

INSIDE TODAY

Stars get behind our Good Deeds campaign
Pages 6, 7, 8 and 9



Is Henri on his way?

Back page and nottinghampost.com/sport

Nottingham Post

60p TUESDAY AUGUST 11, 2015

nottinghampost.com



Page 27 and nottinghampost.com/entertainment

Meet the stars of a new BBC show... and they all skate in Nottingham

baby and toddler of the year



Page 10 and nottinghampost.com/sport

Scandal of dirty wards

Cleaning firm's failures put patients at risk in city hospitals

By Peter Blackburn
Health Correspondent
peter.blackburn@nottinghampost.com

PATIENTS caught superbugs in city hospital wards after the private firm paid £200 million to clean them failed to do its job properly.

The number of hospital beds out of action due to outbreaks of viruses almost doubled under the care of Carilion, which has a contract to maintain the City Hospital and Queen's Medical Centre.

A decontamination unit has now been set up by NHS bosses and dirty

wards are being deep-cleaned. Nurses are also being trained to do more cleaning.

But patients say the news, published in a report by Nottingham Hospitals University Trust, is "beyond belief".

David Jones, chairman of Nottingham Pensioners' Action Group, said two of the group's members had recently contracted infections while in hospital. He said: "This is a major concern. It's quite worrying that we've had two members who have had problems recently where they have been in hospital and caught infections; it takes a long time to recover.

"Members have been worried about the fact that it has gone out to private contract because companies need to keep that profitability. This is the effect that we are seeing now.

"We expect the contract to be met, considering all the money they are being given."

Martin Gawith, chairman of Healthwatch Nottingham, which represents patients in the city, said: "Patients and carers are not bothered who these services are contracted with but they expect a safe and clean environment for their relatives to be treated in.

"It really is beyond belief in this day

and age that we are seeing hospital wards that are not being cleaned properly. They need to get on top of it immediately."

The number of times a hospital bed could not be used due to an outbreak of clostridium difficile or norovirus almost doubled in 2014-15, compared with the previous year. During the course of the year 1,390 bed days – the total number of occasions where a bed could not be given to a patient due to outbreaks – were lost, a massive rise from 779 the previous year. That averages out at

Continues: Page 2

The LOST CITY Adventure Golf

It's our 2nd Birthday!

Come down and join us on Saturday August 15th!

Festivities throughout the day include Face Painting, Salsa Dancing, Steel Drums, Live Music and a Giant Birthday Cake of course!

Bring along this bonus golf ball and claim your Free Slushie!

1 FREE Slushie

the corner house

@lostcitynotts | lostcitynotts | www.lostcityadventuregolf.com

Valid after 12pm until August 6th 2015



The team of NCS teenagers who helped transform the children's facilities at St John the Baptist Church.

Youngsters spruce up churches... and pay the bill!

YOUNG people brought divine intervention to two churches when they helped revamp children's facilities. The 15 Nottingham teenagers, aged 15 to 17, have added decorating, gardening and fundraising to their skills after sprucing up the play areas at Colwick's St John the Baptist Church, in Rectory Road, and St John the Baptist, in Oakdale Road, Carlton.

As well as raising money to buy the tools and paint, they cleared the overgrown grounds of weeds and debris. The group's hard work was part of the Government's National Citizenship Service (NCS), which aims to help young people build practical skills for work and life, as well as develop employability skills such as teamwork, budgeting, communications and confidence.

The group raised £1,200 for the makeover by organising a range of fundraising activities, including a five-mile three-legged walk and cycling the length of the River Trent against the clock on static bikes. Team mentor Carrie Parish said: "Our team has transformed a room used regularly by children at the church into a bright and colourful environment complete with low-level furniture and made the grounds around the side of the church accessible once again."

The Rev Amanda Digman said: "Having a team of young people to completely transform our Sunday school room and clear the back garden of all the mess has made, and will make, such a difference for the children and the church, and we're so grateful."

Worry over standards of cleaning at hospitals

By Peter Blackburn
Health Correspondent
peter.blackburn@nottinghampost.com

PATIENTS and families have raised concerns about cleaning standards at Nottingham's hospitals.

It comes after the Post reported that the number of hospital beds out of action due to outbreaks of viruses almost doubled under the care of private firm Carillion, which has a £200 million contract to maintain the City Hospital and Queen's Medical Centre. The company took over cleaning – as well as running car parks and kitchens and other back office functions – in June last year and patients say they have seen standards deteriorate since then. Clare Johnson, of Sherwood, was at the Queen's Medical Centre last week with her three-year-old son, who was having a tonsillectomy, and said she was shocked to see "grotty" toilets and dirty kitchens. She said: "I saw one cleaner the whole time I was on the ward. She just had a brush and walked around idly pushing it. I couldn't believe it. I've been in the past and been impressed with cleanliness but that seems to have changed."

outbreak of clostridium difficile or norovirus almost doubled in 2014-15, compared with the previous year. During the year 1,390 bed days – the total number of occasions where a bed could not be given to a patient due to outbreaks – were lost, a rise from 779 the previous year. Hospital bosses said there had been cleaning failures in "many wards" and improvements needed to be made.

On the Post's Facebook page several readers defended hospital staff. Cathleen Carey said: "These people save lives and do the best they can with what resources they have. I received amazing care when I was in City Hospital." Nicola Kirkham said: "All this negativity makes me mad. It's not the hospital or the staff, it's the Government. Nurses, Drs [and] health professionals are so overworked it's unbelievable."

Hospital bosses have set up a decontamination unit to tackle infection and dirty wards are being deep-cleaned. Nurses are being trained to do more cleaning.

A Carillion spokesman said: "Our staff work extremely hard in conjunction with wider nursing and NUH colleagues to provide a clean hospital. There is a 24/7 helpdesk for all Carillion and hospital staff to raise any cleaning concerns so we can react to any requests as quickly as possible."

Cleanliness audits will be carried out and signed off by experienced NHS nurses to ensure improvements are made.

Mandie Sunderland, NUH Chief Nurse, said: "We encourage patients, relatives and staff to raise concerns (including those about cleanliness) at the time to our ward teams or via the 24/7 helpline so that these can be rapidly addressed. Recent audits have found shortfalls in cleaning standards in some areas. We have raised our concerns with Carillion and require urgent improvements. We have upgraded the quality and frequency of audits to closely monitor performance and re-emphasised cleaning responsibilities to all staff. Our deep cleaning programme restarts at QMC next week focusing on the highest clinical risk areas first."



I wouldn't say they did a very good job of cleaning at the hospital
Amanda Allen

We'll buy your house today!

Do you need to sell a house you have inherited? Are you thinking of moving to a retirement home? Or do you just need to sell your house quickly?

- Timescale to suit - completion in as little as 7 days
- No viewings, no chain, no timewasters, no hassle
- All property types in any condition in England & Wales
- No unnecessary delays or complications - a straightforward sale
- No fees & no obligation

The UK's favourite house buying service

Call us free now and get your same day cash offer:
freephone: 0800 031 9094
from a mobile: 01978 227394
MoveAnyHouse.com

BUYING HOUSES FOR OVER 77 YEARS



A WEATHER warning has been issued by the Met Office as heavy rain and thunderstorms are set to sweep across the county today. It was previously predicted that the wet weather would hit as people travelled to work – but as the Post went to press, it was expected to hit at around 1am. Severn Trent is ready to tackle flash flooding. A Met Office spokesman said: "The public should be aware of a significant risk of very localised disruption to travel due to surface water flooding." But none of this bothered Megan Williamson, six, Maisie Williamson, five, both of Ilkeston and Teresa Marie Casey, six, of Aspley, as they played on the Nottingham Riviera yesterday.

PICTURE: JOSEPH RAYNOR

D'mello dental nurse suspended for a year

By Jon Pritchard
jonathan.pritchard@nottinghampost.com

A NURSE who worked alongside disgraced dentist Desmond D'Mello has been suspended from practising for 12 months.

Sally Hague, of Homefield Avenue, Arnold, worked at Daybrook Dental Practice alongside Mr D'mello, who sparked the biggest recall in NHS history when it was revealed he had flouted hygiene rules.

More than 22,000 people were notified and it was feared his former patients could have contracted blood-borne diseases such as hepatitis C. The extent of his misdemeanours were revealed when he was secretly filmed flouting hygiene laws on June 3, 2014. Mrs Hague's charges also relate to that date.

A General Dental Council committee heard her case in London this week and released a report yesterday.

It states she should have raised concerns about the workings at the practice, and that her failings were "serious and significant".

The charges included cleaning her teeth in the surgery hand sink, re-using equipment and failing to carry out hygienic hand washing. The report says: "Mrs Hague's failings were serious and significant."

"The committee found that Mrs Hague's conduct was serious and demonstrated a complete disregard for all infection control procedures. She disregarded good practice relating to basic infection control. She reused single-use equipment on multiple occasions, she reused non-sterile equipment and equipment that had not been sufficiently decontaminated, and she failed to ensure that surgery



Desmond D'Mello's practice was at the centre of an investigation.

the amount of patients coming through the door.

"In no way use this as an excuse for my lack of contamination control and, if I could turn back time, I would have spoken up."

"I do realise the seriousness of most of the allegations and I can only blame myself. I have let myself down as a dental nurse, as well as my patients, though I would never intentionally do anything to put their health at risk."

The Nottingham Post has made attempts to speak to Mrs Hague, without success. At a hearing earlier this month, the council confirmed Mr D'Mello had applied for voluntary "erasure" from its register.

"Mrs Hague's conduct... demonstrated a complete disregard for all infection control procedures."
General Dental Council

Were you affected by the Daybrook Dental Practice recall? Tell us at newsdesk@nottinghampost.com

Biker banned for doing 85mph in 40 zone

A MOTORCYCLIST has been banned from the roads for 50 days after being caught driving at more than twice the speed limit.

Andrew Clarke, of Rockley Avenue, Newthorpe, was caught speeding on his Suzuki motorcycle on Clifton Boulevard on March 15.

Sharon Williams, prosecuting, said Clarke, 27, was driving at 85mph on a road that had a 40mph speed limit.

Clarke, who represented himself at the hearing at Nottingham Magistrates' Court yesterday, said: "I have got no real reason for travelling that fast."

"All I can do is apologise. I was in full control of the vehicle."

"My girlfriend was six months pregnant at the time and was receiving investigative treatment for a lump, so I had other things on my mind."

"But that is not an excuse. I can only apologise."

Clarke was also ordered to pay a fine of £220, costs of £85 and a surcharge of £33.

Dr Christine Humfrey, chairman of the magistrates, said: "Let me tell you how shocked we are that you were on a public road for 40mph going 85mph. You should be grateful that neither you, nor anyone else, was hurt."

Popular ON THE APP

Here are some of the top stories that appeared on the Nottingham Post Evening Edition app



1. Desmond D'Mello nurse suspended

2. Weather warning for heavy rain and thunderstorms



3. New £3m medical centre planned for Netherfield

4. Dougie Freedman reaches 'end of tether' with one or two



5. Boots stalwart Norman dies aged 97

6. Iranian asylum seeker has been in city seven years

The Evening Edition app can be downloaded on mobile phones and tablets via the Google Play Store for Android and the Apple App Store for iPhones

Conkers Discovery Centre Family Ticket
UP TO **48% OFF**

Explore treetop walks and play areas with a family day out for up to four at Conkers Discovery Centre for just £16.99 with wowcher.co.uk.
Terms and conditions apply. See website for details.

Get a wow a day at **wowcher.co.uk**

Go to wowcher.co.uk/nottinghampost

University of South Wales Prifysgol De Cymru

4 Steps to Clearing Success

- 1 Find your course**
Check what's on offer by visiting our website or the UCAS listings
southwales.ac.uk/clearing
- 2 Call us**
We'll check that your qualifications meet the criteria for the course
Clearing hotline **03455 76 06 06**
- 3 Add the course**
Add your University of South Wales course as a Clearing choice on UCAS Track
- 4 Result!**
We'll confirm your place when we receive your Clearing referral from UCAS

Go to southwales.ac.uk/clearing to see our range of courses and find out how we make Clearing easy

03455 76 06 06
MAKE SOMETHING HAPPEN

The University of South Wales is a registered charity. Registration No. 1140312

What do you think of hospital cleaning standards?
Comment at nottinghampost.com

Roadworks to overrun

WORK being carried out to upgrade the road network in preparation for a new Sainsbury's supermarket in Colwick is set to overrun.

Work began on Colwick Loop Road in January and was set to end today. But the majority of the work will not be finished until September 4 and the junction will be fully opened on September 11.

The store, which is being built between Victoria Retail Park and Mile End Road, is expected to create 450 jobs.

Clumber Park hits top spot

CLUMBER Park has been named as the most popular visitor attraction for a day out in the East Midlands.

The survey by Visit England named the north Notts park as the top place to go in the region, with 709,000 visitors in 2014 – a 5.5 per cent increase on the previous year.

The park, which boasts 3,800 acres of parkland, heath and woodlands, was once the country estate of the Duke of Newcastle and is today looked after by the National Trust.

Jacqueline Mooney, National Trust operations manager at

Clumber Park, said: "Not only is Clumber's mosaic of habitats home to an amazing array of wildlife, it is also a great place in which to spot it, and one of the many things that appeals to our visitors."

"The team at Clumber Park is very proud of this very special place."

Jennifer Spencer, chief executive of tourism body Experience Nottinghamshire, said: "Clumber Park is a major asset for Nottinghamshire, which truly offers something for everyone, thanks to the many experiences on-site."



Emergency services at the scene, above. The car ended up in a stream after smashing through park railings.



Learner driver's collision course

By Ellie Cullen
ellie.cullen@nottinghampost.com

A LEARNER driver was cut free from her car after she lost control and drove straight across a roundabout – ending up in a nearby stream.

The inexperienced motorist was driving along Edwards Lane, in Sherwood, when she careered over a roundabout outside the former Five Ways pub.

The blue Toyota Yaris smashed through the railings of Valley Road Park, hurtled down an embankment and ended up on its side in the stream.

Paramedics, police and fire crews rushed to the scene at about 6.45pm yesterday.

A male passenger managed to get out of the car. Both were taken to hospital, but it is not believed they suffered serious injuries.

Onlookers gathered on the roundabout, where they spoke of their shock at the dramatic incident.

Harry Mills, of Valley Road, saw the emergency services arrive at the scene.

The 35-year-old said: "I saw all the police cars and the ambulances and wondered what on earth was going on."

"Apparently someone had just driven straight across the roundabout and crashed through the railings."

"You could see the gap in the gates."



Someone had just driven straight across the roundabout and crashed through the railings

Harry Mills

"It's quite a steep hill down to the stream, so it must have been scary. I hope everyone is OK."

Lewis Bennett, of nearby Kneeton Vale, said: "I'd just got off the bus when I saw there'd been some sort of accident."

"There were lots of police, ambulances and fire engines. It

was a shock when I heard what had actually happened."

There are always crashes on this roundabout but I've never seen anything as bad as this.

"It's a shame for the driver – something like this is really going to put her off."

Valley Road was closed from the Hucknall Road roundabout while firefighters and paramedics worked at the scene. They left at about 7.45pm.

Incident commander Richard Ellis, of Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service, said: "The car had been negotiating a roundabout. The driver lost control and went through the railings, down the embankment and the car ended up on its side in a concrete-lined stream. Fortunately the water wasn't very deep – only an inch or two deep."

"There was a male and female inside. We believe the female was driving under instruction."

"The male passenger managed to get himself out of the car but we had to assist the female driver out of the car."

Celebration of south Asian culture

A THREE-DAY cultural extravaganza of music, dance, film, sport and delicious cuisine is on the way to Nottingham.

The city's annual south Asian celebration, Mela, is hailed as a "dynamic fusion between the global and local" that celebrates the diversity and beauty of south Asian culture.

It takes place from Friday,

September 11, to Sunday, September 13.

The programme kicks off at 7pm on the Friday, with Gustavo Olita creating "mesmerising optical illusions" in front of Anish Kapoor's sculpture, Sky Mirror, at Nottingham Playhouse.

The festivities continue on Saturday, from 10am to 8pm at

New Art Exchange, in Gregory Boulevard, with a programme of music, dance and film.

On Sunday, Mela moves into the open air in the grounds of Nottingham Castle, which will also be celebrating National Heritage Day.

There will be a colourful procession from noon and events will continue until 5.30pm.

Angry health group gatecrash meeting



Campaigner Ross Longhurst, right, leads the protest outside the City Hospital. Inset: Our front page earlier this month.

By Peter Blackburn
Health Correspondent
peter.blackburn@nottinghampost.com

PROTESTERS stormed a board meeting and demanded action be taken to improve cleanliness at Nottingham's hospitals yesterday.

It came after the Post revealed earlier this month that patients caught superbugs in city hospital wards after private firm Carillion, which is paid £200 million to clean them, failed to do its job properly.

A group of around 15 health campaigners halted a meeting of top medics and directors from the Queen's Medical Centre and City Hospital, labelling the situation a "disgrace".

One of the protesters, Ross Longhurst, a retired lecturer from New Basford, addressed the head of the board, Louise Scull, while holding a placard which read "cancel Carillion contract".

He said: "We are angry about what has happened here. People have got ill. We are here to be heard and this is a serious matter."

Mrs Scull repeatedly asked the protesters to be quiet or

leave and eventually they were forced out by security staff.

Speaking to the Post later, Mr Longhurst said: "We saw the detailed story in the Post



We are angry about what has happened. People have got ill. We are here to be heard.

Ross Longhurst

and we were not surprised but it is shocking.

"What disappoints me is that we feel the board are not exercising their duties and are letting this happen."

"We want them to cancel the contract. This is about people's lives."

The number of hospital beds out of action due to outbreaks of viruses has almost doubled under Carillion, which took over the contract to maintain the hospitals in June 2014.

A decontamination unit has now been set up by NHS bosses and dirty wards are

affected 720 patients, and three outbreaks of the C-diff infection, affecting 13 patients. Some 165 hospital staff also suffered from the vomiting bug.

Teacher Louise Regan, who is part of the People's March for the NHS campaign group and lives in Sherwood, said: "Members of my family have had life-threatening conditions and have been saved by the NHS, so I am passionate about this. If one of your family is ill, you want to be able to send them to hospital knowing they are not at risk of infection."

The number of times a hospital bed could not be used due to an outbreak of clostridium difficile or norovirus almost doubled in 2014-15, compared with the previous year.

During the year, 1,390 "bed days" – the number of occasions where a bed could not be given to a patient due to outbreaks – were lost, compared with 779 the previous year. That averages out at almost four beds per day.

There were also 51 outbreaks of norovirus, which

Under the terms of the contract, hospital bosses can fine Carillion if targets are not met and the Post understands sanctions have already been imposed.

A spokesman for Carillion said: "The Carillion team at NUH works very closely with hospital staff to provide a clean environment for patients, visitors and staff."

"Where issues have been identified, a joint improvement programme has been put in place. This programme has included investment in people, training and equipment. A review of the monitoring and audit regimes will have a positive impact on standards."

Have you experienced a dirty ward? Tell us at newsdesk@nottinghampost.com

NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS STATEMENT

DR STEPHEN Fowlie, NUH deputy chief executive, said: "We wish to reassure our patients and local community that the NUH Trust Board considered carefully how to achieve best value for money in delivering high-quality services when awarding the contract for cleaning services."

"NUH has acknowledged a deterioration in cleaning standards in some areas, its impact and how we are addressing these shortfalls. The Trust has been in discussion with Carillion about the requirement to ensure delivery of standards described in the contract. Cleaning staff numbers have increased."

"We regret we were not able to discuss in public today important issues, including cleanliness, after the meeting was disrupted by protesters."

"NUH has offered to discuss these issues with those who have concerns, including in meetings in which the public can participate."



Mars believes football is an important part of a healthy, active lifestyle. And I'm inside with that.

Jon, Mars Factory Technician & Just Play Coach

Since joining Mars as an apprentice 13 years ago, Jon has always been a real team player. So we were more than happy to help him train to become a football coach in his spare time. Mars volunteers like Jon inspired us to work together with the FA to create the Just Play initiative five years ago. Our goal was to give a million adults the opportunity to get back on the football pitch and play with passion. Thanks to Jon, and hundreds of other newly qualified FA coaches, we managed to smash our target two years early. That's what we call winning.

With almost 300 centres nationwide, it's easier than ever to join a local kick-about. To get involved, search 'Just Play' online.



Raising The Bar
mars.co.uk/raisingthebar

Reader Offers

Omega

LONDON EVENTS

Return standard class rail travel from Derby and Nottingham

Must Close October 2015

SATURDAY NIGHT
London Theatre

Selected weekly departures throughout 2015
✓ Overnight stay at a choice of 4 star central London hotels with full English breakfast ✓ A ticket for a Saturday evening performance of the show of your choice from our fabulous selection ✓ Free time in London for shopping or sightseeing

Quote Code: GKL791 2 days, by rail from **£169.95pp**
View this product online at: www.omega-holidays.com/GKL791

Must Close 28th November 2015

GYPSY
London Theatre

Selected Friday departures throughout 2015
✓ 2 nights stay at a 4 star London hotel with full English breakfast ✓ A ticket with face value between £62.50 & £67.50 for a Friday evening performance of the show of your choice from our fabulous selection ✓ Free time in London for shopping or sightseeing

Quote Code: TVJ518 3 days, by rail from **£239.95pp**
View this product online at: www.omega-holidays.com/TVJ518



CLASSICAL SPECTACULAR
at the Royal Albert Hall

Departing Saturday 21 November 2015
✓ Overnight stay at a 4 star central London hotel with full English breakfast ✓ A Choir ticket with a face value of £24.50 for the Saturday evening performance of Classical Spectacular at the Royal Albert Hall (Upgrades offered at a supplement)

Quote Code: DJP481 2 days, by rail from **£169.95pp**
View this product online at: www.omega-holidays.com/DJP481

THE WINTER'S TALE
BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Selected Friday departures, Oct-Nov 2015

The play that gave us 'Exit, pursued by a bear' opens in the West End this autumn starring Sir Kenneth Branagh and Dame Judi Dench.

✓ 2 nights stay at a choice of 4 star central London hotels with full English breakfast ✓ Stalls or Circle ticket (face value £72.80) ✓ Free time in London

Quote Code: FQL875 3 days, by rail from **£299.95pp**
View this product online at: www.omega-holidays.com/FQL875

To book call **01524 37500**
OPENING TIMES: MON-FRI 8.30-19.30 SAT 8.30-17.30 SUN 10.00-16.30
Organised by Omega Holidays plc, ABTA V4782. Single supplements apply. Subject to availability.