

Thursday 7 November 2024

Remembrance Sunday/Remembrance Day Remembrance Sunday is this Sunday (10 November), and Remembrance Day takes place on Monday (11 November). All staff are supported to observe the traditional two minutes silence on these days, as desired.

Scotland's Health Awards The very best of luck to our finalists in Scotland's Health Awards, taking place tonight in Edinburgh.

As a reminder, we are represented in the following categories:

- Leader – Katy Styles (Realistic Medicine)
- Midwife – Jacqueline Keddie (Midwifery Lead for Moray).
- Nurse – Anne-Marie Jackson (ANP in Aberdeen) and Susan Flannery (Project Manager, migraine project)
- Volunteers – therapets Bronte, Bentley, Barley, and Brooke – along with their owners Colin and Jacqui Finnie

Regardless of the results tonight, they're already winners in our eyes!

Varicella-Zoster Virus Update Please be aware, the revised NHS Grampian Staff Protocol for the Management of Patients in NHS Healthcare Settings with Varicella-Zoster Virus is now live on the Infection Prevention & Control Intranet page. It can be accessed via the following link [Pages - Policies and Protocols \(scot.nhs.uk\)](#)

Top cancer award for ARI Congratulations to our haematology team who were presented with the Myeloma UK Clinical Service Excellence Programme (CSEP) Award this week in recognition of their outstanding care and dedication to people with myeloma. Read the full [news release](#).

Binning the desk bins Desk bins are to be removed across all sites in an effort to increase recycling rates, reduce waste disposal costs and impact positively on colleagues' health. [Read the full update](#) (networked devices only).

Gentamicin and vancomycin calculators Please ensure NHS Grampian dosing calculators are used for gentamicin and vancomycin. Instructions on how to access these, including via the Evidence icon on TrakCare, are available in this [intranet news article](#) (networked devices only).

Confidential Waste Bags Currently, there is a shortage of confidential waste bags from our supplier, resulting in numerous overfilled bags being encountered by the Porters during collection from wards and office areas.

We kindly request that these bags be filled only to the maximum line indicated on the exterior to prevent them from exceeding a weight that the Porters can safely lift.

Any bags that are overfilled will need to be divided into two, if feasible; otherwise, they may be left until additional bags can be procured.

Independent Chair for Alcohol and Drug Partnership Our colleagues at Aberdeenshire Council are seeking a dynamic and inspiring leader to join their team at the Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP). For more information [click here](#).

Tune of the day Ladies and gentlemen, the King has left the building... George King that is... and, despite having his retirement presentation on Wednesday, I'm assured he's still cleaning out his office.

George has spent close to 50 years working here at NHS Grampian – and was preceded by both his mum and dad, who each spent around 30 years working for the health board. With both his daughters now working for us, the family has close to 120 years of combined service.

His friend and colleague, Lucy McLeod told us: “George was born in the maternity hospital and brought up in the staff accommodation at Foresterhill - George has literally been onsite for 65 years now.

“He started work at ARI on his 16th birthday in Laboratory Medicine and is leaving as a unit operational manager. He is well known, highly respected and will be greatly missed.”

To mark George's departure, here's the Steely Dan classic [Reeling in the Years](#).

From all of us at the Brief, we wish you all the best in retirement, George. (GC)

If you want to request a tune, follow up on items included in this brief, or suggest an item for sharing, drop us an email via gram.communications@nhs.scot