

FORWARD MIDLOTHIAN DISABLED



Midlothian Community Hospital a step closer

On the 11th March 2009 Bill Robertson, Executive Chairman of Robertson, Charles Winstanley, Chair NHS Lothian, Eddie Egan, Chair of Midlothian Community Health Partnership and Councillor Derek Milligan, Leader of Midlothian Council attended a sod-cutting event was held at Mayshade South, near Bonnyrigg to mark the beginning of work on the new £18m Midlothian Community Hospital.

The new Midlothian Community Hospital is the latest partnership between Robertson and the NHS in Scotland. The new community hospital will provide 88 beds - 40 elderly continuing care beds and 48 elderly mental health beds, comprising 24 assessment beds and 24 continuing care beds for older people with mental health problems.

The new healthcare facility will also include a day hospital for older people with mental health problems, a dedicated physiotherapy and occupational therapy service, an out-patient department, including x-ray service, child health clinics, and a range of other health services.



Lothian's out-of-hours service for Midlothian will relocate to the new hospital which currently operates from the former Bonnyrigg Health Centre.

Robertson Executive chairman, Bill Robertson, said: "Robertson has a strong history of delivering healthcare facilities in partnership with the NHS, and this latest community hospital will provide modern and appropriate facilities.

"We have been involved with this planned development since its inception and are very excited by the prospect of working in partnership with NHS Lothian to deliver the

purpose-built facility. It's great to finally break the ground on this project which will provide a fantastic healthcare facility for the people of Midlothian."

Charles Winstanley, Chair, NHS Lothian, described the event as a 'momentous occasion': "This significant development shows our commitment to providing high quality healthcare services within local communities."

The estimated completion date for the hospital is Spring 2010.

Manage your diabetes on-line

Diabetes is an unseen disability, Type 2 diabetes is on the increase, one major cause of this is obesity and is usually controlled using oral medication. Type 1 Diabetes usually occurs in children and young adults, this is usually controlled by taking insulin by injection this type of diabetes can have many complications.

Two new web sites have been created for on-line support for patients across the Lothians. The first is from NHS Lothian and can be found at <http://www.nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk/ourservices/diabetes/>.

It provides Information on diet and exercise, the types of treatment available and advice for patients and carers are also provided on line.

This web site is not user friendly and is difficult to find exactly what you are looking for.

One redeeming feature is that it has links to another web site called <http://www.mydiabetesmyway.scot.nhs.uk/> My Diabetes My Way' is a Scottish website, which offers

support to patients and carers through games, educational tools, videos and on-line leaflets.

It encourages patients to find out more about diabetes and how it can affect their own body and lifestyle.

This is a well designed website that is suitable for children and adults with little knowledge of computing it is easy to navigate around it supplies information from pharmaceutical companies

Visitors to the site can also find out more about the Diabetes Buddy Service, where patients are paired up with a trained volunteer who they can share experiences with.

Each buddy either has diabetes, or is caring for a partner, parent or child with diabetes. Their role is to share the problems or concerns of other patients who are living with diabetes.

As well as containing patient information, there is a section with information for healthcare professionals.

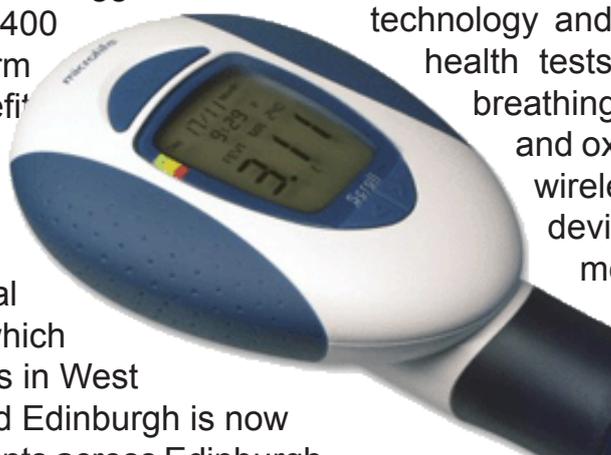
Hi-Tech Health care for COPD patients across the Lothians

This initiative is one of the biggest in the United Kingdom. 400 patients with long term conditions set to benefit from the innovative telehealth personal healthcare system

The telehealth personal healthcare system which was piloted in practices in West Lothian, Midlothian and Edinburgh is now being rolled out to patients across Edinburgh and the Lothians.

The state of the art high tech system allows people with chronic conditions, such as Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) to monitor their own conditions on a daily basis at home. The telehealth personal

healthcare system uses touch screen technology and can undertake a range of health tests including blood pressure, breathing, weight and blood glucose and oxygen levels. It also provides wireless connections to medical devices such as peak flow meters and weight scales.



Health Secretary Nicola Sturgeon said: "Using technology in innovative ways like this can transform people's lives.

This touch-screen technology, co-funded by the Scottish Government, will save hundreds of people from making repeated trips into hospital, making a huge difference to their quality of life.

Midlothian *Moving Forward*

Community Planning for Midlothian

Workshop on Issues for Disabled People in Midlothian

Equal lives for Disabled People in Midlothian?



Midlothian

Purpose of Workshop

To discuss and identify barriers that prevent Disabled People in Midlothian from participating in society and living an ordinary life.

To identify what the Midlothian Community Planning Partnership can do to progress these issues.

Community Planning is about public agencies and the community working together to plan and deliver better services. People attending will include both staff from these organisations and members of the community.

Event Details

Date: Monday 15th June 2009

Time:

Location: Gorebridge Primary School, 2C Barleyknowe Lane, Gorebridge EH23 4AX.

Access

Parking spaces, including disabled persons

parking bays, are available, please let us know when registering so that we can ensure there will be enough spaces.

Alternatively buses that stop outside the school are Lothian 3/3A that terminate at Birkenside/Gorebridge, 29 that terminate at Birkenside/Gorebridge. First Bus 86/86A/X86 that terminate at Birkenside/Gorebridge. 303 This bus is not Wheelchair accessible. Munros of Jedburgh 529.

The school is accessible. It would be helpful if you could also let us know if you have any specific requirements for example hearing loop or large print etc.

To Book a place

Please contact us with your details:

Telephone: 0131-271-3072

Minicom: 0131-271-3291

Fax: 0131-271-3372

E-mail: equality@midlothian.gov.uk

Letter: Employee Development and Equalities Team, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith EH22 1DJ

Help With Adaption's To Your Home

The Scottish Government has designed a information guide for disabled people in private housing in Scotland.

This leaflet is for people living in privately owned housing. It tells you about the help available from the local council with the cost of adapting a home for a disabled person.

A revised system of assistance was introduced in April 2009. Councils are required by law to provide assistance in certain circumstances, but in other situations can decide what to offer. They must provide information about what help they will provide in each circumstance.

Help adapting your home is available if you have a need that is deemed a priority for assistance by your council. This will be established by an assessment of your circumstances to see what sort of difficulties you are facing in your home and what might be the best way of helping you.

Where necessary, the assessment will also look at the needs of other family members living with you, including anyone who helps care for you.

The local council will decide whether your need is a priority – in other words, how urgently you need help. Each council has its own system for doing this and should give you information about it.



Sometimes the assessment may decide that instead of adapting your home another option – such as moving to a different property – is the best way of meeting your need. If this is the case, the council will work with you to explore your

options.

If you are unhappy with the outcome of the assessment you should ask the council's social work department how you can appeal.

If you are still unhappy after the appeal, you may want to contact the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman on 0800 377 7330, SPSO Freepost EH641, Edinburgh EH3 0BR or ask@spsos.org.uk

For more information please visit <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/266465/0079748.pdf>

Ricability the Which for Older people and Disabled People

Ricability is an independent consumer research charity providing free, practical and unbiased reports for older and disabled people.

They tests of products and services for disabled and older people to give you the facts you need to help you choose.

They have just added Digital audio

Broadcasting (DAB), televisions and the measurements of over 400 cars, so if you are looking to replace your car you can find out the height to boot lid for lifting in wheelchairs, which cars can carry wheelchairs both folded and unfolded.

Fancy being doing a bit of reviewing yourself then please visit Ricability to find out more at <http://www.ricability.org.uk/>

Alternative Publications

The editions of the Forward MID newsletters are available in large print or at www.forwardmid.org.uk
For alternative publication please E-mail to eric.johnstone@mvacva.org.uk or call Eric Johnstone on 0131-663-9471 or write to him at MVA 4-6 White Hart Street, Dalkeith EH22 1AE with your request.