

The Palace on the Hill NHS Providing Healthcare (1950 – 2000)

From 1948 medicine became more specialised including the development of gastroenterology, cardiology and diabetes care. Later, in 1974, Leicester General Hospital (LGH) established Leicester's only renal unit, which has achieved international recognition. The opening of Leicester University medical school in 1975 stimulated a building programme at LGH which saw the Palace on the Hill increase in size, doubling the number of beds.



1905 - 2005



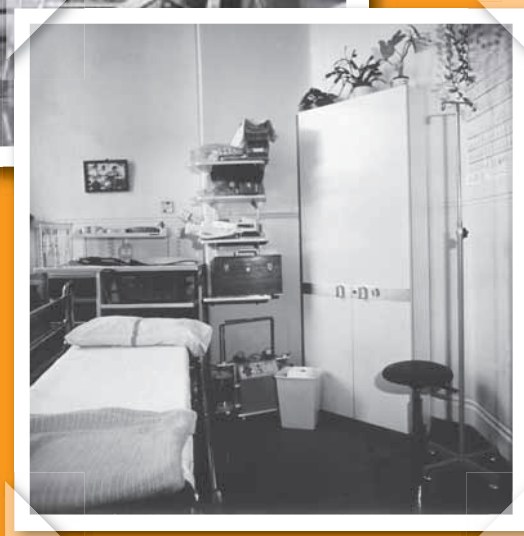
1974 – WRVS ladies
WRVS opened their first shop by the front entrance in 1974, the National Westminster Bank also opened a branch. A team of hospital volunteers (WRVS) ladies are pictured taking patient comforts round the wards by trolley. The Women's Volunteer Service (WVS) began in 1946. In 1966 it became known as the Womens Royal Volunteer Service (WRVS).



1975 – Early academics
Front row (2nd) - Dr JEF Pohl,
centre - Prof J Swales,
(4th) - Prof Sir P Bell,
centre rear - Dr H Thurston,
far right - Mr RFM Wood.



1988 – Lincoln satellite renal dialysis unit opening, May
(left) - Professor J Scott, (centre) - Bill Maynard,
(right) - Dr J Walls



1970s – Old Endoscopy room
The first endoscopy room was located in a converted office on ward 17 in the early 1970s.



1988 – Gordhan Parmar Endoscopy Unit
Councillor Gordhan Parmar, Leicester's first Asian Lord Mayor, raised over £100,000 for a new endoscopy unit and equipment. Mr P S Veitch, surgeon (left), Mr F R Inman, general manager (2nd left) and Dr A C B Wicks, gastroenterologist (right).

1950

1960

1970

1980

1990

2000

1954 – The new labour unit was built onto ward 15.

1967 – The bell tower at the front of the building was demolished. The wooden structure housing the bell was found to be unsafe and the cost of a replacement was too expensive. Made by Taylor's of Loughborough, the bell weighs 3 cwt. Traditionally rung at midnight each New Year's Eve. The bell itself is still at the hospital.



1974 - WRVS ladies



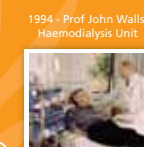
1974 - Radio Gwendolen, first hospital radio station in Leicestershire opened 26th April



1974 - New rehabilitation department (Physiotherapy, occupational therapy and hydrotherapy)

1982 – Rev Russell Hunt appointed as the first full-time hospital chaplain.

1988 – Mr M Harding, one of the first consultants to offer day case arthroscopic knee surgery.



1994 - Prof John Walls Haemodialysis Unit



1994 - Clinical Education Centre opened 12th September

1992 – Eli Lilly National Clinical Audit Centre opened in March.



1995 - Main reception built 1975 extended in 1995

1995 – First two-day surgical course in basic MAS skills with a live link to the Royal College of Surgeons. One of the first UK Hospital Information Support Systems (HISS) was implemented.

1950 – LGH began to admit emergency cases every 3rd day.

1955 – LGH golden jubilee.

1969 – The first twin theatres were opened. The present LGH League of Friends was founded.



1954 - Junior Doctors



c1970 - The Facilities department (estates, works etc)



1970s - Old Endoscopy room

1975 – LGH became a teaching hospital and the first kidney transplant took place on 12th March.



1980 - Mr Fred Hayes & Haematology staff



1980s - Renal team



c1980 - Haemodialysis unit interior and Kiil dialyser



1981 - Professor F Walker, known as Eric (centre front row) & histopathology staff



1990 - Renal Dinner for Professor Walls, chair



1975 - Early academics



1988 - Lincoln satellite renal dialysis unit opening, May



1988 - Gordhan Parmar Endoscopy Unit

1993 – LGH was granted Trust status on 1st April; chairman Mr Peter Stephens and chief executive Mr Hugh Ross.



1993 - WRVS conservatory



1993 - 'Margaret's bistro' named after Margaret Smith, retired restaurant manager

2000 – 1st April. Leicester General Hospital (LGH), Leicester Royal Infirmary (LRI) and Glenfield hospital (GH) merge to form the University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust. chairman Mr Philip Hammersley and chief executive Dr Peter Reading.