood for transfusion

TWO eminent members of Stobhill’s medical staff are credited with being the first in Scotland to conduct experiments on the storing of blood for transfusions.

In the days before the blood transfusion service, surgeons had to make their own arrangements for the supply of blood for the needs of their patients during operations, so a patient’s relatives or friends with compatible blood types had to be available on site during the operation to provide blood.

In the late 1930s Mr William Gray and Dr AS Rogen collected various blood types from donors and stored them in sterile milk bottles in a domestic refrigerator.

Their research reached the ears of the department of health, who, anticipating the outbreak of World War II, encouraged them to step up their experiments, the results of which aided the inauguration of the Blood Transfusion Service early in the war.

Scotland’s FIRST dedicated day surgery unit

IN 1993, Stobhill became the first hospital in Scotland to open a dedicated day surgery unit.

Day surgery was becoming increasingly common due to advances and developments in surgery, anaesthetics, drugs and technology.

The £500,000 dedicated day surgery complex created much-needed extra capacity to tackle lengthy waiting lists and gave patients greater choice of treatment.

The unit proved so popular that it was extended within two years of opening and its theatre capacity doubled.
Pioneering work led to FIRST geriatric unit

STOBHILL’S status - initially as a Poor Law Hospital and then, from 1929, as a municipal hospital - was to create the perfect environment for an outstanding physician and his students to study the problems of ageing.

Noah Morris was appointed as Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics at Glasgow University in 1937 and was given charge of six medical wards at Stobhill.

The hospital treated a high proportion of young people with rheumatic fever and older people with strokes.

These were medium and long-term patients, unacceptable to the voluntary hospitals where teaching traditionally took place. For the first time, a university teaching department encountered a large proportion of patients who were old and chronically ill.

Morris established an outstanding department of clinical medicine. He advocated holistic medicine: “the patient is not merely a sort of heart-lung-kidney preparation, but a human being with all the desires, emotions and fears of humanity” and encouraged the gradually emerging specialty of geriatric medicine.

Academic and consultant physician, Sir William Ferguson Anderson, popularly known as “Fergie”, continued the work led by Morris and oversaw the creation of a groundbreaking Geriatric Unit at Stobhill in 1953.

In doing so, he had to overcome the opposition of the hospital’s Medical Staff Committee who believed that “the introduction of geriatrics would adversely reflect on its status as a major teaching hospital”.

They couldn’t have been more wrong. The geriatric department gained worldwide recognition and drew visitors from across the globe.

Sir William became the world’s first Professor of Geriatric Medicine when he was appointed to the David Cargill Chair in 1965.

Stobhill was also the ideal setting for a young physician, Dr John Rankin, to develop his innovative research on cerebrovascular disease. The combination of an active academic department and a large number of stroke inpatients allowed Rankin to collect unparalleled and unique data on the disease in the late 1940s.

At a time when active intervention for strokes was uncommon, Rankin argued that positive results could be achieved through rehabilitation, time and encouragement.

These ideals of multidisciplinary working and early rehabilitation remain the core principle of stroke care today.
What a difference a century makes... in 1904 Stobhill Hospital cost £250,000 to build. When completed in 2015, the new South Glasgow Hospital will have cost £842million

Here we look at the work involved in Scotland’s largest ever hospital building project...

That’s a great BIG hospital

If big is beautiful then the new South Glasgow Hospital is going to be absolutely gorgeous!

The scale of the building is truly mammoth.

What other building could accommodate a Boeing 747 Jumbo Jet in the atrium?

To put a bit of scale into this massive NHS modernisation project we only need to remind ourselves that the laboratory building - which is already taking on its full shape – is affectionately referred to by some on the campus as “the little one”... it alone is a £70m giant structure that could stand shoulder to shoulder with just about any average sized hospital new build anywhere in the UK.

In the next few weeks seven giant “piling rigs” will arrive on the Govan site to prepare the foundations for the new hospital. They will drill 1,500 holes to varying depths of between 12 metres and 25 metres before pile driving steel sleeves into them. Each will be filled with reinforced concrete and the steel sleeves removed. When completed these piles will represent 30,000 metres – or 15 miles if you are pre-decimal!

This scientifically engineered forest of concrete roots will riddle the hospital footprint and be complete by Christmas 2011. As some piling works are completed the construction engineers will move to

Project manager Dave Jordan describes the project as ‘truly massive’.

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start the next stage of the building process.

Giant “cores” will be constructed – each rising out of the foundations and some stretching 60 metres skyward to create the 14-storey adult hospital (there are 12 accommodation floors but the building will feature 14 levels to accommodate a basement and top level facilities equipment).

These “cores” will host the lifts and the stairwells and essentially form the skeleton of the hospital before the concrete and cladding are wrapped around to create the full-size structure. There will be 34 lifts within the building… a number of lift shafts form part of each “stair and lift core”.

The five “cores” that will service the tower will be built up from reinforced concrete at a rate of 2.4 metres per day and will take five weeks to complete.

As the “cores” are completed the construction teams will begin to build - in stages - the walls and cladding that will form the full size structure in its final form ready for the detailed fitting out.

Dave Jordan, a project manager for Brookfield Multiplex, who are building the South Glasgow hospitals and laboratory for NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, is a man who has been in construction all of his professional life but even he admits this project is just a little bit special.

He said: “I have been involved in hospital builds before and shopping centres and various other major...
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projects but this is by far the largest. In construction terms this is a truly massive project.”

As he looks out of a window in the nerve-centre “Portacabin village” where complex engineering maps, construction phase diagrams and geological surveys and work plans are the currency of décor he has a proud and excited glint in his eyes.

“We’ll be getting 10 tower cranes on site in a few months, with heights varying up to 100 metres. They’ll be working alongside the giant piling rigs, the first of which will appear in a few weeks time.

“Then there will be an impressive fleet of vehicles ranging from giant earthmovers to dump trucks and diggers and general transport trucks, clearing the site and bringing in all the materials we need for construction work.”

The “shopping list” for the engineers to build this world class NHS facility in Glasgow is really quite breathtaking – consisting of such bulk orders as seven miles of thick high voltage cable, lorry loads of radiant heater panels, cooling systems, thousands of doors, almost a million metres of conduit and trunking to host cables, acres of glass panels and a myriad of other materials including eye watering amounts of bricks and concrete.

The floor area extends to a massive 166,000 square metres, the equivalent of 24 football pitches.

Work on the massive project has been consistently on schedule and the hospital campus site is due to be fully operational by the summer of 2015.

MEGA FACTS ABOUT THE NEW SOUTH GLASGOW HOSPITAL

A Boeing 747 can fit inside the atrium.

The cladding that will form the walls of the new hospital would be the equivalent of a single track road stretching from Glasgow to Loch Lomond.

The floor area of the new adult hospital is equivalent to 24 football pitches.

There will be more than 7,000 rooms.

It will have 30 operating theatres.

The doors inside the hospital, if put end to end, would stretch for 10 miles.

The hospital's new power plant and energy centre will create enough energy to supply more than 4,000 homes - that’s a town the size of Johnstone or Barrhead.

The total length of all the cabling and wiring is an incredible 2.5million metres. That would stretch from Land’s End to John O’ Groats and back again!

The length of water mains, drainage and hot and cold water pipes added together would stretch for 190 miles!
GOVAN GETS NEW LEASE OF LIFE

LOCAL lads Chris Fraser and Malcolm McLellan, who have been engaged as apprentice joiners.

NHS delivers on its pledge that community would benefit

THE New South Glasgow Hospital will not only provide world-class healthcare facilities, it will also bring a major boost to the local economy.

That was the pledge given by NHSGCC when the plans for the new hospital were first drawn up.

Now, a year into construction of the super-laboratory and with building work getting underway on the adult and children’s hospital, that pledge has been well and truly delivered.

The construction of the new £842million campus will support around 2500 jobs and once complete will contribute

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to around £30million per year to the South West Glasgow economy.

To ensure that the local community benefit from this major cash injection, the health board set a requirement that at least 10% of the workforce employed by builders Brookfield Multiplex and their sub-contractors should be local people who either have been out of work for six months or more or have just left school.

With four years still to go on the project, that target is well on track to being delivered and dozens of locals have been recruited to work on the site.

Amongst the new recruits are two local lads, Chris Fraser and Malcolm McLellan, who have been engaged as apprentice joiners with sub-contractor Dunne Building and Civil Engineering Ltd.

Chris and Malcolm had both begun their apprenticeship in September 2008 but lost out when the construction company they were serving with went out of business in May 2010. Through the Glasgow South West Regeneration Agency, both were put forward for an interview with Dunne and were delighted to be given the opportunity to complete their apprenticeship with the firm.

Rosh Campbell, Operations Manager of the Glasgow South West Regeneration Agency, said: “I’m delighted we were able to get these two lads back on track. They work hard and are committed to learning new skills. The New South Glasgow Hospital is perfect for them. It will provide a secure future for both young people.”

Politicians, community leaders, educationalists – and even Govan’s most famous son Sir Alex Ferguson - have all praised the NHS project and its impact on the local community.

THE new laboratory building is rapidly taking shape (see page 25).
GOVAN GETS NEW LEASE OF LIFE

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Speaking during a recent visit to Govan, Sir Alex told the Evening Times newspaper that the new South Glasgow Hospital project is part of what he sees as a regeneration of the place of his birth.

He said: “Govan’s history is a fantastic one. It created Glasgow, a shipbuilding city. Shipyards brought life to Glasgow. The demise of the shipyards has created what you see in Govan now.

“But now there’s regeneration. They’re bringing energy back into Govan.

“The hospital is going to need thousands of employees. It’s fantastic. Govan is going to come back, there’s no doubt about that.”

Nicola Sturgeon, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing added: “This project will transform the future of healthcare in Glasgow for patients and staff alike. But the economic benefits start now. This project has the potential to regenerate and breathe life into Glasgow’s economy and indeed the wider Scottish community.”

Cardonald College, which runs a number of apprenticeship programmes, has also welcomed the health board’s commitment to support communities move into training and employment.

Susan Walsh, Principal and Chief Executive, Cardonald College Glasgow, said: “This regeneration of our local area, and subsequent creation of jobs which we hope many of our students can fill, is a tremendous boost for the south west of Glasgow.”

THE NEW HOSPITALS will contribute £30 million per year to south west Glasgow economy.

More than 2500 construction jobs will be created to deliver new hospitals.

At least 250 jobs will be taken by ‘new entrants’, i.e. school leavers or those out of work for more than six months.

88 new apprentices to be recruited and trained.

184 work experience placements to be created.

At October 2010 168 employees worked on site, including 21 new entrants – ahead of 10% target.

By December, this had risen to 227 workers on site, including 24 new entrants.

The hospital is going to need thousands of employees. It’s fantastic. Govan is going to come back, there’s no doubt about that.

- SIR ALEX FERGUSON

I MADE THE BEST CHOICE TO BREASTFEED.
UNLIKE BUYING THOSE BARGAIN SHOES THAT DIDN’T FIT.

feedgoodfactor.org.uk or 0300 100 0212
Local business gets chance to show its metal

It's not just individuals who are benefiting from the creation of the new South Glasgow Hospital.
Local businesses are also reaping the rewards of the New South Glasgow Hospitals project.

One local company, Ventrac Sheet Metal Ltd has been awarded the contract to supply and fit the ventilation ducting for the new laboratory that will support the hospital when it's complete in 2015.

Ventrac had the opportunity to bid for the works as a result of NHSGGC's commitment to provide opportunities for the local community and won the contract after an in-depth procurement and consultation process with the key building partner Mercury Engineering.

Alex McCartney, Managing Director of Ventrac said: 'We are absolutely thrilled to have won this contract. Business has been very tough over the last couple of years and this work stream has provided a much needed boost for our business.

“Ventrac have been operational in Govan for over 40 years and even in the current economic climate we're hugely committed to the Govan area. However, this new contract has given us continuity and secured our longer-term sustainability. We're in a position to see some major growth over the coming years and I'm confident that with this project on our CV we'll be in a stronger position to bid for other major public contracts.”

Already Ventrac have recruited six members of staff to deal with the new works. It is anticipated that as the contract moves forward Ventrac will be creating an additional fourteen new posts. These jobs will include manufacturing trainees, experienced fitters, labourers and back office staff.

Glasgow South West Regeneration Agency will provide Ventrac with recruitment support for their new team and people can register for jobs at the New South Glasgow Hospital recruitment portal.

To find out more about employment opportunities at the New South Glasgow Hospital register with Glasgow South West Regeneration Agency at www.nsghjobs.com

SHEET metal company Ventrac have taken on a number of new employees, including these trainees, thanks to the project.
WORK on the new South Glasgow Hospital took a significant step forward in February with the completion of building work on the new laboratory facility.

Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing Nicola Sturgeon marked the occasion by performing a ‘topping out’ ceremony at the site.

Covering approximately 25,000 square metres, the new ‘super’ lab will serve the whole of the south of the city.

The laboratory is just one part of the £842million publicly funded project which will see an integrated children’s and adult hospital built on the site of the current Southern General.

With 1,109 beds, the adult hospital will sit alongside a 256-bed children’s hospital, providing maternity, paediatric and acute services on a single site.

The laboratory will link to the main hospital via a subterranean tunnel and will house the specialties of biochemistry, haematology, blood transfusion, microbiology, genetics and pathology and hospital mortuary services.

In addition, the Glasgow city mortuary will be transferring to the new facility.

Speaking at the topping out ceremony, Ms Sturgeon said: “The new Southern General is Scotland’s biggest ever hospital building project and will be entirely publicly-funded. The completion of the lab building is just the first step in this exciting journey for patients across the West of Scotland.

“Centralising services for all ages on a single site will ensure that everyone can access the widest possible range of specialist services and will also bring with it increased efficiency, shorter waiting times and better continuity of care.”

Chief Executive Robert Calderwood said: “I am delighted that this key milestone in the delivery of this ambitious project has been achieved. The full project will see us complete a programme of investment of more than £1.5 billion in modern healthcare accommodation across both acute and mental health facilities.

“Taken together these major strides forward, with the new South Glasgow Hospital at the centre, we will have the tools for the delivery of sustainable, high quality, cost effective healthcare for NHSGGC residents and beyond.”

The construction of the new laboratory began in February 2010. The building will be fully sealed by spring 2011 and ready to occupy in one year’s time.
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