



Renal News

ISSUE 4



Dr Clara Day
Renal Consultant

Welcome to Renal News

Welcome to the fourth edition of Renal News – our renal dialysis service bulletin. As you know by now, there is lots going on in our haemodialysis programme and we aim to keep you up-to-date with all the changes, and how you can find more information about the various moves, through this monthly newsletter.

In addition to the newsletter, you can also visit our website www.uhb.nhs/renal to view all the editions of Renal News and see artist impressions of the units.

If there is anything we haven't covered in our newsletter that you would like to know, please do get in touch using the details on the rear page and will do our best to answer your question.

Dr Clara Day
Renal Consultant

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University Hospitals Birmingham
NHS Foundation Trust

Welcome to the team

Meet Gabby Kelly. Gabby has recently been appointed as a professional development nurse (PDN) for the UHB renal dialysis team.

As a professional development nurse, Gabby will deliver training programmes across all of the dialysis units and support the nursing teams to deliver personalised care. Her role also involves auditing and compliance to ensure care is delivered to the highest possible standard.



“My role is to support and develop staff so they are confident in every aspect of a patient's care”

Gabby Kelly

Gabby began her career as a dialysis nurse 13 years ago at the Tipton unit. Since then she has worked in various dialysis roles over the years including home haemodialysis and most recently in research, where she was involved in educating staff and patients on the benefits of research trials.

“My role is to support and develop staff so they are confident in every aspect



Gabby Kelly
Professional Development Nurse

of a patient's care – not just operating equipment – so that our patients are well looked after and their experience is as positive as possible,” explains Gabby.

During November, Gabby will be based at Great Bridge but will then work across all sites.

She added: “There is lots of preparation going on behind the scenes to ensure there is a seamless transfer, and my focus is making sure both staff and patients are as comfortable as possible.

“During the transition from the old buildings to the new units, I will be supporting the nursing teams to help everyone settle in to their new environment – I will answer questions, show people where things are and make sure it all runs as smoothly as possible.”

Renal Outpatients nominated for award

The Renal Outpatients Team has been nominated for a Best in Care Award. The Best in Care Awards are held annually by the Trust to recognise those teams and individuals who go the extra mile and deliver exceptional care.

Dr Clara Day, Renal Consultant said: “It is such a lovely surprise to be nominated and we are very humbled by it. We'd like to thank those patients who took the trouble to recommend the team – this show of appreciation really does mean a lot to us.”

A trip down memory lane

With plans for the new Aston unit moving forward, Renal Dialysis Matron, Liz Simpson has been taking a trip down memory lane to when the current Aston Cross unit was officially opened in December 1995.

Liz joined the team at Aston Cross unit on Rocky Lane as a renal dialysis nurse and later went on to be a team leader before becoming a matron.

She said: "I was given these old pictures from Aston Cross recently and it really was a trip down memory lane.

"You may also notice a much younger portrait of me as well as my colleagues Gill Sparkes, the unit manager, Dr Richards and Dr Michael.

"Lord Lichfield presided over the official opening of the dialysis unit back in 1995, which at the time was run by National Medicare, which later became Fresenius.

"He met the staff and some of the patients there – amazingly some of those patients are still dialysing at Aston today.

"In those days there were only 21 stations in the unit but other than that nothing really has changed – the layout is very much the same as it was and so too are the faces!"



Lord Lichfield meets staff and patients including the first patient Pete Kumar

Amongst those who appear in the photograph is Pete Kumar. Pete, who now dialyses at home, was the very first patient to enter the doors at Aston Cross.

"My time at Aston was great," explains Pete. "I was the very first patient there; in fact I think I was the first person through the doors. I even beat the dialysis chairs, which didn't arrive until my second visit.

"At that time, there were only two patients – me and a lady called Mary – but before you knew it there were three

rows; the blue, red and green teams.

"We had some really good times and we made it fun – it was like one big family on the unit.

"We had tea and toast at eleven o'clock and on the evening shifts we ordered in pizza – I bet you wouldn't get away with that now.

"I'd love to visit the new unit. At least with lots of TVs, there will be no fights over the remote!"



Liz Simpson meets Lord Lichfield



Official opening, December 1995



Lord Lichfield meets staff

Do you have a memory you would like to share?

We would love to hear from any patient who has been dialysing at their unit since it first opened, so if you want to tell us your story, please get in touch by calling the UHB

Communications Team on 0121 627 2023 or email communications@uhb.nhs.uk

Aston Kidney Treatment Centre

The Aston Kidney Treatment Centre is the final of four units being relocated to newly refurbished premises. The Aston facility will be located at Aqueous One, Rocky Lane, Aston, just a short walk from the existing unit.

The new dialysis centre will have 20 dialysis stations, 4 side rooms, 2 clinic rooms as well as a light waiting area, meeting rooms and staff amenities and changing facilities and training rooms.

The treatment areas all have external windows and patients will also benefit from new dialysis equipment, TV units in the bed space and Internet access.



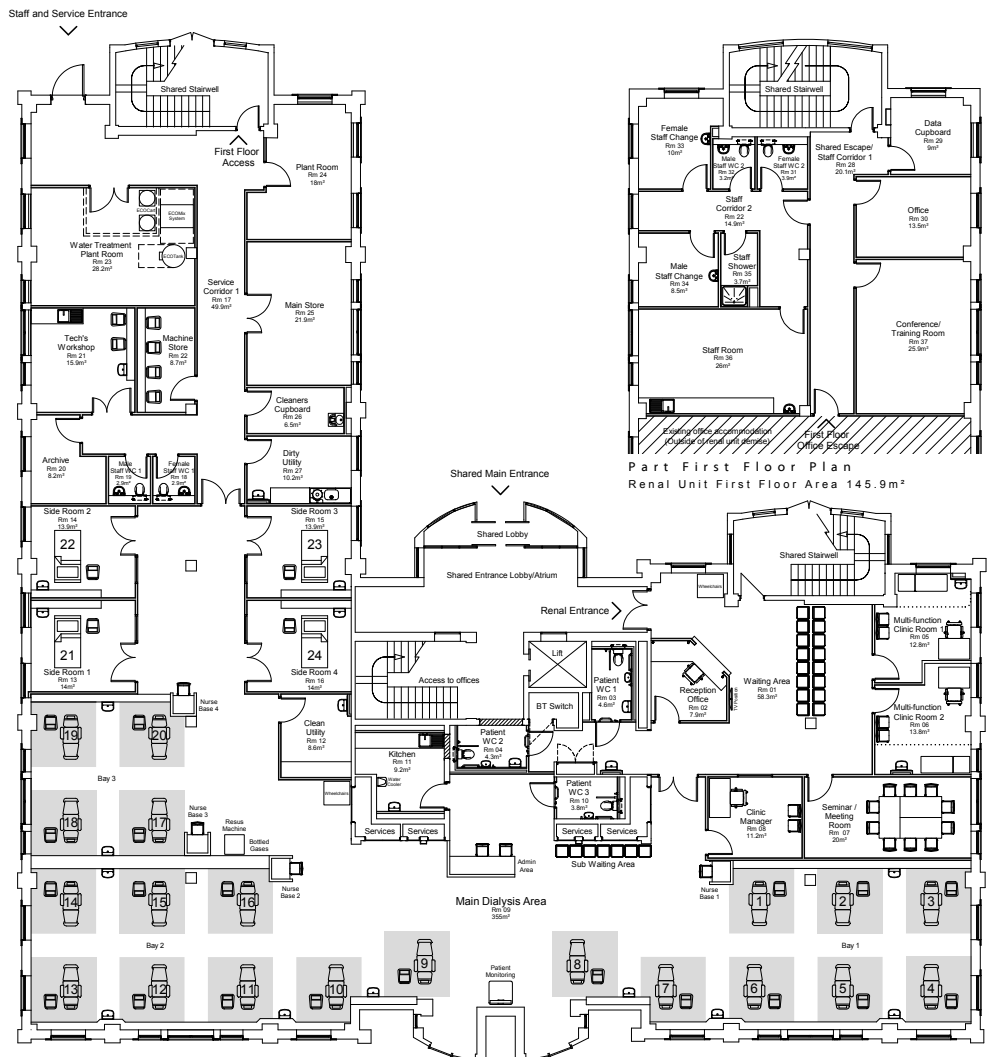
Exterior view of Aqueous One; new dialysis centre



Main reception



Typical dialysis chair



Aqueous One, Aston Cross Business Park, Rocky Lane, Aston, Birmingham, B6 5RQ.

NKF gives Great Bridge the thumbs up

The National Kidney Federation has commended work on the new Great Bridge dialysis centre following a recent visit to the site.

Mark Davis, West Midlands Advocacy Officer for the NKF who visited the Great Bridge unit during the second week in August said: "The unit seems to be progressing well with its refurbishment, and I was assured by Kim Beak (Diaverum

Project Manager) that it will be opening on time.

"The design easily meets all the necessary requirements set by the Department of Health for a satellite dialysis unit, and it is pleasing to know that renal patients under the care of UHB have been able to address any concerns they have had directly.

"There are plenty of windows to allow

natural sunlight into the unit, and it appears that there will be more than enough free parking spaces for all patients who drive themselves in for their treatment.

"The unit is still very much work-in-progress, but it is looking very positive from a patient perspective. And don't forget, I am a renal patient myself!"

Smile for the camera!

Over the last few weeks we have been taking photos of all the patients who dialyse at our dialysis units.

These photos will be used to help new staff or staff who have not met you before, to familiarise themselves with you and your dialysis needs.

Matron, Liz Simpson, explained: "During

the first few weeks in the new units, staff from the QEHB Gambro and Diaverum will be working in the unit so having a photograph of patients really helps the team get to know everyone personally and ensure that everyone's machines are set up to their individual requirements.

"We will keep your photo within your medical notes so that any new staff who join the team in the future can easily put

names to faces, and help them get to know you quicker."

Your photograph will be uploaded to your medical file notes on the clinical portal, which is a secure medical records database. Please be reassured that it will not be used for any other purpose. If you have a query regarding the photographs, please speak to a member of staff.

Join us for the Smethwick Open Day

In Spring 2015, UHB will open a new dialysis unit in Smethwick and whilst this date may seem far into the future, plans are already taking shape.

To give staff, patients and relatives the opportunity to see the plans and talk to the managers leading the project, we will be holding an Open Day on Sunday 14 September.

At the open day, you will hear from Matron Liz Simpson about how care will be delivered, recruitment and the training of staff.

You will also hear from the Sandycroft construction team, who will present the designs for the building and discuss the planned opening date.

UHB's Director of Communications, Fiona Alexander, will also discuss the

results of the patient surveys and how patients have been involved in branding the new unit, before showcasing some eye-catching designs.

Come along for a chat and refreshments.

Date: Sunday 14 September

Time: 2pm-3.30pm

Venue: Postgraduate Centre, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Edgbaston, B15 2TH

>> CONTACT US: If you have any questions or queries regarding dialysis services



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