

# The Newcastle Healthcare Charity

**The 2006/07 financial year has been a rewarding period for the charity in terms of growth, development and its strategic planning and has enabled the Trustees to meet a range of objectives in support of service delivery within the Newcastle Hospitals.**

**In terms of growth, income in the financial year (£1.8 million) rose by almost 60% on the previous year, highlighted by significant growth in terms of donations, legacies and fundraising.**

The Charity's income was boosted by an extremely generous contribution of £190,000 by former Newcastle United and England star, Alan Shearer, from the proceeds of his testimonial evening. This valuable gift was used by the Trustees to provide a new Ultrasound system and ventilator for the A & E Department at Newcastle General Hospital and the development of the Paediatric Laparoscopic theatre at the Royal Victoria Infirmary.

The Royal Victoria Infirmary's Centenary was celebrated by the Trustees with a range of fundraising and promotional events culminating in a Gala Concert at the Sage. The events raised

in excess of £45,000 for the Infirmary and we are grateful to the hard work and commitment of Sir Miles Irving and the Centenary Committee. As part of the celebrations, the first officially organised sponsored walk, specifically aimed at supporting the Newcastle Hospitals, was pioneered by the Charity and raised almost £5,000 for services at the RVI. This project will be developed as an annual fundraising event in aid of the Newcastle Hospitals and the NHS in general. The Trustees are also extremely grateful to the Newcastle Chinese Community who raised a further £34,000 in support of the RVI's Centenary Celebrations.

Special thanks are also extended to Dr Mary McElroy (Consultant Radiologist) and her supporters who raised more than £55,000 and this was used to purchase an Ultrasound Scanner for the Breast Unit.

The examples above provide a flavour of the valuable support received during the year. However, these sizeable contributions are simply symptomatic of the continual support and growth of the Charity within the local community. The Trustees are no less grateful for the thousands of individual contributions



received during the year from the work and generosity of fundraisers and donors alike.

Whilst highlighting the increasing levels of income the Trustees are equally pleased to report a record level of charitable commitments in support of services to the Newcastle Hospitals. During the year the charity committed in excess of £3 million in aid of a range of services and developments aimed at enhancing and improving the quality of care provided. As part of its commitment to supplementing and supporting the 'Transforming Newcastle Hospitals' programme, the Charity have earmarked £900,000 in support of a Trust-wide Surgical Training facility; £1 million as contribution to Tomotherapy equipment in the new Cancer Services Unit; £119,000 towards a 3D Intelligent Wayfinder System (RVI); £85,000 to the refurbishment of St Luke's Chapel (RVI); £25,000 to the Newcastle Hospitals Communication Strategy and £10,000 to the Art & Design work for the new Children's Unit at the RVI. The extent of the support is representative of the overall commitment to supplementing and supporting the overall plans and future aims of the Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and its management team. The Trustees have worked closely with the Trust in providing support where it is most needed and where enhancements can be most beneficial to the overall service.

Supporting innovative medical research remains a high priority within the Charity's overall objectives and a further £565,000 was provided in support of twenty research projects

recommended to the Charity by the Joint Research Executive Scientific Committee. We have committed £8 million pounds to medical research projects in the last seven years and ensures that funding of this nature is made available to our best local researchers and benefits the local population.

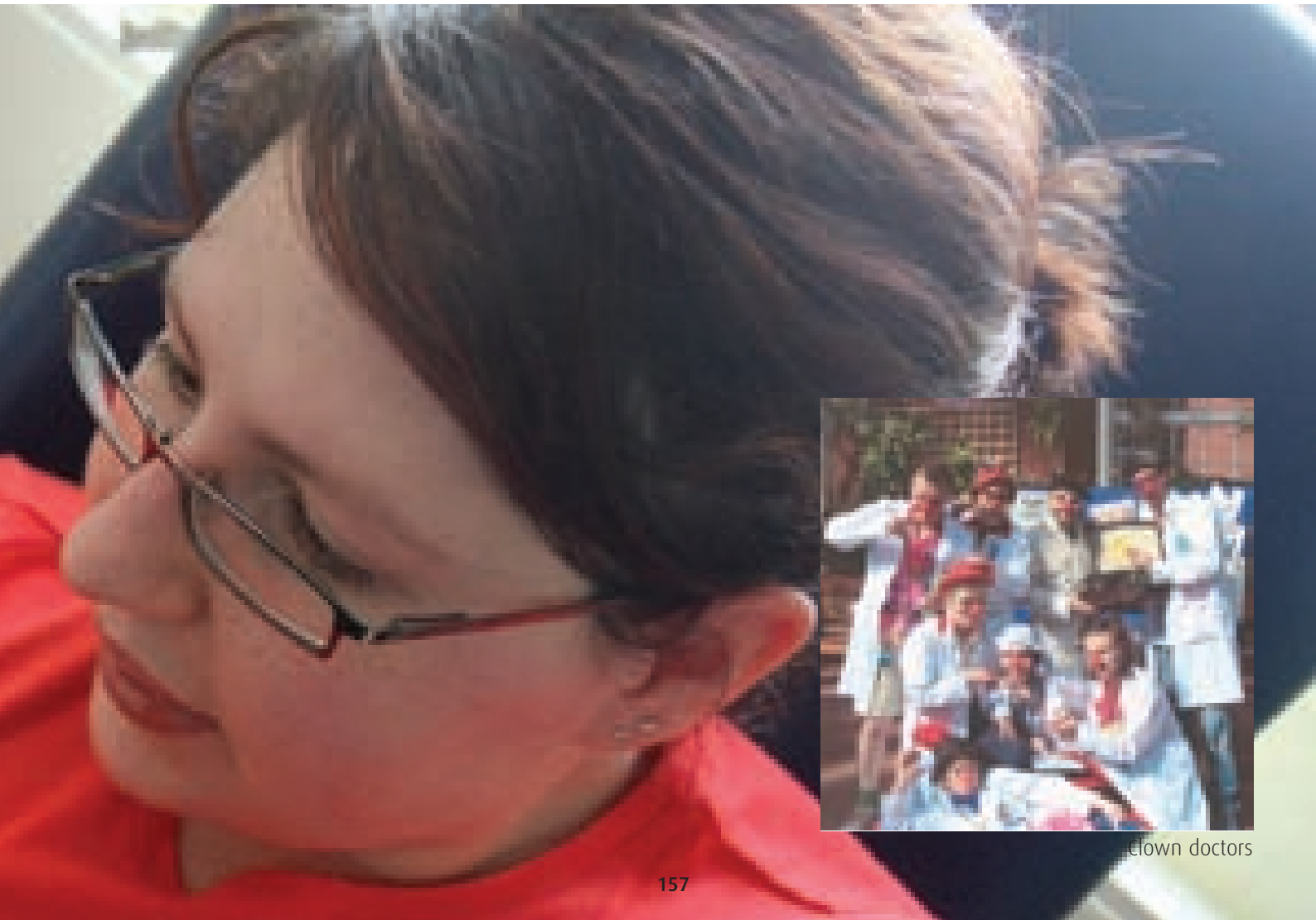
In identifying some of the large-scale commitments, it should also be noted that the Charity made in excess of two hundred smaller grants (below £5,000) aimed at providing a wide range of benefits, which ultimately enhances the patient experience and the environment in which the service is delivered.

Finally the Charity has made significant strides in the last twelve months in raising its profile, increasing income streams and providing added benefit to the work of the Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. The Trustees are committed to supporting the exciting new developments planned by the Trust within the 'Transforming Newcastle Hospitals' programme.

This support has only been made possible by the exceptional generosity of our local population, business associates, fundraisers and individuals who have provided the ultimate act of kindness by pledging bequests in support of our local hospitals. On behalf of the Trustees, I would like to relay our immense gratitude to everyone who has provided the financial support and general goodwill which has enabled the charity to continue its support for our local NHS hospitals.

**Ken Grey**  
*Chairman*

May 2007



Clown doctors