Babies at the Royal Maternity Hospital in the 1930s were collected on a trolley to be changed and washed before being taken back to their mothers.

Photograph courtesy: Evening Times Archive
The National Health Service was launched on 5th July 1948. At Gartnavel Royal Hospital, a flag raising ceremony was held.

The flag depicted the sun rising – a suitable symbol for the great optimism about the new service.

During the first few weeks patients flooded into doctors’ surgeries – men with huge hernias restrained by trusses, women with prolapsed uteruses, thousands of near-deaf people without hearing aids, tens of thousands wearing second-hand spectacles.

Aneurin ‘Nye’ Bevan, the Minister of Health given the job of instituting the new National Health Service, said that the NHS would “lift the shadow from millions of homes.” Now it is clear that he was right.

It was the Second World War which made the NHS possible. The war produced a sense of social solidarity and cross-party consensus. In 1942, a famous report by Sir William Beveridge called for the creation of a National Health Service.

An open letter, which Aneurin Bevan had written to the Evening Times, explicitly stated that “Everybody, irrespective of means, age, sex or occupation shall have equal opportunity to benefit from the best and most up-to-date medical and allied services available.”

Once the war ended, the newly elected Government strove to turn this promise into reality. In addition, the war years had seen a state-funded hospital building programme in Scotland on a scale unknown in Europe. This was incorporated into the new NHS. Scotland also had its own distinctive medical tradition – centred on its medical schools rather than private practice - and a detailed plan for the future of health contained within the Cathcart report.

The writings of AJ Cronin, the creator of Dr Finlay, also helped to shape public opinion in favour of a National Health Service by exposing the injustices of existing provision.
Shona’s friends find original NHS leaflet

THE leaflet (left) was delivered to every household in April 1948 to explain the benefits offered by the new National Health Service.

Sixty years on, an original copy of the leaflet has been found by friends of one NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde worker.

Planning Officer, Shona Jenkins, explains: “Whilst preparing to move house, friends of mine have been systematically clearing out bureaus, desks, cupboards, wardrobes and chests of drawers. One set of drawers in particular yielded some very old documents on a variety of subjects including a leaflet circulated to all homes in Scotland on the launch of the new National Health Service 60 years ago.

“The origin of the chest of drawers is not known. The current owners inherited it from an elderly relation and according to the paperwork found in it - it had spent some of its past in a house in Dumbarton Road in Glasgow.

“Who would have believed that paperwork lost at the back of a drawer would be discovered 60 years later.

“It’s so fascinating to see one of the original leaflets that were delivered through the letter boxes of every house in the country all those years ago. It makes the history so alive and real!”

A little bit of history... Shona with the original copy of the leaflet.
The original leaflet describes the creation of the new health service.
PICTURE THIS... BEFORE THE NHS

The conditions in the Glasgow slums were a major contributor to the campaign for a better and free health service.

1865
Glasgow delivers a world first in antiseptics

Joseph Lister introduced pioneering antiseptic methods in the 1860s making Glasgow Royal Infirmary the birthplace of modern surgery.

Appointed as the hospital’s Professor of Surgery in 1860, Lister experimented with the use of carbolic acid as an antiseptic to prevent the spread of infection in wounds, the main cause of many post-operative deaths.

The first patient to be successfully treated for a compound fracture (where the bone has perforated the skin) was James Greenlees in August 1865.

1908

Sir Donald MacAllister, Principal of Glasgow University, approved the motion to adopt “the green slopes of Yorkhill” as a site for a new children’s hospital. The Royal Hospital for Sick Children was opened on 7th July 1914 by King George V.
PICTURE THIS... BEFORE THE NHS

1794
Glasgow Royal Infirmary
The oldest of Glasgow’s hospitals, Glasgow Royal Infirmary, opened in 1794. A Fever House was added thirty years later and a Surgical House followed in 1861. This was where Lister pioneered antiseptic techniques and revolutionised surgery.

The GRI’s Schaw Convalescent Home opened in 1895 and the Canniesburn Auxiliary Hospital opened in 1938.

The GRI was Glasgow’s only teaching hospital until 1874 when the University removed its teaching to the new Western Infirmary. In 1876 the Glasgow Royal Infirmary Medical School was established and university teaching in the GRI resumed in 1911.

1850
Royal Alexandra Hospital
Paisley’s Royal Alexandra became a general infirmary in 1850 when the town’s House of Recovery for infectious diseases was expanded to include medical and surgical wards. The infirmary was completely rebuilt on a new site in 1900. A second completely rebuilt Royal Alexandra Hospital was opened on a new site in 1986.

Rules for patients in the 1930s would be judged as strict by today’s standards.

Doctor Andrew James Hutton with a Red Cross nurse at the beginning of the 20th Century.
PICTURE THIS... BEFORE THE NHS

1872

Southern General Hospital
The Southern General Hospital was originally part of the Govan Combination Poorhouse. The hospital’s earliest buildings were in Eglinton Street but in 1872 a new 240 bed general hospital and 180 patient lunatic asylum were built at the present site. A major expansion in 1902-05 added a further 700 beds. The ‘Southern General’ name was adopted in 1923.

1890

Victoria Infirmary
The Victoria Infirmary was opened in 1890 as a voluntary hospital, paid for entirely by donations. A further wing was added in 1927 and a paying patients block was completed in 1935. In the late 1940s the Infirmary was designated a major teaching hospital.

The Victoria built the first country auxiliary hospital in Scotland, Philipshill Hospital, in 1929.

It was a hive of activity in the laundry at the Glasgow Royal Infirmary around the turn of the century.

The kitchens (left) and the sewing room (above) at Stobhill Hospital were busy places in 1931.

Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Babies Born in Scotland</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1948</td>
<td>100,344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1958</td>
<td>99,481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>94,786</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>64,295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>66,212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>59,440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>55,690</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PICTURE THIS... BEFORE THE NHS

A surgical ward in the GRI in 1890.

The cameraman looks like he’s about to receive a ticking off from the military at Stobhill Hospital during World War 1.

A Brief History of the Dental Hospital

Up to the latter half of the 19th century, if you needed a filling or a tooth extracted, your choice of dentist could often be a hit or miss affair. Before this time, many ‘dentists’ set themselves up in practice without any formal training.

However, following the introduction of the Dentists Act of 1878, it became compulsory for anyone wishing to enter the dental profession to possess a diploma or licence to practice from one of the licensing bodies.

The Act also allowed the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow to train students, institute examinations and grant diplomas in dental surgery.

The first exam took place in April 1879.

Although this was a very positive step forward for dentistry (and patients), it quickly became clear that there was a real need for the establishment of a dental school. Following a meeting of medical practitioners in March 1879, it was decided that a dental school be set up within Anderson’s College in George Street. The first lecture of the Glasgow School of Dental Surgery took place in June 1879, making Glasgow the first place in Scotland to open a dental school. A dental hospital, where students could practice, was opened in November of that year.

In 1882, new premises were found at 56 George Square and the new Glasgow Hospital and School opened in January 1885. The hospital and school moved again to 4 Chatham Place (now Cathedral Street) in 1889, to 5 St Vincent Place in 1896, and 15 Dalhousie Street in 1904.

In 1932, the hospital and school moved again into what was the ‘new building’ in Renfrew Street and an extension to this building was officially opened by HRH the Duchess of Kent on December 3, 1970. Readers will know these buildings as the ‘old building’ and the tower block that are still home to the Dental Hospital and School today.
PICTURE THIS... BEFORE THE NHS

These reports from 1943 give an idea of the size of Glasgow’s medical services during World War 2 and some of the rather unusual supplies that were the order of the day, for instance, Lysol was used for feminine hygiene and as a disinfectant household cleaner, Glauber’s Salt was used in stomach medications and Cascara tablets were used as laxatives.
Staff at Barnhill Hospital posed for the camera in this 1898 picture.

1903
Stobhill Hospital
Stobhill Hospital was built as a poor law hospital to provide free health care for the poor. It included ten wards for children taken into care by the Parish Council and a school was built nearby.

During the First World War it was used for wounded servicemen and known as the 3rd and 4th Scottish General Hospitals.

1918
Robroyston Hospital
Robroyston Hospital opened for business in 1918 as a municipal smallpox and tuberculosis hospital. It was temporarily used as a military hospital in 1918–1919. By 1925, 450 beds were devoted to tuberculosis patients, almost half of Glasgow’s total complement.

1930
Children’s TB hospital opens
Mearnskirk Hospital was built as a children’s tuberculosis hospital by Glasgow Corporation’s Public Health Department. It opened in 1930 and had 500 beds. Between 1939 and 1946 the hospital was used firstly as an Emergency Medical Service Hospital and later as a Naval Auxiliary Hospital.

It reverted to civilian use as a tuberculosis hospital but rapidly diversified under the National Health Service.

1942
Beveridge Report
Economist William Beveridge sets out his vision of a post-war Welfare State to banish from Britain the evils of the Five Giants – want, ignorance, squalor, idleness and disease.
PICTURE THIS... BEFORE THE NHS

A pottery industry worker is treated for an injured thumb at the Victoria Infirmary in 1935.

A 1930s children's ward at Stobhill Hospital.

The Duchess of York on a visit to Glasgow before the war.

A pre-war aerial photograph of the Victoria Infirmary.
Woodilee Hospital, like many mental hospitals in pre-war days, had their own farms and produced milk from the dairy herd for local consumption.

Equipment in the Beatson laboratory in 1930 was basic by today’s standards.

An etching of Gartnavel Hospital in 1896.
PICTURE THIS... THE NHS IN THE FIFTIES

Glasgow’s proud history of volunteering

VOLUNTEERING has a long, proud and fascinating history in Greater Glasgow and Clyde’s hospitals and it is a tradition that continues to flourish today.

Back in the 1800s the scene may have been very different from the modern world we know today – but the key role of volunteers to help those in need and support the vulnerable has changed little.

While in many cases voluntary organisations are developed by people of wealth to help the poor, the real story of selfless support for the needy is one that enriches all sectors of community from the poorest themselves to the most affluent.

Our research shows that the organisations developed over the past couple of centuries have been many and varied and here we highlight just a few of the milestones along that historical road.

In 1863, Miss Beatrice Clugston, the daughter of a wealthy Glasgow businessman, formed the Dorcas Society at the Royal Infirmary in Glasgow.

Inspired by the Biblical story of Tabitha, or Dorcas, she initially set up the Society to provide clothing for those in need who were being treated in the hospital; very poor patients would often be admitted wearing clothes that would disintegrate on washing. The Society also carried out a range of other good works, including:

● Providing an invalid chair in every ward
● Supplying surgical appliances (eg artificial limbs) for patients to take home once discharged from hospital

The Dorcas Society Almoners Fund provided many treats for patients, including this mobile tuck shop at the Royal Infirmary in 1950.

● Raising money to pay for the travelling expenses of those who couldn’t afford to get to clinics within the hospital
● Provided a tea room for out-patients
● Financially supporting the medical-social department

Members of the Society also visited wards to lead prayers and bible readings and to convalescing patients in their own homes.

In 2002, the Dorcas Society commissioned a Linwood-based furniture maker to create handmade furniture for the Snowdrop Chapel at the new Princess Royal Maternity Unit at the Royal Infirmary.

Down the road, at the old Royal Maternity Hospital or Rottenrow, the Ladies Auxiliary Association was formed in 1894.

In its first year, the Association collected £250 on behalf of the hospital. Over the years, the
CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Association continued to fundraise for the hospital, raising more than £5000 over five years during their annual ‘Snowdrop Day’.

On the other side of the city, at the Western Infirmary, the Samaritan Society was founded in 1875 to provide support, clothes and other comforts to needy patients both within the wards and in their own homes. Members kept in touch with patients when they left hospital and, when necessary, helped them with things such as finding employment. Latterly, the Society set up a tea bar in the Western’s out-patient department.

The Voluntary Association has been an active part of the Victoria Infirmary for a number of years. It set up a tea-bar in the hospital’s older people’s unit and regularly fundraises to provide extras for patients including a garden area in the unit’s car park.

Other, more well known, organisations have also volunteered in our hospitals over the past 100 years, including the Red Cross and the Women’s Royal Voluntary Service (WRVS) providing support and help to all those we care for.

Hospital Radio has been an integral part of hospital life for patients since the birth of the NHS (and for many years before) and it’s all thanks to the army of volunteers who have kept it going with such enthusiasm and skill.

Today more than 350 volunteers spend four hours a week brightening up someone else’s day or night. They are the backbone of the seven hospital radio organisations in the Greater Glasgow and Clyde area: Victoria Infirmary Radio, Southern Sound, Royal 1 Radio, Radio Lollipop; Inverclyde Hospital Radio, and Radio Lennox (based at Vale of Leven) and the Hospital Broadcasting Service.

The majority of volunteers work on a team to deliver nightly request programmes. This is where they can really interact with the patients by spending time to have a chat and then brighten up their evening with a record that is often incredibly significant to the person and brings back many happy memories.
**1950s**

**Children get daily visits**

Daily visits are gradually introduced for children who until now had been allowed to see parents only at the weekend.

Until now children in hospital are often only allowed to see their parents for an hour on Saturdays and Sundays and are frequently placed in adult wards, with little attempt to explain to them why they are there or what is going to happen.

Paediatricians Sir James Spence in Newcastle and Alan Moncrieff at Great Ormond Street are making considerable steps to change this, demonstrating that such separation is traumatic for children. As a result, daily visiting is introduced gradually.

**1954**

**Smoking cancer link established**

Sir Richard Doll establishes a clear link between smoking and lung cancer.

In the 1940s, British scientist Doll begins research into lung cancer after incidences of the disease rise alarmingly. He studies lung cancer patients in 20 London hospitals, and he expects to reveal that the cause is fumes from coal fires, car fumes or Tarmac.

His findings surprise him and he publishes a study in the British Medical Journal, co-written with Sir Austin Bradford Hill, warning that smokers are far more likely than non-smokers to die of lung cancer. Doll gives up smoking two-thirds of the way through his study and lives to be 92.
PICTURE THIS... IN THE FIFTIES

PICTURE THIS... THE MASS X-RAY CAMPAIGN

Sixteen-month-old Naveen Lall, grandson of the former Indian Ambassador to Turkey, with his ward playmates at Mearnskirk Hospital in 1950.

Mearnskirk Hospital 1953... where patients would spend many months in hospital receiving treatment for TB.

1952
Prescription charges
The Government introduced prescription charges in January 1952. The charge was one shilling.

Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Medical Consultants Working in Scotland</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1948</td>
<td>646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1958</td>
<td>934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>1,491</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>1,826</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>2,129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>2,716</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>4,035</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PICTURE THIS... THE MASS X-RAY CAMPAIGN

1951 - 1957
Airlifts of Scottish TB patients to Switzerland

In 1951, rising levels of tuberculosis (also known as consumption) and a chronic shortage of beds and nurses led to a special scheme for Scottish patients to be treated in Swiss hospitals, where it was believed the fresh mountain air was an aid to recovery.

Five years later Scottish Secretary of State James Stuart announced “the most ambitious campaign against pulmonary tuberculosis yet attempted in Scotland.” The principal weapon was a 1957 mass X-ray programme to detect those infected and treat them and those with whom they had close contact.

During a five week Glasgow X-ray campaign more than 75% of adults in the city (700,000) had been tested. 2,200 of those tested had TB and were treated and 1,000 of them required hospitalisation.

Later analysis, however, noted that the number discovered was roughly the same as would be detected by the normal working of the NHS.

1955
Vale of Leven

Vale of Leven District General Hospital was originally built at Alexandria as an emergency project in 1955. The hospital was built on endowment land of the Henry Brock Memorial Hospital which subsequently became an integral part of the new hospital. The Henry Brock Hospital was finally demolished in 1978.
Mobile X-ray vans prepare to hit every corner of the country to help eradicate the scourge of tuberculosis.
PICTURE THIS... THE MASS X-RAY CAMPAIGN

A masked X-Ray Man presents a wary child with a prize of tartan towels during the campaign.

Spreading the word... these service girls hand out leaflets about the campaign.

You can leave your hat on... even when you are undergoing an X-ray during the mass screening.
PICTURE THIS... THE MASS X-RAY CAMPAIGN

Abel Toitig, the book-keeper says—
"I'm most decidedly going to cash in on this X-ray deal!"

Fresh air was regarded as an aid to recovery for young TB patients.

People queued in George Square to undergo TB tests.
1957
Interferon discovered

A fundamental scientific discovery is made of a substance produced by cells to ward off attack by viruses. Born in Glasgow into a Russian-Jewish family, Alick Isaacs read medicine at the University of Glasgow.

Taking up a career in research, he began to study the response of the body to different strains of the ‘flu’ virus in 1947. He joined the staff of the World Influenza Centre at the National Institute for Medical Research in London in 1951, rising to become its Director ten years later.

In 1957, with Swiss colleague Jean Lindemann, he discovered interferon, a naturally occurring antiviral protein produced by virus-infected cells. Interferon was later determined to have application in cancer treatment.

Six Christmas babies were born in the Royal Maternity Hospital between midnight and 9.30am on Christmas Day, 1959. The 7lb 10oz daughter of Mrs Pat Couborough of Kilbarchan was first to arrive.
Polio and diphtheria vaccinations

A programme to vaccinate everyone under the age of 15 against polio and diphtheria is launched.

One of the primary aims of the NHS is to promote good health, not simply to treat illness, and the introduction of the polio and diphtheria vaccine is a key part of the NHS’s plans.

Before this programme, cases of polio could climb as high as 8,000 in epidemic years, with cases of diphtheria as high as 70,000, leading to 5,000 deaths. This programme sees everyone under the age of 15 vaccinated and will lead to an immediate and dramatic reduction in cases of both diseases.

First use of ultrasound

Glasgow produces the first practical ultrasound scanners. Working at the University of Glasgow’s Department of Midwifery, Professor Ian Donald, working with Dr John McVicar and Tom Brown, becomes the first to apply ultrasound in the field of obstetrics and gynaecology, allowing doctors to monitor the growth and development of foetuses which in modern forms continue to save countless lives across the world.
CONTENTS

PAGE 2 - 4
1948 - START
OF A NEW ERA

PAGES 5/12
PICTURE THIS...
BEFORE THE NHS

PAGES 13/45
PICTURE THIS...
60 YEARS OF
THE NHS

PAGES 46/53
WHY WE'RE
CELEBRATING

PAGES 54/56
LOOKING TO
THE FUTURE

PAGES 57/58
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE

NEXT PAGE
PREVIOUS PAGE
CLOSE
PRINT

HEALTH NEWS SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY SOUVENIR EDITION JULY 5, 2008

PICTURE THIS... NHS LIFE IN THE FIFTIES

It's 1959 and staff and student nurses arrive for ward duty at the Royal Infirmary through a flower lined corridor that links the hospital to the nurses home.

Cleanliness was next to godliness for members of the Maternity Flying Squad at Robroyston Hospital.

House calls were a regular occurrence for GPs in the 50s.
PICTURE THIS... NHS LIFE IN THE FIFTIES

An operation in progress at the Royal Infirmary, 1959.

Patients young and old enjoy a game of cards on the ward of the Eye Infirmary in the late 50s.

The president of the Women’s Guild addresses the ladies on Ward 41 of the Southern General Hospital in 1956.
PICTURE THIS... THE HAPPENING SIXTIES

1960
First UK kidney transplant
Sir Michael Woodruff and a team of Scottish clinicians perform the UK's first kidney transplant in Edinburgh's Royal Infirmary on October 30. Sir Michael had been waiting for the right patient for some time hoping to find a patient with an identical twin to act as the donor as this would significantly reduce the risk of infection.

That patient was eventually found – he was a 49-year-old man suffering from severely impaired kidney function who received a kidney from his identical twin on October 30.

1961
The Pill made available
The contraceptive pill is made widely available and is hailed as a breakthrough of the 20th Century.

The launch of the contraceptive pill, which suppresses fertility with either progesterone or oestrogen or more commonly, a combination of both, plays a major role in women's liberation and contributes to the sexual freedom of the so-called Swinging Sixties. Initially, it is only available to married women, but this is relaxed in 1967. Between 1962 and 1969, the number of women taking the Pill would rise dramatically, from approximately 50,000 to 1 million.
Thalidomide is found to cause terrible side effects – children being born with severe limb deformities. The drug was being prescribed during the late 1950s and early 1960s. It was first developed as a sleeping pill, but it was also thought to be useful for easing morning sickness in pregnant women. The manufacturer publicised its comprehensive safety – even for pregnant women – although it had never undergone rigorous clinical trials.

By 1961 thalidomide was found to damage the development of unborn babies, especially if it had been taken in the first four to eight weeks of pregnancy. The medicine led to the arms or legs of the babies being very short or incompletely formed. More than 10,000 babies were affected around the world. As a result, thalidomide was banned.

The system of licensing was introduced in the 1960s in response to the thalidomide scandal.

More recently research has shown that thalidomide has a potential role in the treatment of multiple myeloma. An application for a licence has now been filed. Measures will be put in place to ensure that no pregnant woman is exposed to this medicine.
The original mobile phone... these telephones were installed at Stobhill Hospital in 1962.

1962
The Hospital Plan
The Porritt Report is published and results in Enoch Powell’s Hospital Plan.

The medical profession criticises the separation of the NHS into three parts – hospitals, general practice and local health authorities – and calls for unification. The Hospital Plan approves the development of district general hospitals for population areas of about 125,000. The 10-year programme is new territory for the NHS and it soon becomes clear that it has underestimated the cost and time taken to build new hospitals. But with the advent of postgraduate centres, nurses and doctors will be given a better future.

1962
First hip replacement
First full hip replacement is carried out by Professor John Charnley in Wrightington Hospital.

Charnley begins to devote his energies to developing full hip replacements from 1958 and moves to the Wrightington Hospital where the first full hip replacement takes place. He asks his patients if they mind giving back the hip post-mortem. Apparently 99% of them agree, so his team would regularly collect the replacement hips to check wear and tear, and aid research. He improves his design with a low-friction hip replacement, and in November 1962 the modified Charnley hip replacement becomes a practical reality.

1967
The Salmon Report
This major report makes recommendations for the development of senior nursing staff.

The Salmon Report is published and sets out recommendations for developing the nursing staff structure and the status of the profession in hospital management. The Cogwheel Report considers the organisation of doctors in hospitals and proposes speciality groupings. It also highlights the efforts being made to reduce the disadvantages of the three-part NHS structure – hospitals, general practice and local health authorities – acknowledging the complexity of the NHS and the importance of change to meet future needs.
Typhoid Outbreak

The diagnosis of two cases of typhoid fever in Aberdeen on May 20, 1964 signalled the beginning of one of the largest outbreaks of food-borne infections recorded in Britain in the decades after the Second World War.

By the end of June more than 500 people had been hospitalised... some for as long as three months.

A 6lb can of corned beef had been contaminated by cooling water during manufacture in Argentina. The corned beef had been sold sliced and the infection had spread to other produce at a supermarket, via implements, surfaces and hands.

Elsewhere in Scotland corned beef sales plummeted and shelves were cleared as public concerns for safety grew.

Public concern was sufficient to cause the Government to set up an official enquiry (Milne 1964). The incident involved not only the local health services but also the Ministries of Health and Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and the Scottish Home and Health Department. As the scientific evidence clearly pointed to Argentinian corned beef as the source of the causative organism, the affair also involved a significant international dimension.

The outbreak tested and resulted in some modification of the formal local and central government machinery for the control and investigation of food poisoning.
CONTENTS

PAGE 2 - 4
1948 - START OF A NEW ERA

PAGES 5/12
PICTURE THIS... BEFORE THE NHS

PAGES 13/45
PICTURE THIS... 60 YEARS OF THE NHS

PAGES 46/53
WHY WE’RE CELEBRATING

PAGES 54/56
LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

PAGES 57/58
MAKING A DIFFERENCE

PICTURE THIS... THE HAPPENING SIXTIES

1967
Abortion Act

The Abortion Act is introduced by Liberal MP David Steel and is passed on a free vote, becoming law on April 27, 1968.

This new Act makes abortion legal up to 28 weeks if carried out by a registered physician and if two other doctors agree that the termination is in the best mental and physical interests of the woman. In 1990, the time limit is lowered to 24 weeks. The Act does not extend to Northern Ireland.

1968
Sextuplets born

Sextuplets born after British woman receives fertility treatment.

In the morning of October 2 Sheila Thorns celebrates her birthday by undergoing a caesarean section at Birmingham Maternity Hospital. She gives birth to six children, four boys and two girls, but sadly one of the girls dies shortly afterwards. With 28 medical staff at the delivery, the five surviving babies – Ian, Lynne, Julie, Susan and Roger – are cared for by a specialist team. Doctors say around one birth in 3,000 million will result in sextuplets. Mrs Thorns had been treated with the fertility treatment gonadotrophin which contains two hormones known as FSH and LH.

1968
First NHS heart transplant

A 45-year-old man becomes the first Briton to have a heart transplant on May 3.

Surgeon Donald Ross carries out Britain’s first heart transplant at the National Heart Hospital in Marylebone, London. Ross leads a team of 18 doctors and nurses to operate on the man in the seven-hour procedure. The donor was a 26-year-old labourer called Patrick Ryan. The British operation is the tenth heart transplant to be undertaken in the world since Christiaan Barnard carried out the first in Cape Town, South Africa, in December 1967. The patient dies after 46 days and only six transplants are carried out over the next 10 years.

PICTURE THIS... THE HAPPENING SIXTIES

A new cardio-vascular surgery unit at the Royal Infirmary was opened in 1960.

These Sixties medical students at the GRI examine specimens in the Institute of Pathology.
The history of medical imaging

Medical imaging has come a long way since the discovery of X-rays at the end of the nineteenth century.

German physicist Wilhelm Conrad Röntgen discovered X-rays in 1895 and received the Nobel prize for physics in 1901. For the first time physicians had a non-surgical tool to see inside the body. His achievement heralded the age of modern physics and transformed medical practice.

The medical use of ultrasound started in Glasgow in the late 1950s. Professor Ian Donald (pictured below right) and his colleagues working at the University of Glasgow’s Department of Midwifery were the first to apply ultrasound in the field of obstetrics and gynaecology. Ultrasound devices allowed doctors to monitor the growth and development of foetuses and have now become an every-day part of antenatal care.

In 1972, British engineer Godfrey Hounsfield invented CT scanning. CT combined X-ray images with a computer. If you take many X-rays of the same area, at slightly different angles, a computer can put the information from the X-rays together, to create a cross-sectional image. Initially these were designed for examinations of the head, but whole body scanners with larger patient openings became available from 1976. The first CT images took 11 minutes each to acquire and compute; a modern scanner can generate a thousand images of the body in 20 seconds.

While CT scans use X-rays, MRI uses magnet technology to take images. The first clinical use of MRI took place in Nottingham University Hospital in 1967. Initial images were of a poor quality, but with improved hardware and software MRI now produces excellent quality images from all parts of the body.

A patient undergoes a revolutionary pulmonary angiogram at the Royal Infirmary in 1975.
PICTURE THIS... THE SEVENTIES

Sister Beryl Young on duty on the candlelit ward of Mearnskirk Hospital in 1970.

1972
NHS Scotland Act
In the first major reorganisation of the NHS in Scotland since 1948, this Act establishes 15 health boards and other bodies for a more efficient and fully integrated service. In 1974 Greater Glasgow Health Board was formed.

1974
Glasgow Coma Scale
The Glasgow Coma Scale or GCS, sometimes also known as the Glasgow Coma Score, is a simple set of measures now in use around the world which aims to give a reliable, objective way of recording the conscious state of a person. The scale was published in 1974 by Graham Teasdale and Bryan J. Jennett, professors of neurosurgery at the University of Glasgow.

1975
Endorphins discovered
The morphine-like chemicals in the brain called endorphins are discovered.
John Hughes and Hans Kosterlitz of Scotland isolate from the brain of a pig what they called enkephalins and will later be termed ‘endorphin’ from an abbreviation of ‘endogenous morphine’.

Bottles and jars were the order of the day in a 1970s laboratory at the Beatson.

Sister Young and Dr Johnston show off the new mobile heart unit at the Victoria Infirmary in 1975.
PICTURE THIS... THE SEVENTIES

There to help when disaster strikes

IBROX

NHS staff were called into action on January 2, 1971, (left) when 66 football fans died after a match between Rangers and Celtic at Ibrox Park. Initial reports suggested the tragedy had been caused by supporters rushing back up the stairs, after a late Rangers’ goal, colliding with people leaving the stadium.

A public inquiry discounted this theory and said the deaths were the result of the crush of fans pouring down Stairway 13. The disaster, which severely tested Glasgow’s emergency services, remains the worst in the history of Scottish football.

Picture copyright of D.C. Thomson

Timeline

NUMBER OF CASES OF MEASLES TREATED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1948</td>
<td>15,193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1958</td>
<td>4,638</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>10,938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>8,953</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>2,258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>694</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
On October 21 of the same year, the shopping centre in Clarkston on Glasgow’s south side was the scene (left) of a major gas explosion, which killed 22 people and injured around 100. Emergency crews from hospitals all over the city were soon at the scene to help in the rescue operation.

There is now a plaque on a wall near to the incident scene and a tree at the local library, to commemorate those who lost their lives.
PICTURE THIS... THE SEVENTIES

First test-tube baby
Louise Brown is the world’s first baby to be born as a result of in-vitro fertilization.
The world’s first test tube baby is born on July 25. Parents Lesley and John Brown had failed to conceive due to Lesley’s blocked fallopian tubes.

1978

Inverclyde Royal Hospital opens
Inverclyde Royal Hospital opened in 1979, replacing the former Greenock Royal Infirmary. The opening of the new hospital also signalled the closure of Gateside Hospital, the Rankin Memorial Hospital and the Eye Hospital.

1979

INFANT MORTALITY (rates in first year per 1000 births)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1948</td>
<td>44.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1958</td>
<td>27.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>20.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>12.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>8.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>5.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PICTURE THIS... PROGRESS IN THE EIGHTIES

1980

MRI scans
Scotland’s first clinical service for Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Scans got underway under the leadership of Dr Francis Smith at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary.
Using a combination of magnetism and radio frequency waves, MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) scanners provide information about the body.

Magnetic resonance imaging scanners prove more effective in providing information about soft tissues, such as scans of the brain. The patient lies inside a large cylindrical magnet and extremely strong radio waves are then sent through the body. It provides very detailed pictures, so is particularly useful for finding tumours in the brain. It can also identify conditions such as multiple sclerosis and the extent of damage following a stroke.

1980

Keyhole surgery
The first successful instance of keyhole surgery is the removal of a gallbladder by a surgeon using a telescopic rod with fibre optic cable. Technically it’s known as laparoscopic surgery, after the instrument that’s used to perform the surgery, a thin telescopic rod lit with a fibre optic cable and connected to a tiny camera which sends images of the area being operated on to a monitor.

The procedure will go on to be one of the most common uses of this kind of surgery. It will also be used for hernia repairs and removal of the colon and the kidney.
PICTURE THIS... PROGRESS IN THE EIGHTIES

1980
Black Report
Commissioned three years earlier by David Ennals, then secretary of state, the report aims to investigate the inequality of healthcare that still exists despite the foundation of the NHS i.e., differences between the social classes in the usage of medical services, infant mortality rates and life expectancy. Poor people are still more likely to die earlier than rich ones. The Whitehead Report in 1987 and the Acheson report in 1998 reached the same conclusions as the Black Report.

1981
Improved health of babies
The 1981 Census shows that 11 babies in every 1,000 die before the age of one. In 1900 this figure was 160.

Childhood survival has been revolutionised by vaccination programmes, better sanitation and improved standards of living, resulting in better health of both mother and child. Increased numbers of births in hospital has meant that where unexpected problems do occur, medical help is on hand. Around one baby in eight requires some kind of special care following birth. Twenty years ago, only 20 percent of babies weighing less than 1,000g (2lbs 2oz) at birth survived. Now that figure is closer to 80 percent.
1982
First case of AIDS
First case of AIDS identified in Scotland. Infection rates in drug users later found to be among the highest in Europe.

1986
AIDS health campaign
The government launches biggest public health campaign in history to educate people about the threat of AIDS as a result of HIV.

Following a number of high-profile deaths, the advertising campaign sets out to shock – with images of tombstones and icebergs, followed early in 1987 by a household leaflet, “Don’t die of ignorance”. This was very much in keeping with the NHS’s original concept that it should improve health and prevent disease, rather than just offer treatment.

1987
Heart, lung and liver transplant
The first heart, lung, and liver transplant is carried out at Papworth Hospital.

Professor Sir Roy Calne and Professor John Walker carry out the world’s first liver, heart and lung transplant at Papworth Hospital in Cambridge. Professor Calne describes the patient as “plucky” and she survives for a further 10 years after the procedure. Her healthy heart is donated to another transplant patient.

It’s the early 80s and a new high tech emergency team is introduced in Paisley.
PICTURE THIS... PROGRESS IN THE EIGHTIES

1988
Breast screening is introduced

Comprehensive national breast-screening programme introduced.

To reduce breast cancer deaths in women over 50 this project is launched with breast-screening units around the country providing mammograms. A mammogram works by taking an X-ray of each breast, which can show changes in tissue that might be otherwise undetectable. This means that any abnormalities show up as early as possible, making treatment more effective. Screening, together with improved drug therapies will help to cut breast cancer deaths by more than 20 percent, a trend that looks set to continue.

1989
Internal Market Introduced

The most fundamental change to the National Health Service since its inception brings in the idea of competition and a market for health services.

Thousands of mums and visitors have climbed the hill at Rottenrow to the Royal Maternity Hospital.

A nurse at the Queen Mother’s Hospital looks after a newly born baby in April 1988.
The regiment has its headquarters in Govan, Glasgow and recruits the bulk of its key medical and nursing expertise from the skilled workforce of the NHS in the West of Scotland.

In 1991 the men and women of this volunteer regiment flew to Basra in Iraq for a tour of duty in Gulf War I (Operation TELIC).

And in 2005 this proud volunteer hospital regiment returned from a second tour of duty in the Gulf. During the six months out there they supplied the Hospital Squadron (around 90 personnel), supporting 3 Close Support Medical Regiment, based at Shaibah in south east Iraq.

There are still British troops deployed there, many of whom are TA Officers and Soldiers of the Army Medical Services. Individuals from 205 Field Hospital (V) will continue to support this Operation.

These two Gulf War tours of duty are now woven into the rich historical fabric of the regiment that dates back to 1908.

Another page from their history details activity during operation GRANBY (1991) when ‘205’ was called upon to provide the command and infrastructure of 205 General Hospital Volunteers at Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. 205 at that time had the honour of being the first of only a few Territorial Army Units to be called up for active service since World War 2.

It was in 1995 the unit role changed under the major Army reorganisation with their redesignation as 205 (Scottish) Field Hospital (Volunteers).

The Army Medical Services Reservists are employees of NHS Scotland, same people, different environment. They can be deployed to Operations across the world. On their return the experience, leadership and additional skills from working in challenging environments are then transferred back to NHS Scotland.

The Reserve Forces staff working from the Glasgow Squadron are primarily employees of NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde, NHS Ayrshire and Arran and NHS Lanarkshire.

More historic involvement in both World War 1 and World War 2 is detailed on the 205 Field Hospital website www.army.mod.uk/205fdhosp or telephone: 0845 6038761 to find out more or to volunteer.
The Silver Birch Company, which produces compost, offered employment opportunities in the 90s for residents of Lennox Castle Hospital.

**1990**
NHS and Community Care Act

Internal market is introduced, which means health authorities manage their own budgets. Now health authorities will manage their own budgets and buy healthcare from hospitals and other health organisations. In order to be deemed a "provider" of such healthcare, organisations will become NHS Trusts, that is, independent organisations with their own management.

**1991**
First NHS Trusts established

Fifty-seven NHS trusts are established to make the service more responsive to the user at a local level. New NHS Trusts will aim to encourage creativity and innovation and challenge the domination of the hospitals within a health service that is increasingly focused on services in the community.

**1992**
Private Finance Initiative

PFI is introduced, bringing in private firms to build and then maintain non-clinical services in new hospitals.

**1993**
Community Care

Fundamental shift in care with the introduction of changes to support people at home rather than in institutions.

**1994**
NHS Organ Donor Register

National register for organ donation is set up to coordinate supply and demand after a five-year campaign.

The NHS Organ Donor Register is launched following a five-year campaign by John and Rosemary Cox. In 1989 their son Peter died of a brain tumour. He had asked for his organs to be used to help others. The Coxes said that there should be a register for people who wish to donate their organs. By 2005 more than 12 million had registered. Organ donation is needed as demand outstrips supply and this register ensures that when a person dies they can be identified as someone who has chosen to donate their organs.
PICTURE THIS... THE NINETIES

In February 1990, HRH The Princess of Wales officially opened the pioneering new unit at Rottenrow caring for expectant mothers with social and medical problems.

1997
MRSA
Scottish Reference Laboratory is set up in April to help combat the rise of MRSA - an increasingly common infection affecting hospitals around the world.

1997
Internal Market phasing out
Scottish White Paper “Designed to Care” sets out the new Government’s stall for phasing out the internal market and with it GP fundholding and contracting for services.

1999
Free Personal Care
PICTURE THIS... SERVICE FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

2003
Health News launched
NHSGG Board launched ground breaking Health News (above) and single system patient focussed website.

2003
Our Health events
NHSG Greater Glasgow holds first showpiece Our Health event in new bid to open meaningful dialogue with patients and stakeholders.

2004
Abolition of NHS trusts
The National Health Service Reform (Scotland) Act passed on May 6 abolishes trusts which are absorbed into health boards.

In Greater Glasgow this meant the end of the Greater Glasgow Primary Care NHS Trust; North Glasgow University Hospitals NHS Trust; South Glasgow University Hospitals NHS Trust and Yorkhill University Hospital Trust.

2005
Smoking Ban
Passed by Scottish Parliament. Applies to all bars, clubs, restaurants and all public enclosed places in Scotland and takes effect in March 2006. NHS responds with concerted drive to ramp up smoking cessation services and “stay smoke free” campaigns.

2006
Argyll split
Argyll and Clyde formally split with Clyde coming into Greater Glasgow and more rural areas aligning into NHS Highland.

2006
A+E saved
Inverclyde Royal Hospital Accident and Emergency Unit is saved from threat of closure, NHSGGC Board decides.

Thousands of bikers roar their way to the Royal Hospital for Sick Children to make Easter “eggstra” special this year for the young patients, bringing with them a giant haul of chocolate eggs!
The figures add up

Greater Glasgow and Clyde’s acute hospitals activity charts show that during the year more than 180,200 planned procedures were performed and that more than 185,300 emergency procedures were performed.

In the Community the scale of NHS activity is measured in 1.05 million patient visits to GPs and practice staff; 1.5 million visits to patients by health visitors and community nurses; 177,000 visits to patients by community mental health teams and 875,000 courses of treatment given by dentists.

2008

Super hospital approved

Business case approved for £840 million super hospital campus project in Govan for new adult hospital, children’s hospital and maternity unit. The new campus will replace Western Infirmary and inpatient activity previously carried out at the Victoria.

Chair of NHSGGC’s Involving People Committee, Peter Hamilton, opens the 2005 Our Health event in the Royal Concert Hall. More than 600 members of the public regularly attend NHSGGC’s Our Health events to debate the big issues of the day.
There to help when disaster strikes

Five men and four women died and 40 others were injured in a massive gas explosion at the Stockline plastics factory in the city’s Maryhill area on 11 May, 2004.

NHS staff and emergency crews raced to the scene of the explosion to help in the rescue operation and tend to the injured.

The disaster was the worst work-related incident in Scotland since the Piper Alpha oil platform fire in 1988, when 167 lives were lost. It was the worst on the Scottish mainland since the 1960s.

A memorial garden for the victims has been opened near the site of the tragedy.
PICTURE THIS... SERVICE FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

First Minister Alex Salmond chats to a staff member during the official opening of the New Beatson.

Health Minister Nicola Sturgeon admires the impressive artwork on display in the new Gartnavel Hospital opened in 2007.

Diamond Show
A colourful poster promotes the spectacular Diamond Anniversary Show staged by NHSGGC at the Royal Concert Hall on the afternoon of Saturday July 5, 2008.

NUMBER OF DENTISTS IN SCOTLAND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1948</td>
<td>1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1958</td>
<td>1,344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>1,102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>1,223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>1,572</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>1,941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>2,546</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF THE NHS... MICHELLE’S STORY
THE DOCTORS AND NURSES SAVED MY BABY’S LIFE AND THEN MY LIFE...
THAT’S WHY I LOVE MY NHS...

IN JUST 37 life-changing days, brave Michelle O’Halloran not only gave birth to her longed for first child but also underwent a heart transplant. Four years on, Michelle is delighted to share her incredible story…

In June 2004 life for Michelle and husband Paul couldn’t have been sweeter. Michelle was eight months pregnant with their first baby and she’d sailed through the pregnancy.

She recalls: “It was a great pregnancy. I felt wonderful - I hadn’t even had morning sickness. I was actually a wee bit disappointed not to have had any of the usual pregnancy conditions – I was just longing for the cravings!

“We decided to go away for a last weekend on our own before the baby arrived and it was while we were away that our good fortune began to change.

“I started to feel more and more tired and suddenly my legs and ankles just ballooned. They were so swollen I could hardly walk. On top of that I had become incredibly breathless. In the back of my mind I was thinking that all these things were associated with pregnancy but decided to go to the doctor because it was all so sudden and severe.

“Initially they thought the breathlessness was asthma but I then began to develop terrible chest pains too. I gradually got worse and on our first wedding anniversary Paul took me to Glasgow Royal Infirmary. Far from it being the anniversary we’d planned it turned out to be a day that would change our lives forever.

Michelle, Paul and Baby Cole after his birth... but the battle was only starting.
Celebrating 60 years of the NHS... Michelle’s story

With all my heart

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

“By this point I knew deep down that there was something seriously wrong and I was terrified that our baby was in trouble.

“The doctors did an X-ray and within minutes of the results coming back I was rushed to the cardiology ward.

“The doctors told me that I had developed Peripartum Cardiomyopathy – an enlarged heart. The condition - which affects around one in 5000 pregnant women - had been brought on by the pregnancy.”

With Michelle and Paul reeling with this news, and with her condition worsening rapidly, doctors at the GRI explained that the baby would need to be born before they could give her the appropriate medication.

Baby Cole O’Halloran was born by caesarean section in the hospital’s cardiology ward on 10th June 2004.

When Michelle eventually came to after the operation she met her son for the first time.

“Paul laid our beautiful boy down beside me and I couldn’t hold back the tears.

“But our joy didn’t last long. The medication for my condition wasn’t working and my heart was apparently so enlarged it was close to bursting. I was told that I would need a heart transplant. The news was almost incomprehensible.

“On top of the impending transplant I was also really worried that Cole wasn’t bonding with me. I was so ill I couldn’t even hold him. My sister Mari was fantastic. She took care of Cole and brought him in to see me everyday. Staying alive for him and Paul was all I could think about.

“I became worse and worse in the weeks that followed as we waited for a suitable donor. In that time there were three potential donors but in the end none were suitable. I began to worry that I wouldn’t last long enough for a heart to become available. But 37 days after Cole was born a match was found.

“I’m alive. That was the first thing I thought as I came round after the transplant and it’s something I still think about everyday. The doctors

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE
CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

and staff at the unit were absolutely phenomenal and if it wasn’t for them I really doubt I’d be here today.

“After the operation the road to recovery was a long one but little by little I got there. Once I got home Mari gave up her job to look after Cole and myself, while Paul was at work. And she’s still a huge support today. I owe her so much, no one could ever ask for such an incredible sister.

“During my pregnancy I had fantasised about pushing my child in his or her pram. It took me longer than most Mums but when Cole was four months old I eventually got my dream – I took my son for a walk in his pram.

“Four years later Cole is a fabulous wee person in his own right. Even though I’ll always be on medication, I’m just so grateful to be here to watch him grow. There are so many people to whom I will always be indebted, the staff at the Glasgow Royal Infirmary (who I still visit every Christmas) and of course my incredible family but above all to the woman whose heart saved my life. I know very little about her. All I know is that she was a woman in her forties who died tragically in car accident. The first thing I did when I left hospital was write to her family to thank them for saving my life.

“Before my transplant I had never really considered the issue of organ donation and how important it is. Now I devote a great deal of my time to raising the profile of donation and the crucial message that we should all discuss with our loved ones what our choices and preferences would be, should they, God forbid, ever need to make the decision.

“Organ donation saved my life and I would urge everyone to discuss the issue with their family or better still join the organ donation register and prevent your family having to make the decision for you.”

So, Happy Sixtieth Birthday NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

With lots of love
From Michelle, Paul and Cole. XXXXX
CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF THE NHS... BRIAN’S STORY

Five weeks in a coma after plunging 40 feet to the ground... revived twice by doctors when his heart stopped... left paralysed and brain damaged... meet the determined young man who ironically went on to become...

BRAVE teenager from Renfrew owes his dream of representing Scotland in the 2014 Glasgow Commonwealth Games to the skills of medical staff at the Southern General Hospital.

And his proudest moment so far came when he carried the Olympic Torch through London as part of the build up to the Beijing Games in China this summer, despite the protests by Free Tibet supporters which marred part of the route.

But 14 years ago survival was the goal for Brian Thomson who was left fighting for his life after falling 40ft from a building in his home town.

Now a proud holder of two gold medals for judo at the 2005 Special Olympics held in Glasgow, Brian (17) proved himself to be a battler from an early age.

He had to be revived twice by staff at the Southern General when his heart stopped, and spent five weeks in a coma.

Left paralysed and brain damaged, the teenager not only learned to walk again, but discovered a talent for judo when he began attending an after school club.

Brian said: “I went along to this after school club and I just seemed to pick up the sport quite easily.”

Head boy

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE
CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

“Now representing Scotland in the 2014 games is my dream.”

Shona Forsyth, an Outreach Nurse for Neuropaediatrics at the Southern General, has played a key role in Brian’s recovery, helping him progress out of intensive care and into a ward at the hospital.

Working with other professionals such as physiotherapists and occupational therapists, Shona supported Brian and his family when he was discharged and started school.

The plucky youngster was bullied, but stood up to his tormentors and was made head boy.

Shona provides an outreach service and remains in contact with the Thomsons and has been able to help them resolve various problems and access different services within the NHS to maintain Brian’s ongoing rehabilitation.

She said: “Judo has been Brian’s salvation, and he and his family have been very tenacious in helping him achieve the best he can through sport.

“Brian is a trier, he doesn’t sit back and think ‘oh poor me’.

“His head injury has left Brian with problems, but he has still managed to achieve such a lot, after all not everyone can say that they have carried the Olympic Torch.”
For retired 68-year-old GP Robbie Robertson MBE the NHS really is part of the family!

His father John was in general practice, and Robbie’s daughter Fiona (39) is following in the family tradition, in fact they worked together in Robbie’s former Springburn practice.

As a youngster he remembers taking calls from patients for his father, who was a GP in Dennistoun.

The surgery was in a tenement in the Gallowgate, and there was no appointment system, patients simply turned up.

Robbie’s father and stepmother, also a GP, were on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

At that time GPs were hesitant to organise a rota system, this was because their incomes depended on the number of patients they had, and they feared that some would be headhunted by colleagues!

Home confinements were common and Mr Robertson senior, who had experience in chest complaints, saw many TB patients.

Robbie said: “Going on holiday was a nightmare unless my father could find a good locum.

“If he and my stepmother went out for a meal and a call came in, I had to telephone the restaurant.

“My father would leave to visit the patient, or if it wasn’t urgent he would call in on the way home.

“It was a hard life, but they both just accepted it, and my father had a great relationship with his patients.”

Despite his father’s advice, Robbie went into
CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF THE NHS... THE ROBERTSONS’ STORY

Doctors in the house

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

He practised first in Bishopbriggs and then in Springburn, where the practice included two part-time women GPs.

By this time contracts included payments for services, reducing the dependence on patient numbers, and thanks to the Doctors’ Charter an out of hours allowance had been introduced.

In 1982 Robbie moved into Springburn Health Centre and he and other doctors covering that area, including Townhead and Easterhouse, formed their version of the Doctors’ Deputising Service.

It was called the North East Deputising Service, or NEDS!

Many on-call visits were to children, and Robbie was initially puzzled when as soon as he entered the home, the father would leave. Then he learned that this was to stand guard over the doctor’s car to stop it being vandalised!

Poverty hit Springburn hard when the railway depot closed, and the impact on health was reflected in low uptakes for immunisation and other screening services.

In 1998, the 50th anniversary of the NHS, Robbie was awarded the MBE following a campaign by a patient:

“If you put a lot into the practice you get not only recognised but appreciated, and you get the patients you deserve!”

“I’m very proud of my MBE because it came from the patients.”

His daughter Fiona is currently working as a locum in Fife, and thoroughly enjoying her choice of career. Like her father, she is a people person.

Increasing numbers of women are becoming GPs, and they currently make up the majority of students to whom Robbie lectures.

He believes that because of family commitments, they will influence how the service is delivered, with increasing numbers of jobshare arrangements.

While Robbie has concerns about targets making general practice too business-like and the influence of the private sector, if he had an opportunity to repeat his career, he would do the same again.

“You need a sense of humour to be a GP, and I enjoyed my time in the East End of Glasgow.”

Now he is passing on his expertise and experience through lecturing to the next generation of GPs.

During home visits, fathers would leave the house... to stand guard over the doctor’s car to stop it being vandalised!
CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF THE NHS... ANNE MARIE’S STORY

I couldn’t have coped with my breast cancer without nurses’ help

By Sheila Hamilton of the Evening Times

ANNE Marie McKenzie has no idea how she would have coped without breast specialist nurses Lynne Stirling and Pauline McIlvain at the Beatson.

“Lynne and Pauline have been so supportive. I was feeling pretty lousy a few weeks ago and they were really fantastic.”

But they are just two of the many extraordinary people who have accompanied Anne Marie on her journey with breast cancer.

She can’t praise her surgeon, Mike Senior, enough. “Mike is fabulous. I had my operation on December 21 and was in hospital at Christmas and he came in to see how I was on Christmas Eve when he was out shopping with his wife. He also phoned on Christmas Day. It was a lovely touch.”

There are so many staff at the Royal she is grateful to: “From the cleaners to the auxiliaries, nurses and consultants, they are all fantastic.”

And then there’s the staff at the Victoria Infirmary, particularly breast care nurse Rhona Garrett.”

Anne Marie’s cancer was picked up when she went for her first mammogram last November. From the start, she has taken a positive attitude to cancer and even finds something positive to say about losing her hair through chemotherapy.

She laughs. “Everyone says how well I look. I have a short, blonde bob wig and every day, it looks as if I’ve just had my hair done.”

And she adds: “We are all too busy criticising the NHS and don’t give praise where it is due. Certainly when I’ve been poorly, they have supported me. I couldn’t have got through this without everyone. They are so helpful.”
LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Let’s kick out the bad habits

Healthier lifestyle is key to city’s physical and mental wellbeing

By Dr Linda de Caestecker
Director of Public Health
Greater Glasgow and Clyde NHS Board

This special edition of Health News has focused on the fascinating history of the NHS over the first 60 years. During that time there have been major developments in the science of medicine including drug treatments, surgical procedures and diagnostic techniques and in the development of modern, purpose-built hospitals and health centres.

These are all very welcome advances that have improved the health of our population.

At the same time we have experienced profound changes in our society and in our population structure and despite significant improvements in our overall health there are now new and different public health challenges, including the major obesity epidemic, the increasing harm experienced through alcohol misuse and the continued problem of drug addiction. Some challenges however seem to stay unchanged – if you are poor in Glasgow you will die younger than if you are more affluent. We have not yet addressed the differences in health status in some of our poorest communities even though the reasons for that ill-health may have changed from infectious diseases, malnourishment and poor health care. If we are to continue to improve health we must tackle the under-lying factors of worklessness, poverty and poor environments.

We must also tackle aspects of our lifestyle that are making us less healthy than we could be. I am encouraged by a new enthusiasm that is emerging to live more active and healthier lives in safer and more caring communities. I am also encouraged by the increasing recognition to focus more of our public health effort on the early years of life and the higher priority accorded to supporting parents in bringing up their children to be physically and mentally healthy.

Being healthy should not just be reserved for the home - it should be intrinsic to the way we...
CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

work as well. This is why I am calling on business leaders and public organisations to take forward healthy workforce policies, cultivating a culture of good health and creating a workforce with good mental and physical health.

As we head for the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, there is a tangible feeling of hope and enthusiasm that this could act as an inspirational springboard for an environmental, physical and mental health revolution that will deliver life-changing opportunities to our way of life. The Commonwealth Games will not only deliver opportunities for new housing which in itself has the potential to improve health but will also bring about a greener environment.

The NHS also has an important role to play in tackling the causes of poor health in partnership with local authorities, police, housing associations and government as well as making sure our services respond appropriately to the needs of people who require support address alcohol or drug issues or problems with their diet or addiction to tobacco.

As we celebrate this 60th anniversary of the NHS, it is my hope that during the next decades we will see a community and personal-based health revolution that transforms this part of the world to one of the healthiest vibrant communities in Europe...

We can bring about meaningful change. Whether it’s supporting sustainable ways of producing local, healthy food or pushing for tougher environmental measures on traffic and pollution, together – individual and organisations – we can make a real difference.

THE Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games are about creating a lasting legacy for Glasgow and the West of Scotland.

Once the sportsmen and women have gone and the last spectator returned home, the health and social benefits brought by the Games will continue for generations to come...

New private sale and social housing; retail and leisure developments; better transport links and improved roads; new railways stations and links to airports; a network of new cycle paths and footpaths; and safe and efficient public transport systems are just some of the tangible and long lasting benefits the Games will bring.

Councillor Steven Purcell, leader of Glasgow City Council, said the event was “about making sure there is a lasting legacy. A legacy for the people of the east end of the city who will benefit from first class housing, retail and leisure developments in a city that’s been crying out for that kind of change.”

And, if the organisers have anything to do with it, the Games will be the most sustainable multi-sports event ever held.

Interim Chief Executive of the Commonwealth Games, Derek Casey said that in planning for the Games there are huge opportunities to “meet the challenge of environmental issues – just as our athletes, our city and our country are getting fit for the Games there is an opportunity for our environmental credentials to be in a winning position as well.

“We can leave a very positive environmental legacy through innovation and careful planning. We are, for example, using brown field sites for new venues, we have a clear commitment to using sustainable materials and recycling, and to enhance the biodiversity of the area in terms of wildlife.”
LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

New South Glasgow Hospital to provide world class care

World class health requires world class health facilities and funding approval has now been given by the Scottish Government for the New South Glasgow Hospital.

This means that public money will be used to completely transform health services on the Southern General site. A massive £840 million – the largest investment in health services ever undertaken in Scotland – is being spent on creating a brand new adult acute hospital and a new children’s hospital.

The existing maternity hospital is undergoing a major programme of refurbishment along with the National Spinal Injuries Unit and the Institute of Neurosciences.

And a new purpose-built laboratory facility is also being created.

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde’s chairman, Andrew Robertson said: “This ambitious building programme will not only benefit the many thousands of patients we treat and our staff, but it will also deliver significant benefits and breathe new life into Govan and the wider area.

“Without a doubt the biggest single factor in the regeneration of the area is this development which will boost wealth, business opportunities, local jobs plus transport and environmental improvements.”
MAKING A DIFFERENCE

How we all can help to save lives

WE hope you have enjoyed this special commemorative issue of Health News.

The wonderful photographs and stories are but a snap shot of your NHS over the past 60 years.

There are even more images, film clips and articles hosted on our specially created NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Diamond Anniversary website which you can access by going to www.nhsggc.org.uk or visit the Scottish NHS anniversary website for a broader picture of activity on www.60yearsofnhsscotland.co.uk

We also hope you will take this opportunity to become more involved in supporting the work of the NHS. The following page outlines how you can make a difference …by signing up to carry an Organ Donor Card and by becoming a regular supporter of the Blood Transfusion Service.

And don’t forget about the huge career opportunities in the NHS.

Or if you have some time to give then inquire about the wonderful variety of volunteering projects.
MAKING A DIFFERENCE

A tiny reason to give blood this week.

Join the Organ Donor Register

Transplants are one of the most miraculous achievements of modern medicine. But they depend entirely on the generosity of donors and their families who are willing to make this life-saving gift to others.

27% of people in Scotland have already joined the NHS Organ Donor Register, the highest percentage in the UK. But there is still a critical shortage of organs in Scotland and we need to do more.

Joining the register will only take a few minutes of your time. But it could save someone else’s life.

For more information and to join the register
- call 0845 60 60 400
- visit www.uktransplant.org.uk

Uniformly great careers

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde is the largest organisation of its kind in Scotland offering careers in every discipline. Each member of our staff is just one part of a large, multi-disciplinary organisation, continually expanding, innovating and improving to cope with the demands of the 21st Century.

If you would like to find out more about the opportunities available to you visit www.nhsggc.org.uk