

## WORD ON THE WEB

You have your say on stories published on the Mail's website each day:

### COUNCIL CHIEF HITS BACK OVER RELIEF CUT PLAN

Posted by **Waltons**

I agree with East Staffordshire Borough Council that it must review the relief it gives to charities. There should be certain criteria set up for those who get this business rate relief.

### UNION SLAMS 'SIGN OR BE SACKED' CONTRACT CHANGES

Posted by **gbanks2**

Annualised hours are a fantastic tool. It allows a company to be reactive to peaks and troughs in volume, while safeguarding jobs. When it's quiet you go home without loss of pay, but you 'owe' the company the hours you haven't worked. They can then be used during busy periods.

Posted by **Waltons**

I wish the railway company I work for did this type of contract. It is an excellent idea, as sometimes we are scratching around with little work to do and at other times we are very rushed. It sounds like an excellent idea to me.

Posted by **orlando**

I am self-employed and I like to work as many hours as I can in the winter and as few as possible in the summer. Personally, I like my time off when it's warm and sunny. Unipart says it is guaranteeing the number of hours over the year. This has got to be better than a zero-hour contract system which is employed by many other seasonal working companies.

### DEMENTIA CARE CENTRE MOVES ONE STEP CLOSER

Posted by **Trent**

Having a dementia centre for excellence in Burton will be a great asset to the town. It was in the Conservative manifesto and they are delivering on that promise for Burton. It seems it was always the intention of the council to create such a centre, so the cabinet member for care Alan White is quite within his rights to release such good news for the town.

### RESCUE CENTRE BOSS SAYS SHE WILL APPEAL SENTENCE

Posted by **Animal Lover**

Lindsay helped hundreds of animals that other rescuers turned away. If an animal is in distress her instinct is to help it. She has already introduced measures to ensure the welfare needs of the animals in her care are seen to be met. Real animal lovers will support her efforts, not undermine them at all.

Posted by **BirdsWillFly**

Everything she has done has been done with a good heart. She admitted she took too many animals on, but only for the want of saving them. Now let's pull together and support her. Don't let history repeat itself.

### FIGHT TO SAVE VILLAGE PUB IS SET TO CONTINUE

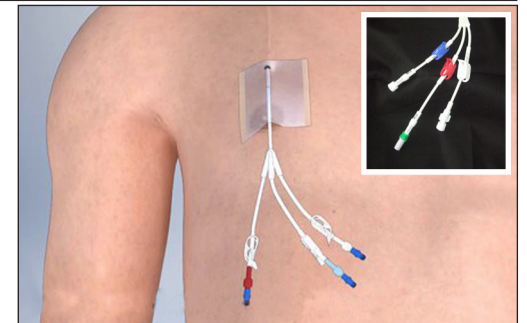
Posted by **whatwhaaaaat**

Does no-one see the irony in that a dead pub is becoming a funeral parlour? If people had used the pub, it wouldn't have been sold. Simple!

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**CAMPAIGNER ...** (left) Katherine Sinfield helped convince Queen's Hospital to try the central line holder invented by Sarah Cheeseman (above).



**MEDICAL INVENTION ...** (above) the central line holder is made from shower-proof, anti-fungal/anti-bacterial fabric which will not support fungal growth. (Top) a typical Hickman Line.

# Pleas pay off as hospital agrees to trial invention

by **Stephen Sinfield**

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**PATIENTS with certain blood disorders at Burton's Queen's Hospital may soon benefit from a new device thanks to the efforts of recovering leukaemia patient Katherine Sinfield.**

The 33-year-old, who is the face of the Burton Mail's 'Take Five Minutes' campaign, wrote to the hospital asking it to consider stocking and promoting a product known as a central line holder which could help prevent infection.

A central line, or Hickman Line, is a set of tubes connected to a main vein which reduces the need for needles. The lines are used for the administration of drugs and for blood tests in patients suffering from certain blood cancers and other disorders such as aplastic anaemia.

Katherine said: "Hickman Lines work fantastically from a medical point of view. They can be left in place for months at a time and are used extensively when receiving treatment.

"However, for a patient, they can be

extremely worrying as you permanently have two rubber tubes protruding from your chest, which need flushing on a regular basis. You constantly worry about the 'what ifs'. What if I catch the lines and rip them out or what if they get infected?"

Katherine's lines were suspected as being the source of an infection when she was rushed to A&E in November last year with a temperature of 39.5C.

This experience prompted her to look more closely at the central line holder device. The simple but effective product is a specially designed pouch which could help to reduce infection risks.

The holder was designed by aplastic anaemia patient Sarah Cheeseman after she was admitted to King's College Hospital, London, in 2007.

Sarah, 40, from Cheshire, said: "My Hickman Line was difficult to care for and inconvenient to wear. It caught on clothes, pulled on the skin and was problematic to wash with. No pouch, bag or holder was supplied nor available, and this proved frustrating.



**READ KATHERINE'S DAILY DIARY AS SHE CONTINUES TO RECOVER FROM LEUKAEMIA**

[burtonmail.co.uk](http://burtonmail.co.uk)

"Through talking to fellow patients with Hickman Lines it seemed they all had similar issues. I vowed to both patients and staff that after I recovered I would design a central line holder."

After being impressed with the invention, Balfour Street resident Katherine contacted Queen's and wrote to Burton MP Andrew Griffiths.

Mr Griffiths agreed with the benefits of the device and pledged to write to hospital chief executive Helen Ashley.

After talks between the hospital and inventor Sarah, Queen's has now agreed to help trial and promote the product, making it one of only a handful of hospitals in the country to stock it.

Katherine said: "I'm delighted that my persistence and persuasion has helped to convince the hospital to stock the device.

"There may only be a handful of patients under the hospital's care with a Hickman Line, but for these few the product will be an invaluable asset.

"As a patient you have enough to worry about without the added stress of worrying about tubes poking out of your chest."

## From washing powder bags to hospital wards



THE inventor of the central line holder Sarah Cheeseman (pictured) explains how the design developed:

"In 2007 I spent six weeks in hospital. During this time I spoke to many patients and nurses about designing a holder, as people were making their own out of washing powder tablet bags – everybody laughed but also thought it was a good idea.

"I kept going over the design in my head but knew it wasn't quite right. I then thought of the crocodile clip attachment and

the shower-proof holder.

"The shower-proof holder was important for me as I used to wrap clingfilm around my Hickman Line, which would always allow water in.

"Once the design was right I started to market the product to hospitals.

"I would be delighted if my leaflets could be in every NHS hospital and for the holders to be on prescription for outpatients, because I believe they are invaluable."

Hospitals currently involved with stocking

or trialling the holders are Kings College Hospital, London; The Christie, Manchester; Royal Marsden, Chelsea; Royal Devon and Exeter Hospitals; Royal Aberdeen; Harrogate and District Hospitals; Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Aylesbury; St James Hospital, Dublin; Spire Hospitals, Cambridge; and now Burton.

The holder also has authorisation to be used in Canada and the EU.

More information is available at [www.centrallineholder.com](http://www.centrallineholder.com) or on 07901 856080.

## Food firm fined after lorry double the weight limit

A FOOD wholesale company has been fined after its lorry broke weight restrictions while using an historic South Derbyshire bridge.

Derbyshire County Council's trading standards team prosecuted Teatime Tasties Limited, after a truck weighing more than double the legal limit was caught on Swarkestone Causeway.

The bridge is a scheduled ancient monument and is covered by a 7.5-

tonne weight restriction to protect it from damage under the Derbyshire County Council (Swarkestone Causeway) (Weight Restriction) Order 2004.

Trading standards officers were carrying out spot-checks on the bridge in January when they saw the vehicle crossing.

Checks revealed it had a maximum gross weight of 17.8 tonnes – more than

double the legal limit.

Southern Derbyshire Magistrates' Court fined Teatime Tasties Limited, of Tyne Tunnel Trading Estate, North Shields, Tyne & Wear, £265 after it admitted the charge. The company was also ordered to pay court costs of £115.

Ellie Wilcox, deputy cabinet member for communities, said: "I hope other lorry drivers will think twice about breaking the law in the future."



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