

## NEWS & NOTES

### **£1.5 Million New Pathology Department for Royal Lancaster Infirmary**

Work on a £1.5 million new pathology department to be built at the Infirmary is scheduled to begin in early October.

It will take 12 months to build and is expected to open in late 1993.

It brings a major improvement in accommodation and facilities for pathology services which are currently operated in three buildings on two hospital sites – at Lancaster Moor Hospital and at the Infirmary.

All microbiology and histopathology work currently done at Lancaster Moor Health will transfer to the purpose-designed department. The modern facilities will provide substantial improvements for the pathology department whose workload exceeds 300,000 requests per year.

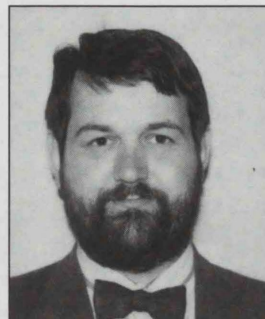
Pathology provides scientific services to assist in the diagnosis and treatment of patients. It also provides an advisory service for hospital doctors and GPs and is involved in research projects including cot deaths, heart disease and skin disorders.

The new department will be a two-storey split-level building. There will be a new Histopathology laboratory with some research facilities, a new Microbiology laboratory with better facilities for work involving environmental health and food products. There will be sterilising facilities for equipment and waste disposal, new distribution stores for all laboratories within the Trust, offices for consultants and administration, a seminar room and staff rest facilities.

The new building will be in the south-west of the Infirmary site off Ashton Road between the Unit for the Elderly and the new Phase 3 major building currently under construction.

### **New Appointment**

#### **Director of Public Health**



Dr Nick Gent has recently taken up the post of Director of Public Health for Lancaster Health Authority, replacing Dr John Dyer who has recently retired.

Dr Gent, who qualified in Liverpool, has trained in both general practice and public health: he came to work for Lancaster Health Authority following an appointment as consultant in public health with South Cumbria Health Authority.

Nick will continue his relationship with the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne where he took a postgraduate degree in Public Health and has been appointed as honorary lecturer in the Department of Public Health Medicine.

Nick is married to Diane and they have a two-year-old son David. Diane works part-time as a clinical assistant in dermatology at Westmorland General Hospital and as the company doctor for the K Shoes factory in Kendal.

## **Lancaster Medical Book Club Programme 1992/93**

PGMC 8.15 p.m. Friday 16th October, 1992  
**The early history of Lancaster Medical Book Club**

Dr G. H. Anderson

PGMC 8.15 p.m. Friday 22nd January, 1993  
**A local medical museum**

Dr J. A. Carne

PGMC 8.15 p.m. Friday 19th February, 1993  
**The slave traders of Lancaster and district**

Mrs. Janet A. Nelson

PGMC 8.15 p.m. Friday 19th March, 1993  
**Subject to be notified**

Prof. J. O. Drife

**Annual dinner at the Forte Post House, Lancaster**  
Saturday 14th November, 1992 at 7.30 p.m. for 8.00 p.m.

Guest speaker: Prof. Ian Isherwood