

# EZASEKHANGELA

## King Edward VIII's new manager

Mr Mboneni Bhekiswayo, a long-time hospital administrator, is the new manager of King Edward VIII. Bhekiswayo takes over from Dr Zebbie Kharva who was acting in this position over the past two years. Dr Kharva is now the Medical Manager.

Bhekiswayo's recent hospital post was as Human Resource Manager. He describes himself as hands-on administrator who believes in allowing employees at all levels to display their skills and capabilities for the benefit of the hospital and patients.

In accepting this position Bhekiswayo said: "I am proud to take cognisance of the fact that King Edward VIII Hospital is the leader in providing affordable, sustainable and



Hospital Manager, Mr Mboneni Bhekiswayo was interviewed by the media shortly after his appointment.

comprehensive healthcare service to the people of KwaZulu Natal."

According to Bhekiswayo King Edward VIII Hospital is now being redeveloped to become a super regional public health institution with 800-bed status offering specialised referral services.

"As we prepare ourselves for this task, we must show respect to our work and to our patients," Bhekiswayo urged more than 3500 employees who gathered in Jubilee Hall for the first General Meeting in 2004.

He also reflected on a speech delivered by President Thabo

Mbeki during his state-of-the-nation address earlier this year: "We must disrespect those civil servants who are pen pushers and custodians of rubber stamps. Those who come to work as late as possible, work as little as possible, knock off as early as possible and those who are thieves. These civil servants are the enemies of our struggle to push back the frontiers of poverty."

A University of Zululand Public Administration graduate, Bhekiswayo began his career in the Department of Health as an Admin Clerk in 1982. He holds a National Diploma in Health Administration.

In our next issue, the **Up Close & Personal** feature will focus on Mr Bhekiswayo.

## Every breath counts

King Edward VIII Hospital and external stakeholders marked World TB Day on March 24 by launching a joint assault against TB. This after the National Health Department revealed that millions of South Africans have been exposed to TB bacteria with KwaZulu Natal being the hardest hit province. According to the Hospital Manager, Mr M Bhekiswayo a fulltime person will be appointed to co-ordinate anti TB strategies.

Meanwhile, Mrs D.G Zimu from Infection Control Unit has confirmed that during the month of February, five employees were diagnosed with TB. These include a professional nurse, two enrolled nurses, one general assistant and a security guard. In addition, eleven patients were also diagnosed with the disease.



Prof Pudafin was a guest speaker during World TB Day

### TO THE POINT

Mr Terence Chetty has been appointed as an acting Head of the Human Resources Department. This follows the appointment of Mr M Bhekiswayo as the Hospital Manager. Both Chetty and Bhekiswayo have confirmed that the Scorpions Unit has been requested to investigate unlawful deductions of monies from salaries of King Edward VIII staff.



## King Edward VIII Hospital is the best

Excellent patient care is what Miss Sindile Gumede believes is being offered by King Edward VIII Hospital.

Sindile, a mother of a teenage boy who was admitted to Ward IZA said her son had no chance of surviving but her friend convinced her to take him to King Edward. "Initially I hesitated because some people have said negative things about King Edward but now I firmly believe that this hospital is one of the best in the country," she quipped.

Gumede said KEH staff showed high level of professionalism. "Every time when I visited my son I was

warmly welcomed, first and foremost, by security guards at the gates. Nurses and doctors were awesome and I want to say thanks."

Hospital's Medical Manager, Dr Z Kharva said she was touched by Sindile's gesture. "This means a lot to the staff and the management. We are very happy that someone is satisfied with our service. It is true that the majority of our nurses and doctors are committed to their work."

**Miss Gumede and her son had an opportunity to say goodbye to the staff. See photos below.**

## Thanks to everyone



**IZA staff, Miss S Gumede and her son**



**Dr Kharva, S Gumede and Sr Z Jack**



**Mr Kaula, S Gumede, her son, Mr Sibiya**

## ARV Clinic for the initial roll-out of ARV

King Edward VIII Hospital's Philani Family Clinic is to be used as an ARV Clinic following recommendations of the hospital's ARV Task Team. This after the team held series of meetings where issues concerning the rollout of anti retroviral drugs were thrashed out.

In an interview with **ESAKHANGELA** Pharmacy Manager and the leader

of the Task Team, Mrs Nirupa Misra said the renovation of the clinic had to be fast-tracked in order to ensure the readiness of the hospital. "The Occupational Health Clinic will be moved out of Philani to the Eye Clinic in order to accommodate Wellness and ARV clinics," she said. Mrs Misra however pointed out that not everyone would have immediate access to these drugs. "Although we are com-

## UP CLOSE & PERSONAL



### Switchboard Operator

King Edward VIII's own celebrity Mr Ronnie Prolad who is the lead singer of the R&B outfit **4 Sight** look set to clinch a recording contract. Since its inception, this quartet has performed in more than twenty social functions leaving thousands of Durbanites begging for more. Ronnie, who is partially blind, says music is his passion. "Music is a universal language. It allows you to communicate with people from different backgrounds."

Ronnie and other members of **4 Sight** are behind the success of Very Special Arts (VSA) – a group of artists with disabilities. Some of these artists have sight and hearing disabilities and cerebral palsy. VSA was invited to perform at the opening of the Alternate Augmentative Communications Conference in Johannesburg on February 27, 2004. Said Ronnie: "Our dancers excelled and the crowd was wonderful."

Before returning to work, Ronnie called on King Edward VIII staff to encourage disabled members of the community to join VSA. "We have performed in many international events. We want to give young people a chance to showcase their talent. There is a lot of talent out there, especially in the townships. The challenge is to uncover it."

mitted to providing ARVs and comprehensive care to all people living with HIV/Aids, patients will have to be phased in gradually due to the limited capacity of the institution."

Mrs Misra further stated that those who do not qualify to get ARVs will be counselled and be given further advise by a nutritionist who will be appointed as part of the project,

## King Edward gears itself up for the rollout of anti-retroviral drugs

King Edward VIII Hospital became the first public health institution in Southern Africa to be identified for a pilot study for the evaluation of standards of Accelerated HIV/Aids Development Programme. The programme is managed by the Council for Health Service Accreditation of Southern Africa, COHSASA.

COHSASA has developed sets of standards for the accreditation of facilities managing HIV/Aids.

A COHSASA team, comprising of 12 professionals including two representatives from the National Health Service of the Kingdom were in the hospital from February 24 to February 27. The team evaluated strategic plans, policies and quality service improvement programmes for HIV/Aids services.

At the end of the pilot study Medical Manager Dr Z Kharva said the study had positive spin-offs. It empowered the staff with managerial skills in order to manage the roll-out programme more effectively.

"Everyone is now familiar with protocol developed by national and provincial health departments regarding the roll-out of antiretroviral drugs," she emphasised. She also added: "We are very excited at being chosen as the first public health institution in South Africa for this study. This reinforces our commitment to providing the best quality care to HIV/Aids patients."

COHSASA CEO Professor Stuart Whittaker said his organisation

will do everything in its power to assist KEH staff in the fight against HIV/Aids. "The epidemic has a negative impact on the lives of medical staff," he noted.



A COHSASA team under the leadership of Prof Stuart Whittaker on your right.

## I have a baby because of Thabisile Phewa and Dr Sibeko

Dear Editor

It gives me pleasure to write this letter to you to acknowledge the service provided to me by King Edward VIII Hospital, especially by both Dr Sibeko and Staff Nurse Thabisile Phewa (pictured left) from the O&G Directorate.

During my visits to the Antenatal Clinic, Dr Sibeko was there for me. Again after being admitted to Ward O1 both Thabisile and Dr Sibeko were determined to ensure that I

had a positive pregnancy outcome. After careful examination Dr Sibeko found that my unborn baby was big and she recommended a caesarian section. I hesitated but she assured me that I was in good hands and today I am a proud mother.

Their patience and kindness made it possible for me to give birth to this healthy child. I wish both of them good luck and all the best in the future.

Zanele Mthembu,  
Umlazi



Thabisile Phewa with a patient

Letters to the Editor forward them to: PR Dept, Room 14 or Ext 3028

## King Edward VIII health professionals put the hospital on the map.

King Edward VIII Hospital health professionals have been showered with praises by the community for their role in creating awareness about health issues. This after the launch of an extensive media campaign by the PR Department.

An ongoing relationship with the media has been established by the PR department. As a result of this, health professionals are now afforded an opportunity to offer their expertise on a number of issues.



Sr T Shezi, Sr Z Seyisi and Sr M Gwala

A total of 11 health professionals

were interviewed by regional and national broadcasters in January and February alone. Pregnancy Awareness Campaign is a classic example. The campaign received tremendous media coverage, especially on radio.

The PR Dept says there is an ongoing campaign aimed at educating communities through the electronic media. Radio is the most suitable medium. It is dynamic, accessible and is cost-effective.

## Trauma Unit staff on their way to the top

King Edward VIII's Trauma Unit staff are on their way to the top. Recently David Doull, KZN Operations Manager of Specialized Trauma Air Response (STAR) praised them for their professionalism.

In a letter addressed to the head of the unit Dr Wilson, Mr Doull wrote: "Your staff not only provided a comprehensive ATLS approach to the patient, but they worked hard and fast at ensuring that the best possible chance was given. It was unfortunate that the severity of the patient's injuries were such that science couldn't change the outcome, however, every possible effort was made and big thanks go to the your staff for their part."



Staff from Trauma Unit

According to Doull, nurses assisted in a rapid transfer of the patient from the helicopter up Froncois Road and into the Trauma Unit. In the trauma unit the staff efficiently applied all necessary monitoring

and ventilatory devices and proceeded with a full patient assessment.

"Your staff assisted this patient in a very supportive manner, one that is a strong vital link in the chain of care from the roadside to definitive care and we are greatly encouraged by their dedication. We extend our appreciation and thanks to the staff," Doull concluded in his letter.

Doull's words of encouragement were well received by Mrs M Mchunu, the General Manager of the MOPD & Casualty Directorate, Mrs L. Dladla, Sisters in charge of the unit and the entire staff.

## Two parties to bid farewell to Mrs H Mncwabe



Hospital Manager Mr M Bhekiswayo wishes Mrs Mncwabe (above) a good retirement.



## King Edward VIII vs KwaMgwaza Hospital

King Edward VIII sports teams are scheduled to play their counterparts from St Mary's KwaMagwaza Hospital in what KEH sports co-ordinator Mr B Mkhize described as an "exciting tournament."

"We want to cause a major upset," said Mkhize who has been involved in sports in the hospital since 1972.

"Actually, the soccer team lost 1-0 in an away game in Melmoth in October last year. I am afraid this time around they will go back home



KEH Sports Committee

empty handed," Mkhize pointed out with confidence.

Echoing Mkhize's words the team's secretary Mr Lulama Xhalisa said: "Many teams have struggled to beat us in our own backyard. I am convinced this game will be a walk in the park."

If the result of the previous match against the visitors is anything to go by, KEH netball team look set to have another easy ride. Although the team has not played in months, the team manager Nomusa Nzuzza said this would not affect their performance.