

Choose

South Tyneside 
NHS Foundation Trust

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Dear Member

MEMBERS' UPDATE – AUTUMN 2010

I hope you all enjoyed reading the Members' Update letter which was sent out to you in April this year. You will know that the NHS has been asked to make some financial savings so we plan to send these letters to you rather than a glossy magazine and I hope you will understand our reasons for doing so.

1. ELECTION OF GOVERNORS

Elections will take place in December this year for Public Governors in Hebburn, Jarrow and East Shields areas and for Clinical and Non Clinical Staff Governors. Election information will be posted to members in these areas in October and I would be very grateful if you could complete and return your voting papers.

If you are a Trust member in any of these constituencies, you can stand as a Governor. Information on how to do this will be posted to you with your election pack. As you know, Governors appoint the Chairman and Non Executive Directors so this is your chance to influence how health services are run in South Tyneside. PLEASE USE YOUR VOTE!

2. OPERATION THANK YOU 2010

The 2010 Awards Ceremony will take place in November 2010, at Temple Park Leisure Centre and we will be seeking nominations for Employee of the Year, Team of the Year or Volunteer of the Year in October. If you would like to nominate a person or a team who you feel have made an excellent contribution to health services in South Tyneside, please leave your name and address on the Membership Line (0191) 202 4121 and a nomination form will be posted out to you.

3. ANNUAL MEMBERS' MEETING

The next Annual Members' Meeting will be held on 6th December 2010. We have planned an exciting new event for you this year. We are going to arrange "Members Only" tours to the following areas:-

- The new Emergency Centre – as mentioned in my last update letter, the construction of the new adult & children's A&E areas are scheduled for completion in early December 2010. We are offering an exclusive opportunity to see these new areas before the building is open to the general public. There will be a fun quiz with a prize of a luxury hamper for all those who attend.
- An operating theatre – we have arranged tours of an operating theatre so that you can see where operations are carried out. *Please be assured that we are using a theatre which would not have been used on that day – no operations have been cancelled!*

DON'T FORGET – Foundation Trust members can find excellent discounts from a wide range of stores and companies on www.nhsdiscounts.com/

- The catering department – we have arranged a display of various types of menus, i.e. for patients with coeliac disease. In addition, we will have taster pots of food for you to try.
- The Endoscopy Unit – a brief tour of our excellent unit and see a display of the work that takes place here
- There will also be a display by our wonderful volunteers who are always looking for new members to support their valuable work.

The event will start at 1.00 p.m. and we will arrange several visits to each of the areas across the next couple of hours. We hope you will then be able to join us for the formal Annual Members Meeting at 4.00 p.m. where the results of elections will be announced

Numbers on these tours will, unfortunately, be limited. If you would like a ticket for any of the tours, please contact the Membership Line on (0191) 202 4121. This line is manned during office hours but you can leave a message on the answering machine at other times.

4. MEDICINE FOR MEMBERS EVENTS

Thanks to all public and staff members who have come along to our recent Medicine for Members presentations. Our next events are as follows:-

- i. ***COMMUNITY PALLIATIVE CARE SERVICES (End of Life Care) – 3.00 p.m. on Wednesday 24th November 2010 in the Lecture Theatre, Education Centre, South Tyneside District Hospital.***
- ii. ***ACUTE RESPIRATORY ASSESSMENT SERVICE – 2.30 p.m. on Wednesday 19th January 2011 (venue as above)***

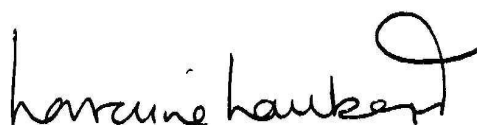
Light refreshments will be available half an hour before the presentations.

As you know, these are free for members and are designed to give you more information about some of the services we offer here at South Tyneside. If you would like to come along, please telephone our membership line on (0191) 202 4121, leave your name and address and we will send a ticket out to you.

5. MEMBERSHIP

We are always keen to increase our membership numbers. If you know anyone who would like to be a member, please let them know that they can join online at www.stft.nhs.uk or they can telephone our membership line (0191) 202 4121 and our staff will be happy to help. You must be 16 years or over and live in South Tyneside.

I hope you have found this update interesting and informative. Thank you for your continued interest and support. With very best wishes.



Lorraine Lambert
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

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