

The Smile4Wessex Children's Neurosciences Centre Appeal

Chrissy Ward and her team of staff are, to those whose children have spent time on the existing Children's Neurosurgery ward, nothing short of angels. But the bright colours and homely touches cannot hide the fact that the existing Children's Neuro ward is far from ideal. Shoe-horned into a cramped space next to an adult neurosurgery ward, it offers little in the way of privacy to patients or parents. It is ward, playroom, kitchen and office, all rolled into one.

Working in partnership with University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust, our latest appeal aims to change that, by part-funding the development of a superb new Children's Neurosciences Centre. The images on these pages give a flavour of the environment we hope to create.

The new centre will be spacious, modern, co-located with other children's wards and will also incorporate enhanced Children's Neurology facilities. The new main ward will be much larger, around twice the size of the existing 4-bed bay. With 6 beds it will provide a much needed increase in capacity, as well as a brighter and more welcoming environment for the youngsters who often spend extended periods on the ward as they undergo treatment.



“Working in partnership with Smile4Wessex ensures we can deliver a project that will far exceed what would have been possible without their support.”

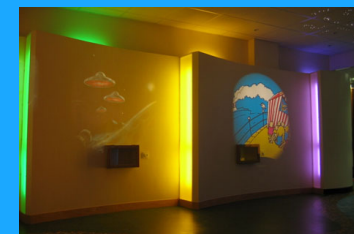
**Mark Hackett
Chief Executive
Southampton Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust**



You smile
We smile
They smile

“The Children's Neuro team perform little miracles every day. With your support we can give them a state-of-the-art centre in which they can do even more - for many more children.”

**Neil Westbrook
Appeals Co-ordinator**



An adjacent single-room, offering even greater privacy, and a relocated Video-Telemetry Suite will each enjoy an 'en-suite' washroom & WC, and provide beds so mum can stay with her child. Additional toilets, a bathroom and a full 'wet room' will provide facilities incomparable to the single WC and tiny shower room that serve the existing ward.

Those children who are well enough to play will have a dedicated playroom, rather than a corner of the ward in which other, often acutely ill, children are struggling with their condition whilst anxious and emotional parents look on.

When it all gets too much and they do need to take a break from the bedside, parents will have their own 'quiet room' where they can escape for a while, to make a cuppa, grab a bite to eat or just to contemplate their predicament. And the ward Sisters' Office will be directly adjacent to the ward, rather than 50 metres away as is the case at present.

The Smile4Wessex Children's Neurosciences Centre will be a quantum leap into the 21st Century – the kind of facility in which you would want your child to be treated if ever it were necessary. We must raise a minimum of £150,000 in order to achieve these goals, but we need your help to do so.

If you'd like to get involved then please see overleaf for further details, or visit www.smile4wessex.org

Smile4Wessex and the Wessex Neurological Centre

Located at Southampton General Hospital, **The Wessex Neurological Centre (WNC)** is one of the largest and most highly respected neurological centres in the UK, providing specialist neurological care to patients from across Hampshire, Dorset, Wiltshire, West Sussex, the Isle of Wight and the Channel Islands.

The Smile4Wessex Appeal raises funds to provide new equipment and facilities that would not otherwise be available, and to sponsor pioneering research into new treatments for a variety of neurological conditions.

Previously funded projects include a dedicated neurological intensive care ambulance, a Paediatric Video-Telemetry Suite (used to assess children with severe epilepsy for life-changing corrective surgery), and research into a non-invasive method of measuring cerebral pressure.

Our most recent appeal has seen one of the Centre's operating theatres equipped with the first UK installation of a new generation of a state-of-the-art neurosurgical operating microscope fitted with Fluorescence Imaging technology, a system that provides surgeons with real-time images of blood-flow in the brain during neurovascular surgery, such as for the clipping of aneurysms.



UK's Most Advanced Neurosurgical Microscope

Every penny we receive directly contributes to improving the range and quality of patient care at the WNC, with well over £550,000 invested in projects to date.

You Smile, We Smile, They Smile

The great thing about raising money for charity is that it often involves having a great time doing something exciting, fun or even challenging, but which is worthwhile too. Supporters of the charity have climbed Mount Kilimanjaro, crossed the Sahara Desert and cycled the length of Britain, and every one of them has returned with a smile of satisfaction on their face and a sense of pride in their achievement. And their smiles have helped us to put smiles back on the faces of hundreds of patients of the WNC.

Of course, some prefer just to make a donation, either as a one-off or on a regular basis, and a growing number of organisations give their support by organising dress-down days, sponsoring our varied events or by donating 'gifts in kind'. You can even show your support for our appeals by wearing items from our stylish Smile4Wessex branded clothing range, including t-shirts, polo shirts, fleeces and hoodies.

The appeal web site contains the latest news about our current appeal, along with full details of the many ways in which you could get involved in helping Smile4Wessex make a difference to the lives of those who need the specialist services of the Wessex Neurological Centre. Alternatively, simply contact the Appeal Office and we'll be delighted to help you get started. We're located close to the main stair/lift well on B Level in the Wessex Neurological Centre.

Smile4Wessex Appeal Office

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Smile4Wessex
Neurological Centre Trust
Registered Charity Number 286277

Charitable Support for the Wessex Neurological Centre



Including details of our latest appeal project

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