



mercy university hospital celebrates **150** years

As part of the celebrations of the 150th anniversary of Mercy University Hospital's foundation by the Sisters of Mercy in 1857, the Hospital is holding a number of events. Some of these include:

Professor Drumm visits muh

Professor Brendan Drumm, Chief Executive Officer - Health Services Executive was welcomed to Mercy University Hospital on Tuesday, 13th February.

Professor Drumm met with members of the Hospital's Executive Management Board, viewed a presentation given by the Mercy's Chief Executive Officer, Pat Madden and toured the Hospital campus.

Pictured Below (L-R): Des Murphy - Chairman, MUH Board of Governors; Jim Corbett - MUH Deputy CEO; Professor Brendan Drumm - CEO, HSE; and Pat Madden - MUH CEO.



continued on page 8

January/February 2007

Launch of Mercy University Hospital Art Competition for Cork City Primary Schools and Primary Schools attended by Children of Hospital Staff

Launch of MUH website: www.muh.ie

Launch of Mercy University Hospital Photography Competition *(details on page 4)*

March 2007

Thanksgiving Service and Re-Dedication Service

Civic Reception at City Hall

Formal Flying of the New Mercy University Hospital Flag

Week of Events *(details on page 8)*

April 2007

Mercy University Hospital National Nursing Conference *(details on page 6)*

Meeting of the Board of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland

Summer 2007

Opening of New Mercy University Hospital Emergency Department

Mercy University Hospital Staff Family Fun Day, including Presentation of Prizes for Art and Photography Competitions

Laying of the Re-Dedication Stone

Unveiling of the New Hospital Name Signs and Floodlighting of the Mansion House

November 2007 - 150th Anniversary Black Tie Gala Ball

*For additional information on any of the Mercy University Hospital 150th Anniversary events, please contact:
Mr. Jim Corbett, Deputy CEO. Tel: 021-4935244.*




mercy
UNIVERSITY | HOSPITAL
1857-2007

ALSO INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Balance Rehabilitation (page 3) Laparoscopic Urological Oncology (page 5) Retirement (page 8)

welcome

We wish to express our thanks to everyone who submitted articles, information and / or photos for this edition.

This newsletter is yours and it is important that we cover items of interest to you. We welcome your comments and ideas, and would be delighted to consider for publication any article, photograph or other item of interest that you may have.

Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee to publish or to return submitted items, but will do our very best.

Previous issues of the newsletter can be found at www.muh.ie.

Thank you,
'Mercy Times' Editorial Committee

editorial committee

Ros Donegan
Bernice Glavin
Clare Horgan
Catherine Leggett
Michael Mulry
Seàn O'Bulmàin
Tony O'Regan (Photographer)
Donna Peyton (Editor)
Samson Sotomi
Mary Twohig

Our sincere thanks to Mary Ann Espinosa, Jenny Murphy and Siobhán O'Mahony for their past contributions to the Editorial Committee.

thought for the day

THE KEY TO WELLBEING

Good health and wellbeing are all about making small changes to your diet, attitude and daily routine and practising them until they become habits. It's not always easy, and you need to take small steps slowly rather than one giant leap.

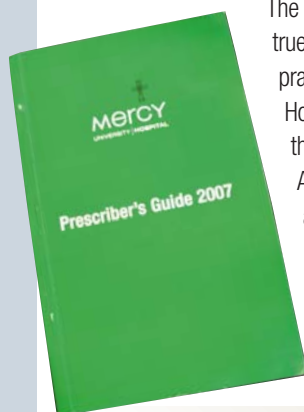
**But be patient:
the rewards are waiting for you.**

*The Little Book of Wellbeing
Penelope Sach, 1998*

muh first hospital in cork with prescriber's guide

The staff at Mercy University Hospital (MUH) have once again used their initiative and have become the first hospital in Cork to issue a Prescriber's Guide.

The idea of a Prescriber's Guide was conceived some 15 years ago by Professor Michael Murphy and Ms. Elizabeth Barron. The Drugs and Therapeutics Committee at the Mercy, chaired by Professor David Kerins, lent its support and together with the determination of Consultant Pharmacist, Dr. Laura Sahm, helped to make the idea a reality.



The Prescriber's Guide is a true reflection of existing practice at Mercy University Hospital, as it was written by the people for the people. All healthcare professionals at MUH can use the Guide, in conjunction with the British National Formulary (BNF), on a daily basis - to aid drug

selection and to access MUH-specific information on the monitoring of drugs and their side effects.

A hard copy of the Guide is located in every ward and can also be accessed electronically via the Hospital's "H" drive, under Pharmacy Information in the Prescriber's Guide 2007 folder.

The official launch of the first Prescriber's Guide in Cork will take place at the end of February 2007 and will coincide with Mercy University Hospital's 150th anniversary celebrations.

Attention GP's:

If you are interested in receiving additional information, or a copy of the Prescriber's Guide, please contact:

Collette Finnegan
Email: cfinnegan@muh.ie
Tel: 021-2305042

did you know?

Your Mercy University Hospital (MUH) Prescriber's Guide can provide you with answers to all of the following queries:

1. What is a High Tech prescription? Where do I get the relevant forms? (pgs. ix and x)
2. "To err is human"... How do I report a medication safety incident? (pg. xi)
3. My patient needs a course of therapy to eradicate H. Pylori infection. What does the Consultant Gastroenterologist of the MUH recommend? (pg. 5)
4. Where can I find the formula to work out the rate of Dopamine in ml / hour that I need for my patient? (pg. 55)
5. What is COPD Gold stage II? (pg. 90)
6. I want to change my patient's therapy from Nitrazepam to another hypnotic with a shorter half-life. How do I know what half-lives the others have and what dose should I start with? (pg. 93)
7. My patient has been commenced on Trazodone and is feeling extremely
- nauseous. Is this normal or is it caused by something that he's eaten? (pg. 109)
8. Despite giving the patient Cyclizine, he is still complaining of nausea. What else can I give? (pg. 111)
9. How do I write a prescription for a drug controlled under the Misuse of Drugs Act (MDA) legislation (Controlled Drugs)? (pg. 280)
10. My patient has just been commenced on Azathioprine and wants some information. Where can I get her this information? (pg. 291)
11. My epileptic patient is now unable to swallow his medication and has an NG tube in place. How shall I give him his Phenytoin? (pg. 271)

Submitted by Ms. Elizabeth Barron - Chief Pharmacist and Dr. Laura Sahm - Consultant Pharmacist

what is videofluoroscopy?

In November 2006, Mercy University Hospital's (MUH) Speech and Language Therapy Department, in conjunction with its Radiology Department, began a new service - Videofluoroscopic Evaluation of Swallowing. This service is a valuable tool in the assessment and treatment of patients presenting with swallowing disorders.

What is Videofluoroscopy?

Videofluoroscopy is currently the most commonly used and most reliable adjunct to informal dysphagia assessment.

It is a radiological study of the swallow involving trials of various food / fluid consistencies and provides information that cannot be obtained from bedside evaluation. If a patient is aspirating, it is possible to see when and why it occurs. It allows the Speech and Language Therapist (SLT) to evaluate how changing food consistency, positioning or use of specific swallowing strategies can prevent further aspiration. Following assessment, a patient-specific management plan can be devised to allow patients to eat and drink safely. The assessment may enable a patient to commence some manner of safe and efficient oral intake, which obviously impacts on a patient's quality of life. It can also assist in decision-making regarding the need for non-oral feeding.

Why Videofluoroscopy?

Prior to commencement of this service, assessment of swallowing difficulties was conducted by the SLT at ward level. It occurred by means of oral examination, trials of oral intake and techniques such as cervical

auscultation and pulse oximetry. This assessment procedure is largely subjective and does not indicate if a patient is silently aspirating (i.e. when patient does not cough in response to food / fluid going the wrong way). Following assessment, the main management consisted of modifying a patient's diet (i.e. soft or liquidized diet, to prevent further aspiration).

When and Where?

The Videofluoroscopy Clinic is conducted in the MUH Radiology Department every Thursday from 1:30- 3:00 pm, with three patients assessed per week.

The assessment is digitally recorded using the Swallowing Workstation, which allows the SLT to analyze the procedure in detail, and make patient-specific recommendations.

Access to this evaluation procedure allows more comprehensive assessment and treatment of Dysphagia in patients. It brings benefits to both patients and to the Hospital through timely detection of aspiration, thereby reducing length of hospital stay and preventing further hospital admission.

Tara Friel - SLT Manager

Finola Casey - Senior SLT

Andy Owens - Radiology Services Manager



Louise Broderick - Physiotherapist.

balance rehabilitation

In Autumn 2006, the Physiotherapy Department launched a Balance Rehabilitation Class for elderly patients who are at risk of falling after discharge from hospital. It has been reported that patients over 65 are at greater risk of falling and have an increased fear of falling. Falls use a great deal of health service resources with over 55,000 admissions to hospital in relation to falls in Ireland each year. Balance Rehabilitation and falls prevention programmes are advocated as the way to minimise these risks, improve quality of life and ease the pressure on the health service.

The Mercy University Hospital Physiotherapy Team assesses its elderly patients at risk of falling in order to identify the specific problems and reasons for falling. Simple things like appropriate foot wear, walking aids, vision and hearing are rectified quickly, but patients who objectively show reduced balance are referred to the class.

The Balance Rehabilitation Class is a 6-week programme of exercises specific to improving balance, which is run weekly in the Physiotherapy Department and coordinated by Louise Broderick, Physiotherapist. Louise states that, "We have enrolled 14 people in the programme so far and patients are showing an average 35% increase in their balance scores which translates to a real improvement in quality of life."

As part of this programme, the Physiotherapists have built close working relationships with General Practitioners and other community health professionals in Cork City, raising the profile of the Hospital and leading a service that is improving the quality of life in our elderly patient population.

Spencer Turvey - Physiotherapy Manager



(L-R): Finola Casey, Dr. E. Fitzgerald, Úna Ní Shúilleabháin and Tara Friel, pictured with the Digital Swallowing Workstation.



happy heart at work

Congratulations to the Catering, Dietetics, Occupational Health and Cardiac Rehabilitation Departments for their combined effort in achieving the 2007 Happy Heart at Work award for MUH.

Front Row (L-R): Claire Cotter (Occupational Health), Antoinette O'Riordan (Catering), Mary Brosnan (Cardiac Rehabilitation). Back Row (L-R): Michael Mulry (Catering) and Caroline Cummins (Dietetics).

ccrc is the real winner



Front Row (L-R): Matt Smith - SIVUH; Siobhán O'Mahony - event organiser; Dr. Declan Soden - Manager Cork Cancer Research Centre; James McCarthy - MUH Captain; David Harte - SIVUH Captain and Cyril Keane - Beamish and Crawford.

Cork Cancer Research Centre (CCRC), based at Mercy University Hospital (MUH), was presented with a cheque from MUH and South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital (SIVUH) soccer teams at Beamish and Crawford's city headquarters.

€4,200 was raised during a charity soccer match between the hospitals at the Perpetual Trophy Challenge Benefit Match, played under the floodlights of Turners Cross on the 25th November.

A very enjoyable and competitive game resulted in victory for the Mercy Team, winning 1 – 0.

The Oncology / Breast Care Unit based at SIVUH, will be the recipient of funds raised at the next annual event in 2007.

NHO medical records project

The National Hospitals Office (NHO) has set up a Medical Records Management Steering Committee to provide guidance on medical records management in publicly funded acute care facilities.

The aim of this project is to improve the quality of clinical information in the hospital setting, by developing standards and recommended practices for the structure and content of recording and communicating information about patients. Draft documents relating to, Chart Structures, Recommended Practices, Chart Contents and Retention Policy were distributed to all hospitals for review.

The deadline for forwarding all feedback relating to these documents was the 9th of February. So, in order to facilitate this process an MUH Medical Records Committee was formed.

Once all the feedback has been collated by the NHO Steering Committee, an external audit will be carried out in each hospital against the agreed standards. This will help to establish the level of compliance for each hospital and an action plan will then be put in place in order to help each hospital achieve their required goals.

This project, in essence, is looking at best practice in relation to content and structure of Medical Records, as well as the management of records. Structured and reliable medical records help to improve the quality of care given to patients.

**Submitted by Mary Crowley -
Acting Medical Records Officer**

phlebotomy service

In cooperation with the Centre of Nurse Education, the Phlebotomy Department commenced training Registered General Nurses from Midleton Hospital in IV cannulations on 19th of January 2007.

This training is facilitated in St. Oliver's Ward and will continue for eight to ten weeks. Currently, training is proving very successful and will facilitate the administration of intravenous antibiotics to elderly patients and reduce their need to be admitted to the acute sector.

Marion Devine - Senior Phlebotomist

150th anniversary photography competition

Sponsored by Denis MacSweeney Photo Shop, Cork and Limerick.

The competition is open to members of recognised Photography Societies in Ireland, to Hospital Staff and their immediate families and to Hospital Contractors and their immediate families. Entry forms and conditions are available from the Office of the Deputy CEO and should be returned by Friday, March 9 at the latest. Alternatively, they can be downloaded from the MUH website at www.muh.ie or e-mail: enquiries@muh.ie.

On the evening of Tuesday, March 20th and during the day on Sunday, April 1st, all competitors will be given unique access to the Hospital, including the 18th Century Mansion House (which retains many original features), clinical areas (including an operating theatre) and views across Cork City.

The closing date for submitting images is Monday, 30th April.

For additional information, please contact:
Mr. Jim Corbett, Deputy CEO. Tel: 021-4935244



laparoscopic urological oncology at mercy university hospital

Mercy University Hospital (MUH) has begun a Laparoscopic Urological Oncology Programme for advanced laparoscopic procedures on the urinary tract, like radical prostatectomy and radical nephrectomy.



Front Row (L-R): Helen Barrett, Catriona Minihane, Judy Domingo, Mr. Khalid Safi and Dr. Girish Nama.
Back Row (L-R): Noreen Brickley O'Driscoll, John O'Connell, Dr. John Cahill, Dr. Wilphard Ndjavera and Paul Murray.

The first laparoscopic prostatectomy was successfully performed in January 2007 by MUH staff. It is essentially the first procedure done independently in Ireland. The procedure went very smoothly and the patient was well and ambulant on the first operative day and did not require any major analgesia. The patient was fit for discharge on the third post-operative day.

This is another advanced treatment undertaken at Mercy University Hospital and extends even further the Hospital's impressive list of Endoscopic and Laparoscopic procedures in Gastro-Intestinal, Vascular and Urological procedures which are attracting referrals from across the Country.

pension issues

Voluntary Hospitals Superannuation Scheme

Special Savings Investment Account (SSIA) holders who are members of public health sector superannuation schemes and whose income in the year prior to the year in which the SSIA matures did not exceed €50,000 may avail of the Scheme.

However, the tax incentive will likely be of benefit only to employees paying income tax at the lower rate. The Scheme provides for the use of SSIA funds to purchase notional service and / or pay compound interest charges in connection with the repayment of gratuities / refunds associated with superannuation schemes, subject to the provisions for the purchase of notional service. The Department of Finance confirms, "The same principles apply to lump sum payments for reckoning of past service which was non-pensionable when it was given." SSIA funds must be committed within 3 months of the maturity date.

The Revenue Commissioners have a Questions and Answer document available at: http://www.revenue.ie/faqs/faq_pitc.htm.

The purchase of notional service can be facilitated if you will not have 40 years service at retirement age (65) depending on certain criteria. For further information, please contact Ms. Grainne Kennedy in the MUH Human Resources Department at ext. 5554.

christmas 2006



Jackie Healy (Pharmacy Department) and family, visiting with Santa after the staff children's annual Christmas Mass.



Front Row (L-R): Liam Gallagher, Siobhán Kenny and Anne Quirke. Back Row (L-R): Mary Dunnion, Dr. Colm Henry, Vera Griffin and Pat Madden, all in a festive spirit.



(L-R): Sisters, Jennifer Power (ICU Healthcare Assistant) and Carolann Power (Catering Assistant), enjoying themselves at the MUH staff Christmas party.

mince pies raise €1,100

The MUH Catering Department raised €1,100 from the sale of its delicious mince pies over the Christmas period to benefit the Children's Leukaemia Association.

The donation will fund the purchase of a laminator, five-stage booklet on diagnosis for use by parents, a clock for the Children's Leukaemia Unit and a selection of DVDs for under 5's. A big thank you to Vicky Curtis in the Catering bakehouse and to MUH staff for their support.



staff news

Congratulations and very best wishes to the following staff members:

engagements

Catherine Bennett – Bed Management
to **John Cotter** – Pharmacy

Claire Coleman – Bed Management

Noreen Fox – Radiology

Ciaran Halleran – Pharmacy
to **Ria Fitzgerald** – St. Michael's

Tara Harte – Medical Secretaries

Edel O'Callaghan – OPD

weddings

Anna Maria Daly – Nurse Practice Development

Karen O'Leary – OPD

Mellorine Santos – ICU

it's a girl

Jodie Coles – Catering

Sinead Condon – St. Patrick's

Clare Coughlan – St. Joseph's

Angela McSweeney – St. Anne's

it's a boy

Jennifer Barry – St. Patrick's

Liz Coughlan – St. Anthony's

Evelyn Keane – Emergency Department

Edel Kelly – St. Anne's

Christian Moreno – St. Patrick's

Yvonne O'Callaghan – PC

Sandra O'Sullivan – St. Anne's

Methusella Pimental – St. Joseph's

Ber Wiseman – Catering

it's twin girls

Noreen Mac Carthy – Creditors

In each issue of the Mercy Times, we would like to include the names of staff members who recently: became engaged, got married, or welcomed a new addition to their family. If you or one of your colleagues has staff news to share, please contact the Editor or any Editorial Committee member.

Despite our best efforts, there may be some omissions due to our inability to obtain timely approval.

human resources department news

welcome new appointments

We wish to welcome the following staff, who recently joined Mercy University Hospital.

November 2006

Kate Foley	Clerical Officer
Caroline Mullarkey	Staff Nurse
Bindhu K. Munisamy	Staff Nurse
Imelda Noonan	Clinical Nurse Specialist

December 2006

Fr. Pierce Cormac	Chaplain
Triona O'Dwyer	Clerical Officer
Deirdre Ryan	Laundry Operative

January 2007

Roger Estrada Ocon	Chef
Padraig Fleming	Finance Officer
Louise Murphy	Clinical Nurse Manager
Geraldine O'Sullivan Conway	Clinical Nurse Specialist

February 2007

Aoife Ruane	Lab Aide
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consultant appointments

Welcome to the following Consultants who recently joined Mercy University Hospital.

Mr. Nasir Khan	Locum Consultant Urologist
Dr. Sean Minogue	Consultant Anaesthetist

retirement

Mercy University Hospital would like to thank the following employee for her service throughout the years and to wish her a long and happy retirement.

Loreto Bulman	Health Care Assistant
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mercy university hospital national nursing conference

**The Profession of Nursing:
Acknowledging the Past – Welcoming the Future**

April 12th, 2007. Maryborough House Hotel, Douglas, CorK

The Mercy University Hospital (MUH) Department of Nursing is hosting a one-day National Conference as part of the Hospital's 150th Anniversary Celebrations. The overarching theme of the conference is change and its impact on nurses and nursing.

Presentations will include:

Change within the Irish Health Service; Nursing in Ireland; The Evolution of Nursing Care; Magnet Hospitals and their Potential; Ethical Challenges for Nurses in the Years Ahead and the Action Research Project on the Adaptation of Internationally Recruited Nursing Staff and Irish Nursing Staff to working in a Multi-Cultural Team, (Department of Applied Psychology, University College Cork and Mercy University Hospital).

Renowned national and international speakers will include:

Professor David Smith, Dr. Ruth Barrington, Professor Geraldine McCarthy, Dr. Kathleen Mac Lellan, and Professor Donna Haven.

Admission is Free (refreshments and lunch will be provided).

To register and for more information, contact:

Siobhán Kenny -

Office of the Director of Nursing,

Tel: 021-4935344

Email: skenny@muh.ie

Grateful acknowledgements to:

The Mercy Order Provincial Team and The National Council for the Professional Development of Nursing and Midwifery.

you're a winner

Congratulations to Declan Reidy - ICT Department, who was the winner of the Mercy Times Where Am I? staff competition which was featured in the November 2006 issue. The correct Cork City locations for the two memorial plaques are:

- On the Mercy University Hospital building to the left of the Emergency Department entrance.
- On the YMCA building at the corner of Castle Street and North Main Street.

first japanese occupational therapist in ireland

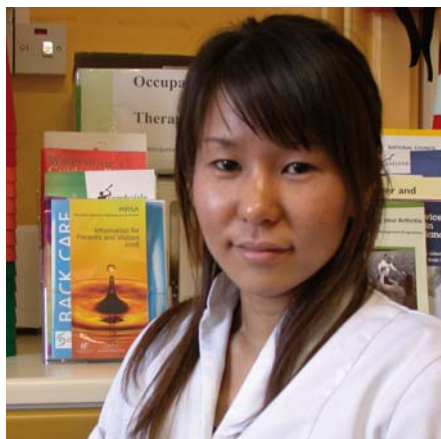
Hello, my name is Aoi Shibahara and I am the first Japanese Occupational Therapist in Ireland.

I first landed at Cork Airport back in the time when people were still using the Irish punt and not knowing anything about Ireland. My life was based in Tokyo (about 13 hours from London) and I was very excited to find out what Ireland was like, even though it was only for a few days on my way to a Spring holiday in Italy. Ever since that first visit to Ireland, it has called me back again and again – I had no idea that I would become the first Japanese Occupational Therapist in Ireland.

The words I use to describe Ireland to my friends in Japan are – another world. Everything in Ireland made such an impact on me, all the amazing sights, such as cows walking along the road and stopping the traffic; people smiling – at even a stranger like me; and the easygoing atmosphere. It all finally made me think about the possibility of living in Ireland.

I previously spent some time in Dublin, but have returned to Cork and am currently employed at Mercy University Hospital (MUH), an acute general hospital with approximately 350 beds located beside the River Lee – the symbol of Cork. In my position, as an Occupational Therapist, I mainly treat clients in the 50-90 age group who have difficulties in their activities of daily living due to both physical and cognitive problems.

I think Occupational Therapy is, perhaps, one of the best occupations to know the nature, features and character of a nation; and I would like to mention some interesting differences that I have found between Japan and Ireland -- especially in the medical work environment. One of the things I respect about Irish people, generally speaking, is their open and friendly personality. The MUH is an extremely busy place to work, but the staff never seem to forget their sense of humour, creating a comfortable atmosphere for their clients and co-workers. Needless to say, while they are friendly, MUH staff are also supportive, positive and internationally well-mixed. While in Japan, I hardly ever met any medical staff from abroad. I also respect the way Irish people have the ability to separate their work time and leisure, which Japanese people are generally not good at. After work or on weekends, Irish people switch off to cherish private time with family, friends and to enjoy their own interests. In Japan (even though they realize that it is against the law regarding working hours), Japanese people tend to have to work extreme overtime and bring their paper work home over weekends. This creates a risk to client confidentiality. However, they could not keep up with the swift service they are providing otherwise. For example, in the rehabilitation unit of a general



Aoi Shibahara

hospital in Tokyo where I used to work, the therapy room is open from 9:00 to 17:00 -- constantly accepting clients for assessment / treatment during these opening hours, except during lunchtime which is the only break the staff get in a long day. Some staff do paperwork on their lunch break or after 17:00. Inevitably, they are stressed from the pressure of work or tend to abandon their private time. There is a common expression used when new staff are trained in Japan, 'the customer is God.' This has successfully improved staff dedication; however, living in Ireland has helped me become aware that staff should be respected as well as customers.

Another interesting finding is the General Practitioner (GP) system in Ireland, which Japan does not have. If there is some health problem that may not be urgent enough to call an ambulance, Japanese people go directly to whichever hospital they like and receive consultation / treatment. As long as they know the timetable of their doctor or therapist, they can choose who they would like to be seen by -- although they may have to wait for a few hours.

Differences of culture and lifestyle also fascinate me. Generally, many Irish houses seem to have a main bathroom upstairs which is a problem when the resident cannot cope with the stairs. In Japan, rooms with traditional mats that are made of millions of strands of straw are very common with elderly people. However, wheelchair users have to remove the mats and use the bare wooden floors -- otherwise the wheelchair would dig into the mats. Also, there is always a square where you must take your shoes off at the front door and a high step into the hall which is generally approximately 30cm as it is believed that shoes used outdoors should not be at the same height as the indoor area in Japan. This step is a big problem for a wheelchair user and for people with decreased mobility.

Adapting to a new life can be difficult; however, Mercy University Hospital and the people of this beautiful 'Emerald Isle' have helped me to enjoy the challenge.



(L-R): Mairead Neary (Shop Assistant) and Bernice Glavin (author of *The Journey*).

the journey

MUH staff member, Bernice Glavin (formerly Intensive Care Unit, now Cardiology Department) has just published her first book entitled, *The Journey*. It is a book comprising of poetry and corresponding prose, offering a brief explanation to each poem. It covers Bernice's journey from the first day of Cancer diagnosis to the final chemotherapy treatment and once again looking forward to resuming life as normal and leaving all treatment behind.

The Journey has received praise from Professor Brendan Kennelly - Trinity College, Dublin and Thomas McCarthy, well-known Cork author and poet. The Cork Cancer Research Centre has kindly sponsored the book, which only costs €10 and all proceeds collected will be given to the Research Centre. Bernice has been an avid supporter of Cancer Research over the years, even prior to her diagnosis.

The Journey is happy and sad, witty yet factual. Once you start reading it, you won't want to put it down! -- and even when finished, you'll find yourself going back over it again and again. Go ahead and enjoy a good read while at the same time supporting the very worthy Cork Cancer Research Centre.

We highly recommend *The Journey* for your reading list and you may purchase it from the Hospital shop located opposite the main lifts, on the second floor of the main hospital in the Catherine McAuley Block.

achievements congratulations to:

Yvonne Callanan - Line Manager, Reception/ Switch Board and **Mary Twohig** - Medical Secretary Manager, for having achieved a Diploma in HR Management from the Institute for Commercial Management, Griffith College, Cork.

Donna Peyton - Management Services Officer, for having achieved an MA in Health Promotion from University College Cork.



(L-R): Suzanne Kennedy, Joanne Collins, Katie Lyons, Mairead Hanley.

poster presentation

In January, rostered nursing students participated in a poster presentation in the Hospital which was part of their Protected Reflective Education on Practice (P.R.E.P).

The theme was "New Year's Resolutions" and the topics were based on health promotion issues. The topics included obesity, cholesterol, stress and testicular cancer. The target populations were Hospital patients and the general public. The aim was to increase awareness and highlight achievable changes within people's daily lives. The presentations generated a lot of interest, evidenced by the number of visitors to the stands.

Submitted by Rebecca O'Donovan,
Clinical Placement Coordinator

use of equipment

If you use it – don't abuse it
If you need it others do too
When you take it - please replace it
Others need it just like you.

If you take it don't misplace it
And put it where it doesn't belong
As there t'would be when next it's needed
Its storage place would be all wrong.

If you remove it please don't loose it
It may be a necessary tool
So please remember to return it
This is an important rule.

All our equipment is so important
It helps to save so many lives
And as you know it costs a fortune
So please take care that it survives.

Kathleen Heelan - CNM1 - ICU

Loreto Bulman retires



The Departments of Nursing and Para Nursing wish to extend their congratulations and best wishes to Loreto Bulman who retired in January following 17 years of dedicated service to Mercy University Hospital. Pictured above at the farewell party were (L-R): Carol Hunter - Nursing Support Services Manager; Loreto Bulman and Norma Cronin - Assistant Director of Nursing (Night Superintendent).

Right (L-R): Loreto Bulman; Yvonne Callanan and Mary Ita Murphy.



generous donation

Our sincere thanks to the Vintage Club, Welcome Inn, Bandon for their presentation of a cheque for €4,500 to Mercy University Hospital. This voluntary group puts tremendous effort and fun into its endeavours which include threshing, and cake and ticket sales. The group stipulated that the donation be spent on "comfort" products for sick children which has resulted in the purchase of a comfort mattress, educational DVDs and toys.

Professor Drumm visits muh



(L-R): Dr. Chris Luke - Consultant in Emergency Medicine and Professor Brendan Drumm - CEO, HSE.



(L-R): Dr. Colm Henry - Consultant Geriatrician; Mary Dunnion - Director of Nursing; Eileen Looney - CNM2, St. Mary's Ward and Professor Brendan Drumm - CEO, HSE.

150th anniversary week of events - march 2007

Saturday, 10th - Giving Hands: an afternoon re-dedication Mass and ecumenical / interfaith acceptance and blessing at St. Vincent's Church.

Monday, 12th - Times Past: afternoon viewing of artifacts from hospital life which are currently on display in the UCC museum will temporarily be housed in the MUH library.

Tuesday, 13th - Multi-Cultural Day: an afternoon event where specific staff will present a broad overview of life in their native countries (link bridge, 2nd floor).

Wednesday, 14th - Concert in the Hospital Chapel: a lunchtime concert featuring a Soprano and a Mezzo-Soprano singing a variety of solos and duets from operatic arias to light opera and Music Theatre favourites. Open to staff, patients, relatives and visitors.

Thursday, 15th - Concert in the Hospital Chapel: an evening concert featuring a children's vocal ensemble *Voce Angelica* who will be joined by a boy Soprano Soloist. After the concert, some children's Irish dancing will begin on the link bridge, 2nd floor.

Saturday, 17th - Healing Hands: a morning anniversary Mass and ceremonial blessing of the sick in the Hospital Chapel and in the evening at the riverside.

Sunday, 18th - Caring Hands: an evening Thanksgiving Mass and ceremonial blessing of hands for carers at the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul.

For additional information, please contact:
Mary Montgomery - ext. 5782; Carmel Walsh - ext. 5388
or Fr. Michael O'Regan - ext. 5303.