



a message from our chief executive officer

I am very pleased to see the first issue of the revamped Mercy Times. Our Hospital has grown considerably in size in the past five years and the number of staff employed has almost doubled.

In such a large and growing organisation, communications are extremely important. This newsletter is an important part of the Hospital's efforts to keep in touch with its' staff, patients and visitors and also provides an opportunity for staff to have some input.

The year ahead promises to be very challenging, but we at Mercy University Hospital welcome 2004 and any challenges it may bring with it. The past year was a difficult one, but we managed to break even, reduce waiting lists and increase our service volumes while at the same time undertaking the major new building and refurbishment projects, which are reported elsewhere in this issue. These are all very important successes, which can only come about through the joint efforts of all staff.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who works at Mercy University Hospital, in any capacity, for their support and energy in making our Hospital such a success and especially for enabling us to provide even better services for our patients and all the people of Cork.

John A Murphy
Chief Executive Officer

something **fishy** going on! st. anne's children's ward refurbished

An unusual new addition to the Hospital was unveiled on the re-opening of the Paediatric Department on 28th November 2003. This new addition took the form of a smiley and particularly large, yellow whale, whose job it is to welcome all children to the Ward. This adorable creature also doubles as a workstation for the nurses.



Staff of St. Anne's Children's Ward delighted with their new surroundings. Pictured L-R: Áine O'Reilly, Catriona Collins, Aoife O'Connell, Finola Murphy, Bernie Barrett, Norma Browne, Eileen O'Riordan, Louise Gibson, Sonya Penny, Ruth Fitzgerald, Mary Ambrose.

In order to provide the best possible atmosphere for our patients and their families, it was our goal to achieve a feeling in the Ward that is light and playful, without being overly distracting. The whale/workstation is an integral part of the seaside theme that was adopted for the refurbishment of St. Anne's Ward. This theme was used to guide the colours and images chosen for various aspects of the project. Seaside images are used in artwork set into doors, in bed curtains, and in the flooring throughout the Ward. Additional features that were used which make the Ward welcoming to children include a fibre-optic night-sky installation in the playroom, "hopscotch" inset in the floor, and a captivating aquarium set into the nurses' station.

The newly upgraded Paediatric Department facilities were completed to the highest standards and provide a dramatic contrast to the former Ward facilities. Now as one enters



The whale workstation with aquarium which is an integral part of the seaside theme adopted for the refurbishment.

St. Anne's, the overall impression is one of openness, warmth and playfulness.

Work commenced on this unit on 15.09.03, which represents a fantastic turn-around time of only 10 weeks. Our thanks to all who made this possible.

A special thank you to all patients, visitors and staff for their understanding and patience during the major refurbishments throughout the hospital over the past few months.

welcome to our new look

Welcome to the first edition of the re-launched 'Mercy Times' which will be published on a quarterly basis.

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 ideas and would be delighted to consider for publication any article, photograph or other item of interest that you may have. We encourage you to submit items to one of the Editorial Committee members or to the following address/e-mail:

Ms. Donna Peyton

c/o Sheares Street Office, Mercy University Hospital, Grenville Place, Cork.

Tel: (021) 4271971 Ext: 5009

Email: dpeyton@muh.ie

Please clearly label all submissions – "NEWSLETTER". The deadline for the next edition is 5th March, 2004. Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee to publish or to return submitted items, but will do our very best.

thank you

We wish to acknowledge the good work begun by the previous voluntary editorial group of the 'Mercy Times' – Mary Barry, Liam Gallagher, Deirdre O'Connor, Adrienne Murphy, Claire O'Herlihy, Tony O'Regan and Brigid Roche. We thank them for their enthusiasm and commitment to the publication of a hospital newsletter.

Thank you,

'Mercy Times' Editorial Committee



Editorial Committee:

(L-R) Bernice Glavin, Donna Peyton (Editor), Therese Egan, Liz O'Sullivan, Clare Horgan, Siobhan O'Mahony, Deirdre O'Connor, Mary Twohig, Tony O'Regan and Seán O'Bulmáin.

mansion house refurbishment

The main door of Mercy University Hospital was closed on 27th November, but this is not bad news! The Hospital underwent a long overdue refurbishment of the main reception and staircase areas in the Mansion House.

The Mansion House, which is a preserved building, was purchased in 1857 by the Sisters of Mercy and has slowly become incorporated into the Hospital's main buildings over the years.

The refurbishment involved the restoration of landings, stairwells, ceilings and numerous other features, in keeping with its original architecture and colours. The project also incorporates the main corridor between Reception and Accident & Emergency, and between Reception and the Diagnostic Imaging Department (Radiology).

Everyone entering the Hospital will find a modern, bright and welcoming building in which to work, stay or visit.



Sr. Laurentia Roche closing the main Hospital door on Thursday, 27th November, 2003 to allow for a major refurbishment of the Mansion House.

noonan services clean up

The Noonan Services Ltd. operation in Mercy University Hospital won first place in the Healthcare Sector at the Irish Contract Cleaning Association Industry Awards.

The aim of these awards is to recognise excellence in the contract cleaning industry, and provide a benchmark for quality. Innovation, staff management, training and client relationships were among the main criteria assessed by an independent panel, which included representatives from the British Institute of Cleaning Science, Kimberly-Clark Professional and FÁS.

Pictured right are: Noel Noonan - MD, Noonan Cleaning Service and John Murphy - CEO, Mercy University Hospital.

Pictured below: The Noonan's Team enjoying their success!



endoscopy enhancements

In order to provide Mercy University Hospital's patients with the best possible quality of care and service and to enhance our leading position as a centre of excellence in Medical and Surgical Gastroenterology – works have now been completed on the refurbishment and extension of our Endoscopy Department.



One of our Unit Managers, Ber O'Shea (CNM2) at work with the new equipment.

The first phase of the overall project involved the conversion of the School of Nursing into a new Endoscopy Department with full support facilities.

The completed project now provides for three Endoscopy Suites on the fourth floor, a Day Ward on the third floor, two lecture theatres and a new Clinical Measurement Laboratory on the first floor.

Work commenced on 22nd September, 2003 and the Endoscopy Department re-opened on 9th December – just 10 weeks later! The co-operation demonstrated throughout this project was incredible and we wish to thank all those who were involved in its success.

fire fighters raise temperatures

Close Alliance between Cork Fire Fighters and Mercy University Hospital

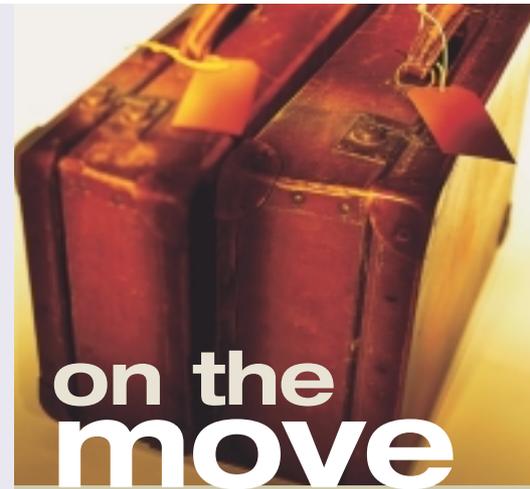
Mercy University Hospital is once again delighted to have been part of the Cork Fire Department recruit-training programme. Fourteen recruits from the 2003 class attended the Hospital, which makes the fourth group of trainees to date.

The recruits were introduced to members of the Hospital's Fire Emergency Response Team; and their training included examining the Hospital site layout, building design and visits to the laboratories, boiler houses and wards.

We look forward to continuing the excellent working relationship which has developed

between the Cork City Fire Department and Mercy University Hospital.

Pictured Below: Cork City Fire Department Recruit Training Class 2003 on a site visit to Mercy University Hospital. The recruits were accompanied by Noel Casey, Third Officer and Course Director, Tim Croghan, Station Officer and Gerry Myers, Sub. Officer.



school of nursing relocates

The School of Nursing/Centre of Nurse Education has moved and is now located at 6 Coach Street. The transition to our new premises went smoothly thanks to all involved.

Our primary focus for the present time is the completion of the Student Nurse Diploma / Registration Programme. We are also currently planning for future developments and would welcome ideas and suggestions regarding any initiatives that you would like to see within the Centre of Nurse Education.

Feel free to contact Ms. Doreen Lynch, Director, Centre of Nurse Education at (021) 4907600 or Ms. Edith Lawlor at (021) 4907524 or (021) 4907525.

departments of human resources & social work relocate

We would like all staff to be aware that the Human Resources and Social Work Departments will be moving to a new location early in the New Year. Both Departments will be located at No. 8 Grenville Villas.

Directions to No. 8 Grenville Villas are as follows: cross the road from the main Hospital door toward the Lee View Block and follow the line of the building around toward Irish Distillers, but staying on the right side of the road – cross over one small laneway and you will come to two red brick Victorian buildings on your right. No. 8 Grenville Villas is the second building with the green door.

If you have any difficulty finding the building, please ring or bleep any member of the Human Resources Department (Ext: 5554) or Social Work Team (Bleep 6668 or 6669).



thanks to the troops

€2,230 was raised by Irish Troops in Kosovo recently for the Mercy University Hospital Paediatrics/Leukaemia Ward.

Pictured at the presentation of the cheque were Sgt. Eddie Cronin, Ann-Marie Henry, Cpl. Pat Cronin, Sr. Laurentia Roche, Lt. Col. Jim Burke, Cpl. Tom O'Donnell and Miriam Murphy.

safety matters

The Risk Management Department is in the process of implementing the Health and Safety Management Plan, and the first step includes updating the Hospital's Parent Safety Statement.

We will also be completing specific Safety Statements for each Department with detailed risk assessments. These risk assessments are well underway and we would like to thank all departments involved for their assistance and cooperation.

Risk assessments include a thorough examination of the physical building, equipment, environment etc., chemical and biological agents, methods of working and psychological hazards. These assessments are being done with the intention of eliminating or controlling hazards.

We will be holding training sessions for all staff in health and safety issues in the New Year and hope to promote and increase awareness of health and safety in the workplace.

social work – the impulse to help

The roots of Social Work lie far beyond the formalisation of the profession itself. Arguably they are found in the same impulse to help those in difficulty or who are oppressed, which motivated Catherine McAuley, Frederic Ozanam and other great figures of the nineteenth century churches.

As training and employment became formalised, hospital social workers were typically responsible for dispensing charity to the “deserving poor.” Curiously, in a title that harks back to the charitable function of the monasteries in Medieval Ireland, they were known as ‘Almoners.’

In recent decades, the work of people such as Anton Wallich Clifford (founder of the Simon Community which works with the homeless and marginalized), Jean Vanier (founder of L'Arche which works with those with intellectual disability), and in Ireland – the work of Peter McVerry (at the Jesuit Centre for Justice and Faith) has provided inspiration for many who subsequently embark on a career in Social Work. Professional training is university based, with the course at Trinity College Dublin dating from 1934, making it the longest established. Typically, courses last for four or five years and cover aspects of sociology, psychology and social policy, as well as social work theory and practice.

Today, in Mercy University Hospital, there are five social workers – two of whom are part time. The Social Work Department aims to work co-operatively as part of the various multi-disciplinary teams and to be fully involved in the mission of the Hospital. A social work service is offered to elderly care when help is needed in managing discharge. In both adult and paediatric oncology, social workers provide a counselling and support service for patients and families. As part of the Cardiovascular Strategy, a social worker runs stress management groups and will help with life and career adjustment issues. In addition to contributing to the multi-disciplinary

pain management team, we also receive referrals from the Accident and Emergency Department regarding the homeless, frail elderly, and parents and children at risk. Our Department coordinates child protection and /or welfare reports with the relevant statutory agencies.

One of the most significant challenges facing the Social Work Department on a day-to-day basis is to link these specific tasks with the values and ethical principles which motivate the profession and which are so strongly intertwined with the motives of the founders of Mercy University Hospital.

by Colman Rutherford



you'll find a warm welcome at reception

After nearly a month of upheaval, Reception has its new face-lift!

The Reception staff of Mercy University Hospital recently spent a short time braving the arctic conditions of the ‘middle door’ temporary Reception area. They were hoping to receive fur coats (complete with embroidered MUH logo) and monogrammed thermal long johns! But to no avail.

It was worth the wait though – what bliss – the new Reception area is now completed.

Reception staff would like to thank patients and staff for their understanding during the recent upheaval and to wish you all a Peaceful and Happy 2004!

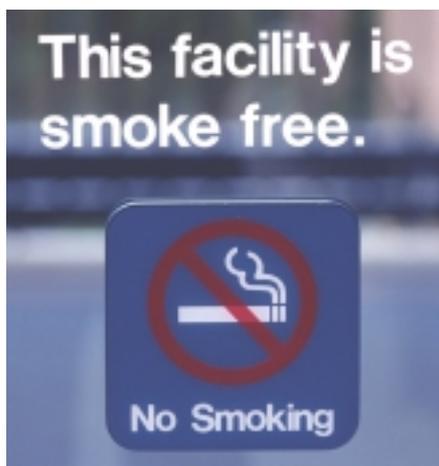
your good health

As of the 1st of January 2004, Mercy University Hospital will enforce a no smoking policy in all of its Hospital buildings. It is the Hospital's aim to assist staff and patients in their attempt to increase their own fitness and health awareness levels. The No Smoking Committee of Mercy University Hospital will have a second launch sometime in the middle of January to promote no smoking among staff and patients alike. We hope you will be supportive of their efforts.

Staff members are really looking forward to the New Year, having made their own new year's resolutions and with the new smoking restrictions in place. These restrictions are welcomed by many and may actually prove to be an incentive for those wishing to give up smoking.

In order to be of assistance to staff, the Occupational Health Department will be happy to offer support and advice to any Hospital staff members who want to give up smoking.

Feel free to contact one of the nurses:
Ms. Claire Cotter or Ms. Anne Doocey on ext. 5307.



a&e news

In common with the other major hospitals in Cork City and indeed across the Country, Mercy University Hospital has been experiencing severe difficulties in coping with very large numbers of emergency admissions in recent months. There is no obvious single cause for this increase in attendance.

We would remind the local community that its Accident and Emergency Department is for persons who have suffered serious accidents or who have an emergency condition; it is not an alternative to the GP or outpatient service.

Mercy University Hospital is still awaiting approval from the Department of Health for the rebuilding of its existing, very cramped Accident and Emergency Department facilities.

We wish to apologise for any distress that this period of excess demand has caused and pay tribute to Accident and Emergency staff who continue to act in an extremely professional and caring manner despite these difficulties.

The positive benefits of giving up smoking are many:

Immediate effects:

- Freedom from an expensive habit – most smokers will save an estimated €1,896 per year.
- Your sense of smell will improve.
- You will breathe easier.
- You will be free from the daily worry that you are killing yourself.
- You will no longer smell of cigarette smoke.
- You may suffer from an initial dizziness, but this is due to the fact that you are breathing more oxygen and less carbon monoxide from cigarettes.

Future effects:

- You will be without smoker's cough.
- You will suffer fewer colds.
- You will be doing less damage to your health (by cigarette smoking anyway).
- Your children will be healthier. (Did you know that the most common cause of deafness in children is due to chronic middle ear disease i.e. glue ear, which can be caused by passive smoking?)
- You may gain an average of 5 pounds, but this is manageable with a bit of exercise.

Interesting (but scary) facts about cigarette smoking:

- Approximately 1,500 people develop lung cancer in Ireland each year.
- Cigarette smoking causes 95% of these cases.
- 2 out of 3 smokers actually want to quit.
- Many people who die as a result of cigarette smoking would have lived 10-20 years longer if they were non-smokers.
- Of 1,000 young men who smoke, 6 will be killed on the roads, but 250 will die from the effects of their smoking habit.
- There are 4,000 toxins in tobacco smoke and at least 50 cause cancer.



thought for the day

Courtesy –

“Life is not so short but that there is always time for courtesy.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson

“Courtesy is the one passport that will be accepted without question in every land, in every office, in every home, in every heart in the world. For nothing commends itself so well as kindness: and courtesy is kindness.”

George D. Powers

“What do we live for if not to make the world less difficult for each other?”

George Eliot (Mary Ann Evans)



Mercy University Hospital, Hospital Watch Committee. Standing L/R: Kieran Murphy, Caroline Reddington, Tracey Martin, Seán Mullins, Garda Peter Murphy, Marie Dineen, Tony O' Regan. Sitting L/R; Trudy Caffrey, Mary Barry-Murphy, Fiona Cunningham.

hospital watch

Hospital Watch is based on the concept that individual members of any community have the potential to influence the levels of crime within their area. The scheme is similar to Neighbourhood Watch but involves staff, patients, visitors and contractors (basically all those on hospital premises).

Why is it important?

It is designed to promote awareness of the potential for crime, to provide information on how to prevent crime and what to do if a crime occurs. All those within our Hospital have a vested interest in working in a safe and secure environment, and Hospital Watch is a way of focusing this interest.

When was it initiated?

Garda Peter Murphy is the Liaison Officer for Mercy University Hospital, and the formal launch of our Hospital Watch occurred in December 2003.



freedom of information

In the near future, we will be updating our Information Guide in accordance with Section 15 of the Freedom of Information Act. This will be completed in conjunction with the Department Safety Statements.

information communications technology

What does this new I.C.T. abbreviation stand for? It stands for Information Communications Technology – previously known as I.T. (Information Technology) and from time to time called many other things past, present and future.

I.C.T. is still fairly new as a department here at Mercy University Hospital; and we have a staff of just six members who pride themselves in maintaining a quality service. As the Department develops, so too do the solutions we need to offer. Your expectations are our challenges and this is what makes our job worthwhile. At the end of the day, it is our goal to work together to make a difference for the staff and ultimately for the patients of the Mercy.

One of the major I.C.T. projects that is currently being undertaken involves the development of web-based sites for the Hospital. The Department is working to build both Internet and Intranet sites. Obviously this will not happen overnight, however, with your input and cooperation, together we will be successful in their implementation. The URL address for the website is www.mu.h.ie.



There are many other developments in the pipeline, and during the course of the year we will keep you informed. In future issues, we hope to provide guidelines and tips to help you make the best use of your I.C.T. resources and we welcome any suggestions you may have.

new toys for new ward



The Irish Hotels Federation, Cork Branch, recently made a presentation of gifts to St. Anne's Childrens Ward to wish them the best of luck in the new ward. Pictured above at the presentation were Sr. Laurentia and ward staff with the presents.

Pictured right at the presentation of the gifts were L-R: Jean McInerney, Jury's; Finola Murphy, Ward Manager; Fergal Somers, Jury's; Mary Dunnion, Director of Nursing and David Coghlan, Consultant Paediatrician.



human resources department news

appointments

Congratulations to the following staff who were appointed during 2003.

January

Grainne McGuinness	<i>Locum Pharmacist</i>
Bernie Armstrong	<i>Locum Medical Laboratory Assistant</i>
Joanne Buckley	<i>Permanent Senior Pharmacist</i>
Karen Lappin MacKay	<i>Permanent Basic Grade Occupational Therapist</i>
Niamh Ring	<i>Temporary Ward Attendant</i>

February

Christina O'Neill	<i>Permanent Clinical Nurse Manager 1</i>
Imelda Nealon	<i>Clerical Officer Grade III Nursing Administration</i>
Jane Abbot	<i>Temporary Ward Attendant</i>
Gavin Byrne	<i>Temporary Stores Porter</i>
Donna Peyton	<i>Temporary Administrative Assistant Grade V (EMB)</i>

March

Tracey McGrath	<i>Locum Ward Clerk Grade III</i>
Colette Quaine	<i>Permanent Medical Secretary Grade III</i>
Mary Banim	<i>Permanent Medical Secretary Grade III</i>
Brenda Kearney	<i>Locum Clerical Officer Grade III</i>
Paul Murray	<i>Locum Ward Porter</i>
Noreen Noonan	<i>Temporary Ward Attendant</i>

April

Caroline O'Connor	<i>Locum Ward Clerk Grade III</i>
Laura Daly	<i>Locum Basic Grade Medical Laboratory Scientist</i>
Rita Greene	<i>Locum Medical Secretary Grade III</i>
Carmel O'Regan	<i>Locum Clerical Officer Grade III - Switchboard/Reception</i>
Silvia Marcos	<i>Temporary Ward Attendant</i>

May

Mary Daly	<i>Locum Clerical Officer Grade III</i>
Eleanor Forde	<i>Permanent Part-time Clerical Officer III</i>
Rachel Acton	<i>Permanent Basic Grade Radiographer</i>
Mary Rodgers	<i>Locum Medical Secretary Grade III</i>
Dympna Coleman	<i>Locum Medical Secretary Grade III</i>
Andrew Owen	<i>Locum Basic Grade Radiographer</i>
Catrina Jones	<i>Locum Catering Assistant</i>
Jacinta McCarthy	<i>Locum Catering Assistant</i>
Catrina O'Connor	<i>Locum Catering Assistant</i>
Deborah Murphy	<i>Locum Catering Assistant</i>
Liam McCarthy	<i>Locum Catering Assistant</i>
Peter Callanan	<i>Locum Catering Assistant</i>
Rioghach Murphy	<i>Locum Catering Assistant</i>
Vicky Leahy	<i>Temporary Part-time Laundry Operative</i>
Marie O'Connor	<i>Permanent Job Share Clerical Officer Grade III</i>
Bridget Murray	<i>Locum Clerical Officer Grade III</i>
Susan Leigh O'Hara	<i>Temporary Staff Nurse</i>

June

Margaret McKiernan	<i>Permanent Clinical Nurse Manager III(CCU/HDU/ICU) (Job Share)</i>
Anne O'Callaghan	<i>Permanent Clerical Officer Grade III</i>
Tara Friel	<i>Permanent Speech & Language Therapy Manager</i>
Maire O'Sullivan	<i>Staff Nurse – Oncology</i>
Paula Deasy	<i>Temporary Medical Laboratory Assistant</i>

July

Anne O'Neill	<i>Permanent Ward Attendant</i>
Cara Roche	<i>Locum Laboratory Assistant</i>
Anne-Marie McCarthy	<i>Temporary Clerical Officer Grade III</i>
Liam Corcoran	<i>Permanent Laundry Operative</i>
Albert Wolohan	<i>Temporary Laundry Operative</i>
Edel O'Connor	<i>Locum Basic Grade Radiographer</i>
Caroline Reddington	<i>Locum Human Resource Officer</i>
Ciara Dennehy	<i>Temporary Clerical Officer Grade III</i>
Brenda Davis	<i>Locum Part-Time Social Worker – Oncology</i>

August

Paula Cronin	<i>Locum Basic Grade Radiographer</i>
Declan Hanly	<i>Temporary Porter</i>
Blake Ray	<i>Permanent Porter</i>
Colman Murray	<i>Permanent Porter</i>
Leone Riordan	<i>Permanent Job Share Clerical Officer Grade III (nights)</i>
Anne Williams	<i>Permanent Job Share Clerical Officer Grade IV</i>
Catrina Mulcair	<i>Locum Bank Ward Attendant</i>
Imelda McGinn	<i>Locum Bank Ward Attendant</i>
Jamie Murphy	<i>Temporary Ward Attendant</i>
Rita Linehan	<i>Temporary Ward Attendant</i>
Muriel Maher	<i>Permanent Medical Laboratory Assistant</i>
Shane Mullins	<i>Locum Stores Porter</i>

September

Dolores Minehan	<i>Temporary Medical Laboratory Scientist</i>
Elizabeth O'Mahoney	<i>Permanent Clinical Nurse Manager II - Radiology</i>
Susan Hillard	<i>Permanent Staff Nurse</i>
Mark Loughrey	<i>Temporary Staff Nurse</i>

October

Trudy Caffrey	<i>Temporary Health & Safety Officer (Grade VI)</i>
Sinead Healy	<i>Permanent Ward Attendant</i>
Emma Halloran	<i>Permanent Ward Attendant</i>
Ann Buckley	<i>Permanent Ward Attendant</i>
Sandra O'Halloran	<i>Permanent Ward Attendant</i>
George O'Callaghan	<i>Permanent Porter</i>
Niall O'Donovan	<i>Permanent Ward Attendant</i>
Sarah Chaniker	<i>Temporary Ward Attendant</i>
Claire O'Connell	<i>Temporary Ward Attendant</i>
Emma Delaney	<i>Temporary Ward Attendant</i>
Martina Hughes	<i>Permanent Job Clinical Placement Co-ordinator</i>
Saurabh Kaushik	<i>Locum Basic Grade Physiotherapist</i>
Sinead Hurley	<i>Temporary Grade IV</i>

November

Avril Gleeson	<i>Temporary Staff Nurse Job Share</i>
Gillian McCabe	<i>Temporary Staff Nurse</i>
Majella Currane	<i>Temporary Staff Nurse Job Share</i>
Alison O'Gorman	<i>Temporary Staff Nurse Job Share</i>
Aoife O'Donovan	<i>Temporary Staff Nurse Job Share</i>
Amy Edwards	<i>Temporary Staff Nurse Job Share</i>
Elaine Foley	<i>Temporary Staff Nurse</i>
Audrey Allen	<i>Temporary Staff Nurse Job Share</i>
Dolores O'Keefe	<i>Temporary Staff Nurse Job Share</i>
Edel Ryan	<i>Temporary Staff Nurse Job Share</i>
Susan O'Keefe	<i>Temporary Staff Nurse Job Share</i>
Catrina Ryan	<i>Temporary Staff Nurse Job Share</i>
Karen O'Leary	<i>Temporary Staff Nurse Part-time</i>
Fiona Lynch	<i>Temporary Staff Nurse</i>
Niamh McCarthy	<i>Temporary Staff Nurse</i>
Anne Collins	<i>Temporary Staff Nurse</i>
Erica Murphy	<i>Temporary Staff Nurse</i>
Elizabeth Murphy	<i>Temporary Staff Nurse</i>
Paul Hales	<i>Temporary Chef Grade II</i>
Grace Goulding	<i>Temporary Catering Assistant</i>
Patricia Hartnett	<i>Temporary Catering Assistant</i>
Niamh Kelleher	<i>Temporary Ward Attendant</i>
Sinead Tiernan	<i>Temporary Ward Attendant</i>
Simon Shannon	<i>Locum Laundry Operative</i>
Mary Sheehan	<i>Locum Catering Assistant</i>

December

Lavril O'Regan	<i>Permanent Job Share Clerical Officer Grade III</i>
Lorraine Keohane	<i>Locum Clerical Officer Grade III</i>
Barry O'Callaghan	<i>Temporary Porter</i>
Annette Martin	<i>Temporary Clerical Officer Grade IV</i>



occupational health weekly weigh-ins

The Dietetic Department in conjunction with the Occupational Health Department provide a Weekly Weigh-in (for Mercy University Hospital employees only).

Venue – Room 419, 4th floor Nurses Home (opposite Occupational Health Office).

Time – Thursday, between 2pm & 2.30pm

Fee – 1 Euro (for charity & prizes)

Your weight will be taken by a Dietitian or an Occupational Health Nurse.

Interested? – Just attend the above venue at the designated time.

Please Note –

- X Not an individual dietary counsel
- ✓ Yes, a confidential service
- X Not to interfere with your work priorities
- ✓ Yes, healthy eating booklets available

staffnews

Best wishes and congratulations to all staff who became engaged, got married or had a new addition to their families in 2003.

We encourage all staff to contact any one of the Editorial Committee members with individual staff news items you may have for the next newsletter.

human resources department news

continued

consultant appointments

Welcome to the following consultants who joined Mercy University Hospital during 2003.

Dr. Peter MacEneaney	Consultant Radiologist
Dr. Olivia O'Mahony	Consultant Paediatric Neurologist
Dr. Iomhar O'Sullivan	Consultant in Accident and Emergency Medicine

Two further posts have been approved by Comhairle na nOspidéal and appointments will be made in 2004.

Consultant Cardiologist
Consultant Physician in Respiratory Medicine

retirements

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

Ellen Teresa McSweeney	Senior Staff Nurse
Sr. Laurentia Roche	Director of Nursing
Mary Thornton	Staff Nurse

staff christmas party 2003

A big thank you to all the members of the Catering Department who worked very hard to make the evening enjoyable for the rest of us.



Michael Mulry, Catering Manager, in the midst of the festivities.

a multi-cultural community

Irish society has evolved into a multi-cultural community in recent times; and Mercy University Hospital is proud to have reflected this over many years.

We are fortunate to have staff members from a variety of nationalities and cultures and realise that our Hospital, staff and patients benefit from this cross section of people. We wish to reflect this facet of our workforce in the 'Mercy Times' and provide you with an opportunity to submit an article for subsequent issues. Articles may reflect the history of your country, your culture, your language, or your experience of working in Ireland.

Submissions for consideration can be forwarded to:
Clare Horgan: Ext. 5628 e-mail: chorgan@muh.ie
Mary Twohig: Ext. 5267 e-mail: mtwohig@muh.ie
Tony O'Regan: Ext. 5310 e-mail: toregan@muh.ie

supplies department

*An ocean of eleven as you will see,
We are the Supplies Department of the Mercy.
From Monday to Friday from 9 to 5,
We are here to give a service with a big smile!*

*With Paul, Simon, Ian and Gavin to maintain and
Distribute all that you require from day to day with their
(Ferrari) trolley.
Nothing too big or too small to be of assistance,
We will give you top class when it comes to your requisition!*

*With Michael and Denis busily typing those orders,
We have Jason and Tricia in their contracts corners,
Sweating day and night! To get the right price.*

*As Marion sits in her office dealing with all of our repairs,
We have Sinead and Mags maintaining the stock to ensure
that our affairs, Are solid as a rock.*

*Now that you have met us,
Why not give us a call.
And lets hope in the future,
We can give you our all.*

Margaret Normile