



Lesley Oldershaw with patient Katrina Bellamy

25 years of surgery

Nestled in the beautiful Northamptonshire countryside on the outskirts of Kettering is Woodland Hospital, which gets its name from the famous local Woodland Pytchley Hunt.

From small acorns mighty oaks grow and the hospital, which is private but also takes NHS referrals, has grown into one of the leading neck and spinal injury units in the region, thanks to a £4.3 million investment two years ago.

This June, Woodland celebrates 25 years of opening and that growth is being celebrated with a series of events for present and former staff.

Woodland is part of the Ramsay Health Care group, a leading independent provider of high quality health care. Established in 1964, Ramsay has operations in the UK, Australia and Indonesia. In the UK, Ramsay operates a network of 36 private hospitals, neurological rehabilitation

Leading healthcare provider Woodland Hospital in Kettering is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. Image Editor RUTH SUPPLE found out more about the specialist neck and spine surgery performed there . . . *Pictures by Kirsty Edmonds*

centres and diagnostic imaging services. These provide a wide and comprehensive range of clinical specialties to insured, self-pay and NHS patients.

Woodland's speciality is in spinal and neck treatments and procedures. It offers a wide range of treatments for back and neck problems from pain management injections through to complex spinal and neck surgery. They have specialist consultants with access to the latest equipment to help diagnose the most likely cause of a patient's symptoms and recommend the best form of treatment.

Mr Shabin Joshi is a consultant in neurosurgery and spinal surgery, and has worked at Woodland Hospital for two years.

He says: "We carry out elective surgery to correct problems associated with degenerative changes, particularly disc prolapse and spinal canal narrowing of the cervical and lumbar spine. We also carry out surgery for artificial disc replacement. Woodland Hospital has five spinal consultants in total, which is not common among other local hospitals in the region.

"We are able to bring teaching hospital expertise to patients for back and neck

Woodland Hospital - a history

The Woodland Hospital was originally built in 1989 and was designed to combine modern technology with the highest standard of patient care and comfort. The first patients were admitted in June 1990 and the hospital has continued to grow and develop since this date.

In 1996, the hospital opened a second purpose-built theatre suite and six new patient bedrooms, giving a total of 37 bedrooms split across two floors.

In January 1998, the dedicated Endoscopy Suite was opened and during 1999 a mammography service was launched.

In 2005, the hospital saw the introduction of a mobile MRI screening service along with the upgrade of its X-ray equipment and department. Major developments took place at the hospital during 2005 and 2006, with the opening of a two-bedded independent high-dependency area and an expansion of the theatre suite that included two new recovery bays.

The building of Schofield House took place and this building contains



a physiotherapy department and administration offices. Work on the ground floor of the main hospital included a new conservatory and hospital entrance, two

additional consulting rooms within the outpatient department and a refurbished reception area. Schofield House is named after the late Mr James Schofield, the first consultant to operate at the Woodland Hospital.

Further development continued and in 2008 the Laser Eye surgery service was launched. A dedicated laser suite was developed on the second floor of the hospital to undertake laser eye surgery and other laser cosmetic procedures.

Electronic X-ray reporting was introduced during 2009. Developments continued at the Hospital during 2011/12 with a £4.3 million investment, which included a new private patient waiting lounge, a conference room, extra outpatient consulting rooms, third laminar flow theatre, dedicated ambulatory care (day case) unit, additional parking bays, an upgraded high dependency unit, refurbished patient rooms, reception and outpatients station area.

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Mr Khirandish



Physio Amish Sebastien



Mr Shah

“Woodland Hospital provides excellent care in a friendly and professional environment”

problems in the Northamptonshire area. We use minimally invasive techniques, which tend to allow patients to recover and go home quicker (we aim for the next day) and are in less discomfort than with conventional surgery.”

These operations can be life-changing.

“Surgery to the cervical or lumbar spine is able to provide significant symptom relief for leg and arm pain to enable patients to resume their daily activities and have a better quality of life,” adds Mr Joshi. “Woodland Hospital provides excellent care in a friendly and professional environment and the close knit team of staff

and consultants provide quality healthcare to the local community.”

The hospital also has two pain consultants and a highly qualified physiotherapy and diagnostic team. The hospital has a mobile MRI scanner on site three times a week and a CT scanner once a week. Their inpatient service comprises of 28 private rooms, a seven-bed day case unit, three laminar flow theatres and a high-dependency unit.

It also offers dentistry and has an eye clinic, as well as carrying out cosmetic surgery like breast augmentation.