

BUA NA BEATHA

# THE GIFT OF LIFE



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“THE IBTS IS COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE IN MEETING PATIENTS’ NEEDS THROUGH THE PROFESSIONALISM OF OUR STAFF AND THE GENEROSITY OF OUR DONORS”

## MISSION STATEMENT

### RÁITEAS BUNCHUSPÓRA

TÁ SFAÉ TIOMANTA DON FHEABHAS AGUS Í AG SOLÁTHAR RIACHTANAS NA N-OTHAR, TRÍ GHAIMIÚLACHT NA FOIRNE AGUS FHLAITHIÚLACHT NA NDEONTÓIRÍ.



“THE OVER-RIDING PRIORITY OF THE IBTS IS TO PROVIDE SUFFICIENT QUANTITIES OF THE HIGHEST QUALITY BLOOD COMPONENTS TO OUR HOSPITALS”

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

### TEACHTAIREACTH ÓN GCATHAOIRLEACH

IS Í MÓRTHOSAÍOCHT SFAÉ, DÓTHAIN CAINNÍOCHTAÍ DE  
CHOMHPHÁIRTEANNA FOLA SÁRCHAIGHDEÁIN A CHUR AR FÁIL  
DÁR N-OSPIDÉIL.

## Message from the chairperson

## Teachtaireacht ón gCathaoirleach

It was with a deep sense of honour that I accepted the appointment of chairperson of the Board of the IBTS in October 2003. Having been a Board member for the previous two years I was acutely aware of the significant challenges that lay ahead. I was strongly motivated however, by the dedication and commitment I had witnessed across the organisation. Also I was and I remain anxious and committed to making my contribution to resolving all matters and issues from the past in a sensitive and caring manner.

I am grateful for the support and encouragement I have received during my first months and I look forward with confidence to my term in this important national role.

Mistakes have been made in the past. As I embark on my term of office I offer a sincere apology for the distress and sadness caused by these mistakes. My commitment to ensuring that everything possible is done to avoid such occurrences again is absolute.

The over-riding priority of the IBTS is to provide sufficient quantities of the highest quality blood components to our hospitals. Achieving this is dependent on the application of the most rigorous principles of quality control and quality assurance and by ensuring that all processes used conform to the highest international standards. The Board of the Irish

*Bhraith mé go mba mhór an onóir é nuair a ghlac mé leis an gceapachán mar chathaoirleach ar Bhord SFAÉ i nDeireadh Fómhair 2003. Ós rud é go raibh mé i mo chomhalta Boird le dhá bhliain roimhe sin, ba léir dom go raibh dúshlán shuntasacha romham. Fuair mé spreagadh láidir, áfach, ón diongbháilteacht agus ón tiomantas a thug mé faoi deara ar fud na heagraíochta. Ina theanntas bhí mé riamh, agus táim i gcónaí, fonnmhar agus tiomanta a bheith páirteach ar dhóigh íogair cúramach, i réiteach gach ábhar agus saincheist ón am atá thart.*

*Táim buíoch as an tacaíocht agus as an spreagadh a fuair mé le linn mo chéad mhí anseo agus táim ag dréim go muiníneach le mo théarma sa ról tábhachtach náisiúnta seo feasta.*

*Rinneadh dearmaid san am atá thart. Agus mé ag tosú anois ar mo théarma oifige, gabhaim leithscéal ó chroí de bharr an angair agus an bhróin a chothaigh na dearmaid seo. Geallaim a chinntiú, gan agus, go ndéanfar gach rud is féidir chun teagmhais dá leithéid a sheachaint sa todhchaf.*

*Is í an mhóorthosaíocht atá ag SFAÉ, dóthain cainníochtaí de chomhpháirteanna fola sárchaighdeáin a chur ar fáil dár n-ospidéal. Chun seo a bhaint amach is gá dúinn na prionsabail is déine a fheidhmiú i leith rialú caighdeán agus ráthú cáilíochtaí, agus a chinntiú go bhfuil gach*

Blood Transfusion Service will vigorously support Management in the achievement of this critical priority.

The function of the Board is to ensure that all matters of governance are carefully monitored and managed on behalf of our key stakeholders. In the immediate term progress on the following challenges will be closely monitored until satisfactory resolutions are achieved.

Interim measures are being put in place in our Munster Centre in Cork to deal with concerns highlighted in our Regulators Report of February this year. However, this is purely a short-term solution as we await the development of a new centre in Cork. The Board is committed to ensuring that both Cork and Dublin Centres will operate to the highest international standards and will be acknowledged as Centres of Excellence in the services which they each provide.

They come and give generously of their time and their blood – our Donors, quiet heroes and heroines. We will strive to meet their needs and we will continue to acknowledge the fundamental importance of their contribution. Given the necessary restrictions which now apply in certain situations, we need to increase our donor numbers substantially this year to ensure adequate blood supply. Management will be given

*próiseas a úsáidtear ag teacht leis na caighdeáin idirnáisiúnta is airde. Tacóidh Bord Sheirbhís Fuilistriúcháin na hÉireann go fuinniúil leis an mBainistíocht chun an tosaíocht chriticiúil seo a bhaint amach.*

*Is í feidhm an Bhoird, a chinntiú go ndéantar monatóireacht agus bainistíocht chúramach ar gach ábhar rialachais thar cheann ár bpríomhpháirtithe leasmhara. Déanfar dlúthmhonatóireacht sa tréimhse atá romhainn ar na dúshláin a bheidh ann, go dtí go dtiocfar ar réitigh shásúla.*

*Tá bearta eatramhacha á gcur i bhfeidhm againn in Aonad na Mumhan i gCorcaigh, chun déileáil leis na hábhair imní a léiríodh i dTuarascáil ár Rialtóra i bhFeabhra na bliana seo. Nil anseo ach réiteach gearrthéarmach, áfach, fad atáimid ag fanacht le forbairt an Ionaid nua i gCorcaigh. Tá an Bord geallta a chinntiú go bhfeidhmeoidh na hIonaid i gCorcaigh agus i mBaile Átha Cliath ar na caighdeáin idirnáisiúnta is airde, agus go nglacfar leo mar Ionaid Feabhais ó thaobh na seirbhísí a chuireann siad ar fáil.*

*Tagann agus tugann siad go fial dá gcuid ama agus fola – ár nDeontóirí, na laochra ciúine. Déanfaimid tréaniarracht a gcuid riachtanas a fhreastal, agus admhóimid i gcónaí buntábhacht a gcodasan den obair. Leis na srianta riachtanacha atá i bhfeidhm i gcásanna áirithe anois, is gá dúinn líon ár ndeontóirí a mhéadú go*

every possible support by the Board as innovative and creative methods are sought to broaden and maintain our donor base. I appeal to our colleagues in the media to support all of us in this exercise.

Developing Centres of Excellence requires continuous dedication and learning. Currently there exists in the IBTS a considerable bank of expertise, knowledge and experience. I want this to be acknowledged, and advanced during my term. Research and Development opportunities will be sought and will be given priority. This may involve the establishment of formal links with University Medical Schools, which will further develop and protect our intellectual capital in the area of Transfusion Medicine.

Over this year the Board will work closely with the Chief Executive and Senior Management Team to build commitment to the strategic plan and re-organisation process. These initiatives are hugely important as we construct a professional organisation characterised by the highest standards of safety and quality and an environment where every person is treated with dignity and respect. The strategic plan will herald a number of important organisational developments with an immediate focus on management development which I see as critical to our organisational success.

*mór i mbliana d'fhonn leorsholáthar fola a chinntiú.*

*Tabharfaidh an Bord gach tacaíocht is féidir don bhainistíocht, fad atá módhanna nuálacha cruthaitheacha á lorg againn chun ár mbonn deontóirí a leathnú. Achainim ar ár gcomhleacaithe sna Meáin tacú linn uile sa ghnó seo.*

*Chun Ionaid Feabhais a fhorbairt, tá gá le tiomnú agus le foghlaim leanúnach. Tá banc réasúnta saineolais, eolais agus taithí ar fáil i SFAÉ faoi láthair. Is mian liom go n-admhófar agus go gcothófar seo le mo linn. Beidh deiseanna Taighde agus Forbartha á lorg agus tabharfar an tosaíocht chuí dóibh. D'fhéadfaí, dá mbarr, naisc fhoirmeálta a bhunú le Coláistí Míochaine Ollscoile, rud a fhorbróidh agus a chaomhnóidh a thuilleadh an caipiteal intleachtúil atá againn i réimse na Míochaine Aistriúcháin.*

*I rith na bliana seo, oibreoidh an Bord go dlúth leis an bPríomh-Fheidhmeannach agus leis an bhFoireann Bainistíochta Shinsearach chun tiomantas don phlean straitéiseach agus don phróiseas atheagrúcháin a chothú. Tá na tionscnaimh seo thar a bheith tábhachtach, fad atá eagraíocht ghairmiúil á tógail againn a bheidh inaitheanta óna sárchaighdeáin sábháilteachta agus cáilíochta, agus ón gcomhshaol ina gcaitear le daoine le dinit agus le hurraim. Tionscnóidh an plean straitéiseach roinnt forbairtí eagraíochta, ag cur béime láithreach ar fhorbairt na bainistíochta, rud atá criticiúil, dar liom, má*



The Health Services Reform Programme will undoubtedly have an impact on the IBTS. I believe that as an organisation and as individuals we will be well placed to manage the changes presented and to avail of the opportunities and benefits, which will ensue.

I wish to pay tribute to my Board colleagues for their voluntary service and for their support to me personally. I welcome our new Board members, David Lowe, David Keenan and Sean Wyse who have joined us this year. I acknowledge the contribution made by my predecessor Michael McLoone during his term as chairman.

To Andy Kelly I offer my congratulations and support on his appointment as Chief Executive and I thank him for all he has contributed.

To all those staff members who have worked so diligently and with such commitment and loyalty over the past year, for all you have achieved and for the foundation for future progress which you have laid down – I say Thank You.

The expertise, loyalty and commitment within the IBTS must be harnessed and used to energise our drive for excellence. We must continue to improve, to match the best international standards, to deliver value for money and to exceed the expectations of our

*tá rath le teacht ar an eagraíocht.*

*Nil amhras ach go mbeidh tionchar mór ag Clár Leasaithe na Seirbhísí Sláinte ar chúrsaí SFAÉ. Creidim go mbeidh cruth maith orainn mar eagraíocht agus mar dhaoine chun bainistiú a dhéanamh ar na hathruithe a chuirfear romhainn agus chun leas a bhaint as na deiseanna agus buntáistí a thioctfaidh dá mbarr.*

*Is mian liom mo chomhghleacaithe Boird a mholadh as an seirbhís dheonach a thugann siad agus as a dtacaíocht domsa go pearsanta. Cuirim fáilte roimh ár gcomhaltai Boird nua, David Lowe, David Keenan agus Seán Wyse, a tháinig chugainn i mbliana. Aithnim an méid a rinne mo réamhtheachtaí, Michael McLoone, le linn dó a bheith ina chathaoirleach. Déanaim comhairdeachas le Andy Kelly agus tairgim mo thacaíocht dó, arna cheapadh mar Phríomh-Fheidhmeannach, agus gabhaim buíochas leis as gach a bhfuil curtha i gcrích aige féin.*

*Do na baill foirne siúd uile a d'oibrigh go dícheallach agus leis an oiread sin tiomantais agus dílseachta sa bhliain atá caite, as a bhfuil bainte amach agaibh agus as an mbunsraith atá leagtha agaibh don dul chun cinn feasta, - deirim Go Raibh Maith Agaibh!*

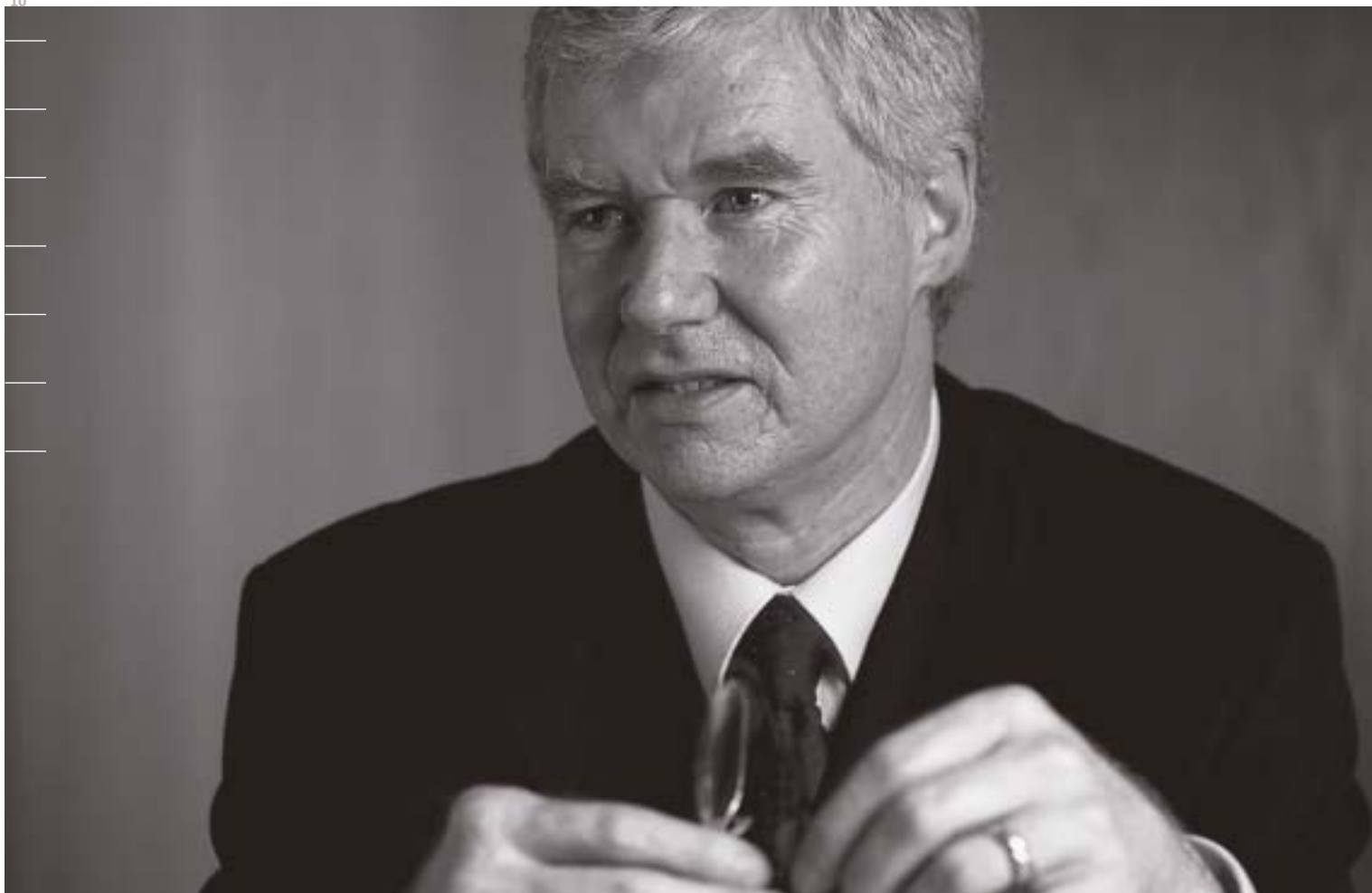
*Ní mór leas a bhaint as an saineolas, dílseacht agus tiomantas uile atá i SFAÉ, agus iadsan a úsáid chun fuinneamh a chur lenár dtóir ar chúrsaí feabhais.*

stakeholders – Donors, Patients, Hospitals and the Minister for Health & Children. This can be achieved by creating an environment where change is embraced, where achievement of standards is paramount, where each individual can develop by being part of a successful team and where every person feels proud to be involved in the IBTS.

Maura J. McGrath | Chairperson

*Caithfimid a bheith ag feabhsú i gcónaí, chun bheith inchurtha leis na caighdeáin idirnáisiúnta is fearr, chun luach ar airgead a thabhairt agus chun ionchais ár bpáirtithe leasmhara a shárú, fiú – ár nDeontóirí, Othair, Ospidéal agus an tAire Sláinte agus Leanaí. Is féidir seo a bhaint amach trí gcomhshaol a chruthú ina nglacfar go fonnmhar le hathrú, ina gcuirfear aimsiú na n-ardchaighdeán roimh gach ní eile, ina bhféadfaidh gach duine é/í féin a fhorbairt trí bheith páirteach i bhfoireann rathúil, agus ina mbeidh gach duine bródúil as a bheith páirteach i SFAÉ.*

Maura J. McGrath | Cathaoirleach



“ IN 2003 THE IBTS WAS  
ABLE TO MEET HOSPITAL  
DEMANDS THROUGHOUT  
THE YEAR DUE TO THE  
GENEROSITY OF DONORS ”

## ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

## TUAIRISC ÓN BPRÍOMH-FHEIDHMEANNACH GNÍOMHACH

I 2003 BHÍ SFAÉ IN ANN FREASTAL AR ÉILIMH

NA N-OSPIDÉAL I RITH NA BLIANA, DE BHARR

FHLAITHIÚLACHT NA NDEONTÓIRÍ

# Acting Chief Executive's Report

# Tuairisc ón bPríomh-fheidhmeannach Gníomhach

In 2003 the IBTS was able to meet hospital demands throughout the year due to the generosity of donors who continue to support the service and patient care in this country. Though there have been many developments in medicine over the past number of years, the one thing that has not changed and will not change for the foreseeable future is our reliance on volunteer donors who will remain the cornerstone of our system. We salute those donors and we ask that more of our regular donors return to donate, that lapsed donors who have not donated for some time would rekindle their interest in ensuring the availability of blood for patients and that we continue to attract new donors to the service.

In response to our donor comments on waiting times at clinics we opened a new donation centre in Stillorgan, Co. Dublin, on 15th December. This centre will operate on an appointment basis only and will ensure a better donation experience for our donors.

During the year we introduced the Progesa computer system which allows us to electronically take information from donors at our clinics and also for our staff to view the details of any donor on our database irrespective of the location they come to donate. The implementation of this system was achieved through the tremendous commitment and support of a range of people and it has been an enhancement in the service we provide to patients in this country.

Safe transfusion therapy depends on a shared responsibility from donors, blood transfusion service, clinicians, laboratory, clinic teams and regulatory bodies. We will continue to work closely with our

*I 2003 bhí SFAÉ in ann freastal ar éilimh na n-ospidéal i rith na bliana, de bharr fhlaithiúlacht na ndeontóirí a thugann tacaíocht i gcónaí don tseirbhís agus do chúram na n-othar sa tír seo. Cé gur tharla go leor forbairtí i gcúrsaí leighis le blianta beaga anuas, an t-aon ní nár athraigh agus nach n-athróidh sa todhchaí ionchais is ea ár muinín as na deontóirí deonacha a bheidh mar chloch cúinne ag ár gcóras i gcónaí. Beannaímid do na deontóirí sin uile, agus iarraidimid go bhfillfidh níos mó dár ndeontóirí rialta orainn, go bhfaighidh na deontóirí nár fheidhmigh le tamall inspreamhadh chun an soláthar fola a chinntiú d'othair, agus go leanfaimid féin ag mealladh deontóirí nua chun na seirbhíse.*

*Mar fhreagra ar dheontóirí a dhéanann tagairt don am feithimh ag clinicí, d'oscloim ar lárionad deonacháin nua i Stigh Lorgan, Co. Bhaile Átha Cliath, ar an 15ú Nollaig. Feidhmeoidh an lárionad seo ar bhonn coinne amháin agus cinnteoidh sé go mbeidh ócáid deonacháin níos sásúla ann dár ndeontóirí feasta.*

*I rith na bliana thionscnaíomar Córas Ríomhaireachta Progesa, a ligeann dúinn faisnéis a ghlacadh go leictreonach ó dheontóirí inár gclinicí agus a ligeann dár bhfoireann, ag an am céanna, sonraí aon deontóra atá ar ár mbunachar sonraí a bhreathnú, cibé ionad ina ndéantar an deonúchán. Cuireadh an córas seo i bhfeidhm le tiomantas iontach agus tacaíocht ó raon leathan daoine, agus is formhaisiú é ar an tseirbhís a chuirtear ar fáil d'othair na tíre.*

*Tá teiripe sábháilte fuilaisriúcháin ag brath ar chomhroinnt na freagrachta idir deontóirí, an tseirbhís fuilaisriúcháin, cliniceoirí, an tsaotharlann, foirne clinice agus comhlachtaí rialaitheacha. Leanfaimid ar aghaidh*

hospital colleagues in ensuring that the donations given by our volunteer donors are used to best effect in the most appropriate circumstances.

In line with our commitment to developing a new centre in Cork we submitted a design brief to the Department of Health and Children in March 2003 for a new centre encompassing testing including NAT. By year-end we were awaiting the announcement of the appointment of a design team for the centre and we will be actively pursuing this development in 2004 to ensure that we have facilities in Cork appropriate to a modern transfusion service.

We have embarked on providing an interim solution in Cork and this was under development at the end of 2003. This development will deal with a number of the concerns of our regulator and is seen as an interim arrangement pending the development of a new centre for Cork on the campus of Cork University Hospital.

We developed the NAT laboratory at the National Blood Centre during 2003 and by December it was being commissioned and validated with a view to having parallel testing with the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service in January 2004 prior to 'go live' in Dublin. This is a very important development for the IBTS and once the system has stabilised in Dublin we intend to implement NAT in Cork in 2005.

In December the Irish Medicines Board inspected our two processing facilities and our regional centres and mobile clinics. We must ensure that we maintain our strong focus on the maintenance of the highest

*ag oibriú go dlúth lenár gcomhleacaithe ospidéal chun a chinntiú go mbaintear an úsáid is fearr i gcónaí as deonacháin ár ndeontóirí deonacha faoi na cúinsí is oiriúnaí.*

*Ag teacht lenár ngeallúint ionad nua a fhorbairt i gCorcaigh, chuireamar sonraí deartha faoi bhráid na Roinne Sláinte agus Leanai i Márta 2003 le haghaidh aonaid nua a chuimseoidh cúrsaí tástála, lena n-áirítear TAN. Faoi dheireadh na bliana bhíomar ag feitheamh ar fhógra go raibh foireann deartha ceaptha don aonad, agus beimid ag gabháil go gníomhach den fhorbairt seo i 2004, lena chinntiú go mbeidh na háiseanna againn i gCorcaigh a oireann do sheirbhís fuilaistriúcháin chomhaimseartha.*

*Táimid tosaithe ar réiteach eatramhach a sholáthar i gCorcaigh agus bhí forbairt á déanamh air seo faoi dheireadh 2003. Pléfidh an fhorbairt seo le cuid de na cúraimí atá ag ár rialtóir, agus féachtar air mar shocrú eatramhach go dtí go bhforbrófar ionad nua do Chorcaigh ar champas Ospidéal Ollscoil Chorcaí.*

*D'fhorbraiomar an tsaotharlann TAN sa Lárionad Náisiúnta Fola le linn 2003 agus um Nollaig bhí sí á coimisiúnú agus a bailíocht á dearbhú chun go mbeadh sí in ann reáchtáil comhthreomhar le Seirbhís Fuilaistrithe Náisiúnta na hAlban in Eanáir 2004, sula gcuirfí ag feidhmiú i mBaile Átha Cliath í. Is forbairt iontach tábhachtach í seo do SFAÉ agus, a luaithe a bheidh bonn curtha faoin gcóras i mBaile Átha Cliath, tá beartaithe againn TAN a fheidhmiú i gCorcaigh i 2005.*

*I mí na Nollag scrúdaigh Bord Míochaine na hÉireann an*

standards under Good Manufacturing Practice and continue to build on the solid foundations that have been set in the past number of years.

Blood transfusion services across the world face ever-changing demands and challenges such as vCJD, West Nile Virus and SARS. The IBTS is well placed to deal with these threats and through the commitment and dedication of our staff at all locations we have created a blood system in Ireland that is effective, efficient and worthy of the support of the public. To retain this position we must continue to develop and continue to provide a transfusion service that is on par with the best in the world.

I would like to express sincere appreciation to Mr Michael McLoone, Chairman of the Board to 31st August 2003, for his commitment, support and hard work in dealing with the many issues facing the organisation. I would also like to wish Ms Maura McGrath well as she assumes the position of Chairperson for the next three years. To all staff across the organisation, I would like to thank you most sincerely for your continued commitment and dedication to the work of the IBTS and patient care in this country.

**Andrew Kelly** | Acting Chief Executive

*dá áis phróiseála agus na hionaid réigiúnacha ina bhfuil clinicí soghluaiste againn. Caithfidimid a bheith cinnte súil ghéar a choinneáil ar na sárchaighdeáin atá againn i leith Dea-Chleachtais Déantúsaíochta agus tógáil ar an mbunsraith daingean a leagadh síos sna blianta beaga atá thart.*

*Tá na héilimh agus na dúshláin ó leithéidí vGCJ, Vireas Iarthar na Níle agus GSTR ag síorathrú ar na seirbhísí fuilistriúcháin ar fud an domhain. Tá eagar maith ar SFAÉ anois chun tabhairt faoi na bagairtí seo agus, de bharr thiomantas agus thoirbhirt na foirne i ngach ionad dár gcuid, tá córas fola ceaptha againn d'Éirinn atá éifeachtach agus éifeachtúil, agus is fiú í le tacaíocht an phobail a ghnóthú. Má táimid leis an staid seo a chaomhnú, caithfidimid leanúint ag forbairt agus ag soláthar seirbhíse fuilistriúcháin atá ar chomhleibhéal leis an gcuid is fearr ar domhan.*

*Ba mhaith liom mo mheas dlíis a chur in iúl do Mr. Michael McLoone, a bhí mar Chathaoirleach an Bhoird go dtí an 31ú Lúnasa 2003, as an tiomantas, tacaíocht agus saothar crua a chaith sé leis na ceisteanna uile a tháinig roimh an eagraíocht. Ba mhaith liom, freisin, gach rath a ghuí ar Ms. Maura McGrath a ghlacfaidh post an Chathaoirligh don trí bliana atá romhainn. Maidir leis an bhfoireann uile ar fud na heagraíochta, ba mhaith liom mo bhuíochas ó chroí a ghabháil libhse as bhur dtiomantas agus bhur ndíonbháilteacht i leith obair BFAÉ agus cúraim othar sa tír seo.*

**Andrew Kelly** | Príomhfheidhmeannach Gníomhach



“ IN 2003 THE INEXORABLE  
DRIVE TO IMPROVE THE  
SAFETY PROFILE OF BLOOD  
TRANSFUSION LED TO  
SEVERAL KEY EVENTS AND  
INITIATIVES AT THE IBTS ”

## NATIONAL MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

### TUAIRISC AN STIÚRTHÓRA NÁISIÚNTA MÍOCHAINÉ

I 2003 THARLA ROINNT TEAGMHAS AGUS TIONSCNAMH

FÍORTHÁBHACHTACHA I SFAÉ, DE THORADH IARRACHTAÍ GAN STAONADH  
CHUN PRÓIFÍL SÁBHÁILTEACHTA AN FHUILAISTRIÚCHÁIN A FHEABHSÚ.

# National Medical Director's Report

# Tuairisc an Stiúrthóra Náisiúnta Míochaine

Blood and its components – red blood cells, platelet concentrates, plasma, cryoprecipitate and leucocytes – are medicines, used to treat patients whose life might be saved or whose health might be preserved or enhanced by receiving them.

Red cell transfusions are used to deliver oxygen to tissues; platelets prevent or stop bleeding in some patients with bleeding disorders; so do plasma and cryoprecipitate in other, similar, disorders. Leucocytes are rarely used therapeutically – when they are it is to supplement intensive antibiotic therapy in patients with overwhelming infections.

Like any medicine, blood components are assessed in terms of two things: efficacy – do they do what they are supposed to do? What is the best effective dose; and safety – do they cause unwanted additional effects? Are they toxic in large doses.

Surprisingly, answers to many seemingly basic questions about the efficacy of blood transfusion are not really known yet. Do we collect and store products in the best way to ensure that they deliver the intended therapeutic effect? Is the red cell unit stored for five weeks or more as effective in a patient on Intensive Care as it undoubtedly is for a patient on the medical wards? Can the efficacy of platelets be enhanced to improve their ability to stop

*Cógais leighis atá san fhuil agus a comhpháirteanna – fuilchealla dearga, comhdhlúthúcháin pláitíní, plasma, críóidheascán agus leocaicítí - a úsáidtear mar chóireáil do dhaoine a bhféadfai a mbeatha a shábháil nó a sláinte a chaomhnú nó a fheabhsú, b'fhéidir, dá bhfaighidís iad.*

*Úsáidtear aistrithe cealla dearga chun ocsaigin a sheachadadh chuig na fíocháin: coscann nó stopann na pláitíní an fuiliú i ndaoine áirithe a mbíonn mí-eagair fuilithe ag cur orthu; is amhlaidh freisin do phlasma agus do chríóidheascán i gcás mí-eagar eile den sórt céanna. Is annamh a úsáidtear leocaicítí go teiripeach – má dhéantar, is chun cur le dianteiripe antaibheathach é i gcás othar a bhfuil ionfhabhtuithe coscracha acu.*

*Ar nós cógais ar bith eile, déantar comhpháirteanna fola a mheas i dtéarmaí dhá rud: éifeachtúlacht – an ndéanann siad an rud a bhfuil siad ceaptha a dhéanamh? Cad í an dháileog is éifeachtaí; agus sábháilteacht – an mbíonn torthaí breise orthu nach bhfuil ag teastáil? An mbíonn iarmhairtí tocsaineacha ann le dáileoga móra?*

*Aisteach go leor, níl freagraí faighte go fóill ar mhórán de na ceisteanna faoi éifeachtúlacht fuiláistriúcháin a mheasfa a bheith bunúsach. An bhfuil tairgí á mbailiú agus á stóráil againn ar an dóigh is fearr lena chinntiú go mbeidh an éifeacht teiripeach leo a bhfuiltear ag súil*



haemorrhage? What is the best dose of red cells, or platelets, in each different patient?

Although the efficacy of blood components and its optimisation is being addressed at present, for many years the emphasis has been mainly on safety, and particularly on the risk of transmitting infection by transfusions. The risks of transmitting known infections – most particularly HIV and HCV, but also others with less spectacular billing such as HBV, CMV, parvovirus B19 – along with the unknown risks of transmitting new infections, continue to dominate the world of blood transfusion.

In 2003 the inexorable drive to improve the safety profile of blood transfusion led to several key events and initiatives at the IBTS, and on the international scene; and at the close of the year the reality of the continuing threats to which these essential medicines are exposed was re-emphasised in the most forceful manner.

The year was ushered in with the coming into force of EU Directive 2002/98/EC on the 8th of February. This dry text, replete with recitals, articles and annexes, is the first legislative instrument in Europe concentrating on health rather than trade, foreign affairs, the free movement of citizens, or the other administrative functions of the EU. It sets up a mechanism for

*léi? I gcás aonad de chealla dearga a stóráladh ar feadh cúig seachtainí nó níos mó, an mbeadh an éifeacht chéanna acu ar othair atá faoi Dhianchúram is a bhíonn, gan amhras, ar othair sna bardaí míochaine? An féidir éifeacht na bpláitíní a fheabhsú, chun cur lena gcumas rith fola a stopadh? Cad é an dháileog is fearr de chealla dearga nó de phláitíní i gcás aon othair ar leith?*

*Cé go bhfuiltear ag plé faoi láthair le héifeacht comhpháirteanna fola agus leis an úsáid is fearr is féidir a bhaint aisti, bhí an phríomhbhéim le go leor blianta ar an tsábháilteacht, agus go háirithe ar an mbaol go ndéanfaí ionfhabhtú a tharchur le haistriúcháin. I saol an fhulaistriúcháin, tá an phríomhbhéim i gcónaí ar na baoil atá ann go dtarchuirfí ionfhabhtuithe aitheanta – go háirithe VEID agus VHC, chomh maith le cinn nach bhfuil chomh suntasach céanna, ar nós VHB, CMV, parvovíoras B19 – agus ar na priacail anaithnide a bhaineann le hionfhabhtuithe nua a tharchur.*

*I 2003 tharla roinnt teagmhas agus tionscnamh fíorthábhachtacha i SFAÉ agus go idirnáisiúnta, de thoradh na n- iarrachtaí gan staonadh chun próifíl sábháilteachta an fhulaistriúcháin a fheabhsú; agus ag deireadh na bliana leagadh béim láidir arís ar réaltacht na mbaol leanúnach atá ag bagairt ar na míochainí riachtanacha seo.*

*Ag tús na bliana, ar an 8ú Feabhra, feidhmíodh*

ensuring that Member States achieve, maintain, and enforce high standards in the quality and safety of blood transfusion – both for blood donors, and for the patients who receive the products of their donations. The Member States have two years to comply with the requirements – until 8 February 2005. This will have considerable consequences for the IBTS, as well as for the Irish Medicines Board, the Department of Health and Children, and all hospital blood banks. It will dominate the agenda in 2004 and beyond.

Within the terms of this defining legislation, the EU Commission set out technical standards in transfusion – standards for donors, for the products themselves, for their transport, storage, testing and quality control. These technical specifications were defined during 2003, and finally adopted at the end of the year. Further specifications relating to systems of adverse event reporting, traceability of individual blood components, and quality systems, will be worked on during the next year or so.

The fact that blood transfusion emerged as the leading issue of public health concern in Europe reflects both the troubled history of this form of therapy, and the constant effort required to ensure its quality and safety. At home, new initiatives to enhance safety, to deal with new threats, or escalate our defence against old ones were begun, progressed or implemented. In

*Rialacháin 2002/98/EC an AE. Is é an téacs tur seo, lena aithrisí, ailt agus aguisíní, an chéad ionstraim reachtúil de chuid na hEorpa a bhain le sláinte, seachas le trádáil, gnóthaí eachtracha, saorghluaiseacht saoránach, nó feidhmeanna riaracháin eile an AE. Bunaíonn sé meicníocht lena chinntiú go n-aimsíonn, go gcoinníonn agus go bhfeidhmíonn na Ballstáit na hardchaighdeáin cáilíochta agus sábháilteachta i gcúrsaí fuiláistriúcháin – ar mhaithe leis na deontóirí fola agus, freisin, na hothair a fhaigheann táirgí na ndeonachán. Tá dhá bhliain ag na Ballstáit chun na riachtanais a chomhlíonadh – go dtí an 8ú Feabhra 2005. Beidh neart iarmhairtí ag gabháil leis seo do SFAÉ agus, freisin, do Bhord Míochaine na hÉireann, don Roinn Sláinte agus Leanaí agus do bhainc fola na n-ospidéal uile. Beidh sé ar thús cadhnaíochta i gclár oibre 2004, agus ina dhiaidh.*

*Mar chuid de théarmaí na reachtaíochta sainmhínte seo, leag an AE amach na caighdeáin theicniúla le haghaidh aistriúcháin – caighdeáin do dheontóirí, do na táirgí féin, dá n-iompar, stóráil, tástáil agus do rathú na gcaighdeáin. Sainmhíodh na sonrachaí teicniúla seo le linn 2003, agus glacadh leo ansin ag deireadh na bliana. Beifear ag oibriú, ar feadh bliana nó mar sin, ar shonrachaí breise a bhaineann le córais tuairiscithe do theagmhais dhíobhálacha, le hinaimsitheacht comhpháirteanna fola ar leith, agus le córais caighdeáin. An tslí ar tháinig an fuiláistriúchán chun cinn mar*

April, the IBTS hosted the first major conference of the European Blood Alliance – a formal union of the national transfusion services of the EU – to address the utility and scope of available techniques to inactivate bacteria, viruses and other infections or parasites in blood components. The promises of this approach are perhaps a few years away yet from being fulfilled, but the conference was valuable in allowing blood services to develop national strategies to prepare for this eventual implementation in the years to come. In the meantime the IBTS was able to begin the development and implementation of a novel strategy to address the risk of inadvertent bacterial contamination of platelets, an uncommon but serious complication of platelet transfusion for which no effective elimination strategy has been found to date.

During 2003 the building of the first of the IBTS NAT laboratories for screening blood donations using PCR was completed at the Dublin Centre. While all donations have been tested using this ultra sensitive test for several years, up till now the testing has been done for us in Edinburgh – an extremely successful programme of co-operation at several levels. Installing the technology in Ireland for large-scale rapid screening increases our flexibility to introduce new tests for viruses in the future.

A new virus did threaten in 2003. For several years

*phríomhchúram sláinte poiblí san Eoraip, léiríonn sí stair thrioblóideach na cineála seo teiripe agus an siorriarracht a theastaíonn chun caighdeán agus sábháilteacht a chinntiú. Anseo sa bhaile tosaiodh, cotháíodh nó feidhmíodh tionscnaimh chun an tsábháilteacht a fheabhsú in aghaidh bagairtí nua, agus an chosaint ar na seanchinn a neartú. I mí Aibreáin, bhí SFAÉ ina hóstaí ar an gcéad mhór-Chomhdháil de Chomhaontas Fola na hEorpa – aontas foirmeálta de sheirbhísí aistriúcháin an AE – d'fhonn aghaidh a thabhairt ar áisiúlacht agus ar scóip na dteicnící atá ann faoi láthair chun baictéir víorais, agus ionfhabhtaithe nó paraisítí eile i gcomhpháirteanna fola a dhíghníomhú. Glacfaidh sé roinnt blianta le geallúintí an chuir chuige seo a aimsiú, ach bhí an chomhdháil luachmar sa mhéid gur lig sí do na seirbhísí fola a straitéisí náisiúnta a fhorbairt mar ullmhú don fhorfheidhmiú iarmhartach seo sna blianta atá le teacht. Idir an dá linn bhí ar chumas SFAÉ tosú ar nuastraitéis a fhorbairt agus a fhorfheidhmiú chun díriú ar an mbaol go mbeadh pláitíní á salú go faillíoch le baictéir, fadhb neamhchoitianta ach thromaí a bhaineann le haistriú pláitíní, agus ceann nach bhfuil aon straitéis éifeachtach faighte lena shárú go fóill.*

*Bhí bagairt ó víreas nua i 2003. Le roinnt blianta anuas tháinig Víreas Iarthar na Níle chun cinn i SAM i rith an tsamhraidh gach bliain, á scaipeadh ag éin agus corrmhiola, agus ag cur ar líon méadaithe daoine i*

West Nile Virus has emerged in the USA every summer, spread from birds by mosquitoes, and affecting humans in increasing numbers in more and more states of the USA, and in Canada, every year. In 2003 it also spread to northern Mexico. In 2002 it became apparent that people could spread the disease by blood transfusion if they donated in the interval between their being bitten by a carrier mosquito and their developing a clinical illness from the virus – a period of about 3 weeks. These transfusion-transmitted cases were sometimes fatal. And so, in time for the mosquito season in 2003, the IBTS deferred everyone returning from the USA, Canada, and later on, Mexico, from donating blood for four weeks, to ensure that no-one in the incubation period for West Nile Disease could inadvertently cause harm to a patient – the very opposite of what they had set out to do in coming to donate blood.

For several years, the IBTS has introduced measures to offset the threat that variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease – vCJD, the human form of mad cow disease – might possibly be spread by blood transfusion. These measures, filtering blood to remove white cells (thought to be a major potential route of transmission) deferring donors who had spent five years or more in the UK, importing plasma from the blood centre in San Antonio, and initiatives to optimise blood use at

*mbreis stát de chuid SAM agus i gCeanada. I mbliana, leath sé go Tuaisceart Mheicsiceo. I 2002 tugadh faoi deara go bhféadfaí an galar a leathadh trí fhuilaidriúchán, dá dtabharfadh daoine deonachán sa tréimhse idir cealg a fháil ó chormhiol ar iompróir é agus an tinneas cliniúil a fháil ón víreas – tréimhse de thart ar 3 sheachtain. Na cásanna seo a tarchuireadh le haistriúcháin, bhíodh siad marfach uaireanta. Mar sin de, in am agus i dtráth do shéasúr na gcorrmiolta i 2003, chuir SFAÉ bac ar gach duine a d'fhill ó SAM, Ceanada agus níos moille, Meicsiceo, fuil a dheonadh go ceann ceithre seachtaine, lena chinntiú nach ndéanfadh éinne, sa tréimhse goir ag Galar Iarthar na Níle, dochar gan coinne d'othar – a mhalairt is a bhí ar intinn acu nuair a tháinig siad a dheonadh fola.*

*Le roinnt blianta anuas, thionscain BFÉ roinnt bearta le cur in aghaidh an bhaoil go bhféadfaí Galar Creutzfeldt-Jakob athraitheach – GCJa, an fhoirm dhaonna de ghalar na bó buile – a leathadh, b'fhéidir, trí fhuilaidriúchán. Ainneoin nárbh eol gur tharla aon tarchur trí aistriúcháin, glacadh na céimeanna seo: fuil a scagadh chun cealla bána a bhaint aisti (óir measadh go bhféadfadh siad a bheith ina bpríomh-mheán tarchuir), deontóirí a choinneáil siar má chaith siad cúig bliana nó níos mó sa RA, plasma a ollmhairiú ó ionad fola San Antonio, agus tionscnaimh chun úsáid fola sna hospidéal a uasmheadú. Ach i mí na Nollag glanadh an éiginnteacht nuair a*

the hospitals, were taken in spite of the fact that transmission by transfusion had not been known to occur. But in December that uncertainty was resolved when the Secretary of State for Health in the UK announced the tragic link between a donor who had gone on to develop vCJD after a donation in 1996 and the subsequent appearance of vCJD in the recipient of the donation, over six years later. It could have been just co-incidence, but the odds against that are staggering.

These events serve to remind us continually of the global nature of the threats to blood safety: on one hand, a disease of birds in the USA, probably brought in by a mosquito hitching a ride on an international flight to New York; on the other hand a change in meat rendering practices in the UK in the 1970s each resulted in unforeseen and unforeseeable consequences for blood safety. Our approach to blood safety has to be geared to deal with this form of global threat – constant surveillance, and readiness to react rapidly and definitively when problems emerge. We do not know where the next problem will come from. But we can be fairly sure it will come.

**Dr William Murphy** |

National Medical Director

M.D., FRCPEdin, FRCPath

*d'fhógair an Rúnaí Stáit um Shláinte sa RA go raibh ceangal tragóideach idir deontóir a thóg GCJa i ndiaidh fuil a dheonadh i 1996 agus faighteoir an deonacháin a fuair GCJa níos mó ná sé bliana ina dhiaidh sin. B'fhéidir gur chomhtharlú a bhí ann, go díreach, ach tá na corrlaigh ina choinne sin do-áirithe.*

*Cuireann na teagmhais seo gné dhomhanda na mbagairtí atá roimh shábháilteacht na fola in iúl dúinn go leanúnach; ar láimh amháin, galar éineacha i SAM, tugtha isteach is dócha ag corrmhiol a ghlac síob ar eitilt idirnáisiúnta go Nua-Eabhrach; ar an lámh eile, an t-athrú a tháinig ar chleachtais ghéghlanta feola sa RA sna 1970í, bhí iarmhairtí leo nach raibh, agus nach bhféadfadh, súil a bheith leo ó thaobh sábháilteachta fola de. Is gá go mbeadh cur chuige againn i leith sábháilteachta fola atá ceaptha chun déileáil leis an gcineál bagartha domhanda seo – cur chuige atá síorfhairéach agus réidh chun frithghníomhú go gasta dearfach má tharlaíonn fadhbanna. Ní heol dúinn cad as a thioctfaidh an chéad fhadhb eile. Ach is féidir a bheith measartha cinnte go dtiocfaidh sí.*

*Dr William Murphy* |

*An Stiúrthoir Náisiúnta Míochaine*

*M.D., FRCPEdin, FRCPath*



“BLOOD FOR LIFE WEEK HAD THE SUPPORT OF A NUMBER OF WELL KNOWN IRISH PERSONALITIES”

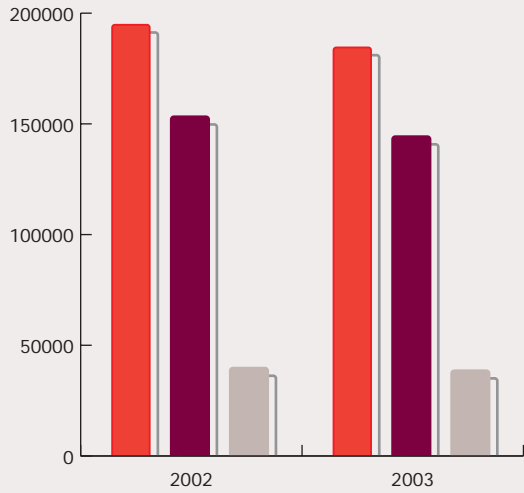
## DONOR SERVICES NATIONAL ACTIVITY

### IMEACHTAÍ NAISIÚNTA NA SEIRBHÍSÍ DEONTÓIRÍ

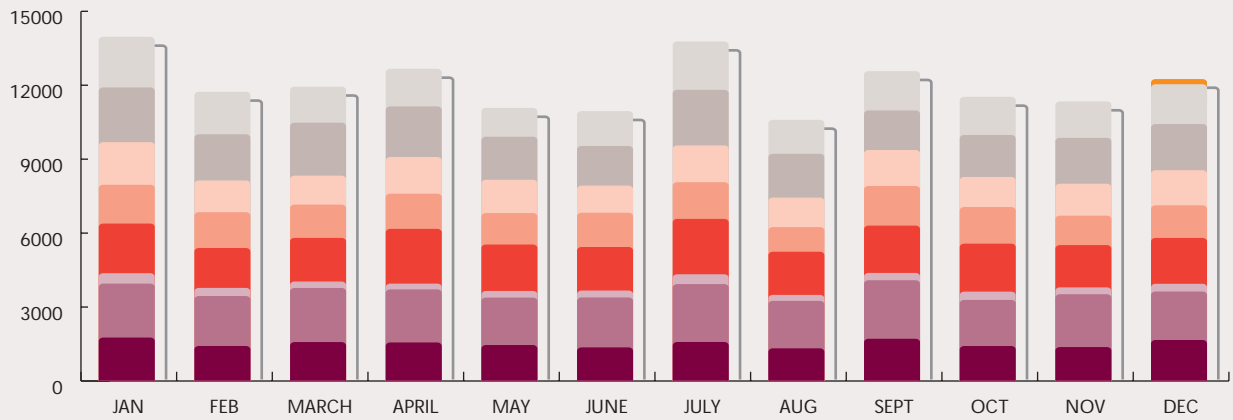
BHÍ TACAÍOCHT AG SEACHTAIN NA FOLA

DON BHEATHA Ó ROINNT DE

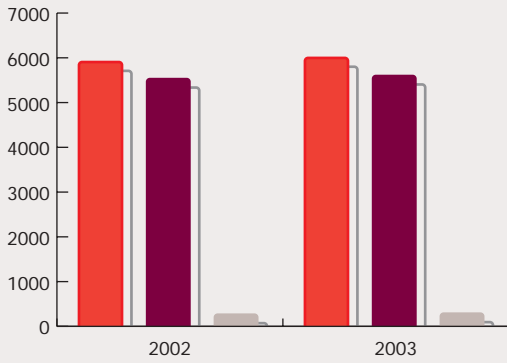
MHÓRPHEARSAIN SPÓIRT NA HÉIREANN.



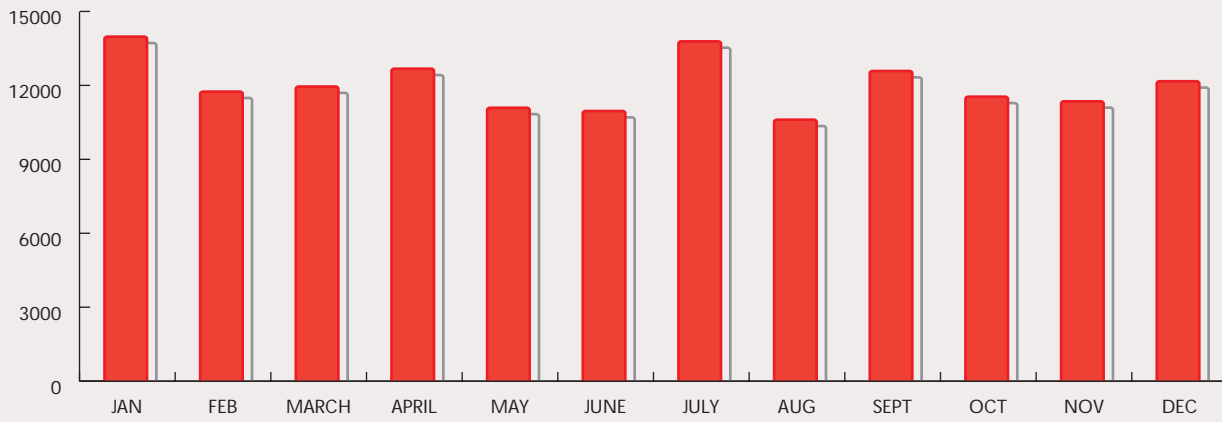
| NATIONAL WHOLE BLOOD DONATIONS |        |        |
|--------------------------------|--------|--------|
|                                | 2002   | 2003   |
| Attended                       | 196587 | 186345 |
| Procured                       | 155056 | 146078 |
| Deferred                       | 41533  | 40357  |
| Deferral Rate                  | 21.10% | 21.70% |



| MONTHLY DONATIONS PROCURED PER CENTRE |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Location                              | Jan          | Feb          | March        | April        | May          | June         | July         | Aug          | Sept         | Oct          | Nov          | Dec          |
| Ardee                                 | 1911         | 1569         | 1727         | 1712         | 1607         | 1512         | 1731         | 1474         | 1861         | 1567         | 1524         | 1812         |
| Carlow                                | 2190         | 2026         | 2196         | 2153         | 1925         | 2026         | 2348         | 1925         | 2375         | 1870         | 2144         | 1967         |
| Cork Fixed Centre                     | 422          | 331          | 262          | 235          | 270          | 281          | 399          | 243          | 298          | 338          | 279          | 314          |
| Cork Mobile                           | 2014         | 1617         | 1769         | 2221         | 1884         | 1766         | 2248         | 1751         | 1919         | 1946         | 1714         | 1860         |
| Limerick                              | 1573         | 1454         | 1351         | 1428         | 1275         | 1390         | 1488         | 999          | 1607         | 1485         | 1195         | 1324         |
| Tuam                                  | 1731         | 1287         | 1175         | 1486         | 1352         | 1101         | 1492         | 1198         | 1460         | 1220         | 1296         | 1423         |
| Mobile One                            | 2219         | 1874         | 2149         | 2055         | 1747         | 1608         | 2255         | 1777         | 1606         | 1704         | 1861         | 1874         |
| D'Olier Street                        | 2053         | 1725         | 1460         | 1523         | 1167         | 1412         | 1961         | 1377         | 1594         | 1547         | 1477         | 1614         |
| Stillorgan                            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 116          |
| <b>Total</b>                          | <b>14113</b> | <b>11883</b> | <b>12089</b> | <b>12813</b> | <b>11227</b> | <b>11096</b> | <b>13922</b> | <b>10744</b> | <b>12720</b> | <b>11677</b> | <b>11490</b> | <b>12304</b> |



| PLATELET DONATIONS |      |      |
|--------------------|------|------|
|                    | 2002 | 2003 |
| Attended           | 6010 | 6102 |
| Procured           | 5637 | 5706 |
| Deferred           | 373  | 396  |
| Deferral Rate      | 6.2% | 6.5% |



MONTHLY WHOLE BLOOD DONATIONS PROCURED

|              | Jan   | Feb   | March | April | May   | June  | July  | Aug   | Sept  | Oct   | Nov   | Dec   |
|--------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| <b>Total</b> | 14113 | 11883 | 12089 | 12813 | 11227 | 11096 | 13922 | 10744 | 12720 | 11677 | 11490 | 12304 |



## Donors Services National Activity

### Blood for Life Week

This was the third year of Blood for Life Week, which ran from 22nd – 28th September. The theme of the week was Be a Sport - Give Blood and in line with this theme we had the support of a number of well known Irish sports personalities, including Brian Kerr, Sonia O'Sullivan, and members of the Irish Rugby Squad past and present, Victor Costello, Peter Clohessy, Girvan Dempsey and Keith Gleeson. St Patrick's Athletic football club also gave us their support by helping with a clinic in Inchicore during the week. Blood for Life Week was also supported by Elastoplast and Ben & Jerry's ice cream.

Other promotions were held at Trinity College, UCD, Dublin Airport, Royal & Sun Alliance and at a number of Superquinn outlets.

Sharon Ni Bheolain continues to act as our Ambassador and this year, our special Ambassador was two and a half year old Eoghan O'Sullivan, who had a kidney transplant and needed a number of transfusions.

### Other Promotional Activities

The IBTS held a number of other blood donation awareness promotions at various events. Our first 3-day event was at the Young Scientist's Exhibition held

## Gníomhaíocht Náisiúnta na Seirbhísí Deontóra

### Seachtain na Fola don Bheatha

*Ba í seo an tríú bliain de Sheachtain na Fola don Bheatha, a reáchtáladh ón 22ú – 28ú Meán Fómhair. Ba é téama na seachtaine, Bí Spórtúil – Tabhair Fuil, agus ag teacht leis an téama, bhí tacaíocht againn ó roinnt de mhórphearsain spóirt na hÉireann, lena n-áirítear Brian Kerr, Sonia O'Sullivan agus baill, idir shean agus nua, de Scuid Rugbaí na hÉireann – Victor Costello, Peter Clohessy, Girvan Dempsey agus Keith Gleeson. Thug club sacair St. Patrick's Athletic tacaíocht dúinn i rith na seachtaine trí chuidiú le clinic in Inse Chóir. Thacaigh Elastoplast agus Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream, freisin, le Seachtain na Fola don Bheatha.*

*Bhí ócáidí bolscaireachta eile i gColáiste na Tríonóide, Co. Bhaile Átha Cliath, in Aerfort Bhaile Átha Cliath, i Royal & Sun Alliance agus roinnt siopaí de chuid Superquinn.*

*Tá Sharon Ní Bheoláin ag feidhmiú mar Ambasadóir dúinn i gcónaí, agus i mbliana bhí Eoghan O'Sullivan, atá dhá bhliain go leith d'aois, mar Ambasadóir speisialta againn.*

### Gníomhaíochtaí Bolscaireachta Eile

*D'eagraigh SFAÉ roinnt ócáidí bolscaireachta eile i dtaobh feasachta ag imeachtaí éagsúla. D'eagraíomar ár gcéadócáid 3 lá ag Taispeántas na nEolaithe Óga a reáchtáladh san RDS, agus rinne SFAÉ urraíocht ar dhuais ann.*

at the RDS where the IBTS sponsored a prize.

In September, the IBTS had an information stand at the National Ploughing Championships in Kinnegad, Co. Meath. More than 150,000 people attended the event over the three days.

Donor Services also held a clinic for staff and politicians at Buswells Hotel, adjacent to Leinster House in October.

## The Ferry Programme

The IBTS is grateful for the continued support of community groups and businesses. This support is through an initiative called the Ferry Programme. Employers give staff the opportunity to donate blood as a group from the workplace. Transport to and from the clinic is provided by the IBTS.

## Voluntary Donor Organisers

The organisation of clinics throughout the country is dependent to a huge extent on the work and support of Local Voluntary Organisers. The IBTS is grateful for the commitment and assistance of local voluntary organisers who play such an important role in guaranteeing the success of clinics in their area.

*I Meán Fómhair bhí seastán eolais ag SFAÉ ag na Craobhchomórtais Treafa Náisiúnta i gCionn Átha Gad, Co. na hIarmhí. D'fhreastail níos mó ná 150,000 duine ar an ócáid le linn na dtrí lá.*

*I mí Dheireadh Fómhair, freisin, bhí clinic ag Na Seirbhísí Deontóra don fhoireann agus do pholaiteoirí in Ostán Buswells gar do Theach Laighean.*

## An Clár Farantóireachta

*Tá SFAÉ buíoch do ghrúpaí pobail agus do lucht gnó as a dtacaíocht leanúnach. Cuirtear seo ar fáil tríd an tionscnamh ar a dtugaimid an Clár Farantóireachta. Tugann fostóirí an deis dá mbaill foirne fuil a dheonadh ón ionad oibre mar ghrúpa. Cuireann SFAÉ áis iompair ar fáil dóibh chuig an gclinic agus ar ais uaithi.*

## Eagraithe Deonacha na nDeontóirí

*Bíonn eagrú na gclinicí ar fud na tíre ag brath go han-mhór ar obair agus ar thacaíocht na nEagraithe Deonacha Áitiúla. Tá SFAÉ buíoch as tiomantas agus tacaíocht na n-eagraithe deonacha áitiúla a bhfuil ról fíorthábhachtach acu a chinntiú go mbíonn rath ar na clinicí ina gceantair.*

## Apheresis Clinic

Recruitment of platelet donors for the Apheresis Clinic at the NBC continued in 2003, with the panel reaching 1,200 by year end. The frequency of collection and improved technology also allowed us to increase the number of multiple donations, leading to an increase in platelet donations collected by apheresis during the year.

## Donor Awards Ceremonies

The Minister for Health and Children Micheál Martin presented one-hundred time donor awards to one hundred and ten blood donors at a donor awards presentation in Dublin in September 2003. Among those present were special guest Eoghan O'Sullivan, Carlow, accompanied by his parents Sean and Christine. Our ambassador Sharon Ní Bheoláin was also present at the donor awards presentation.

## Clinic Aifiríse

*Leanadh ag earcú deontóirí pláitíní don Chlinic Aifiríse san LNF i 2003, gur shroich an painéal beagnach 1,200 duine faoi dheireadh na bliana. Le minicíocht an bhallúcháin agus leis an teicneolaíocht fheabhsaithe, freisin, bhíomar in ann an líon ildeonachán a mhéadú agus, dá thoradh sin, méadaíodh líon na ndeonachán pláitíní a bailíodh trí aifirís i rith na bliana.*

## Searmanais na nDámhachtainí Deontóra

*Bhronn an tAire Sláinte agus Leanaí, Micheál Martin, dámhachtainí na ndeontóirí 100 uair ar chéad is a deich deontóir fola a bhí i láthair ag bronnadh dhámhachtainí na ndeontóirí i mBaile Átha Cliath i Meán Fómhair 2003. I measc na ndaoine a bhí i láthair bhí ár n-aoi speisialta Eoghan O'Sullivan as Ceatharlach, in éineacht lena thuismitheoirí, Seán agus Christine. Bhí ár n-ambasadóir Sharon Ní Bheoláin i lathair freisin ag bronnadh na ndámhachtainí deontóra.*



## Stillorgan Clinic

In December the IBTS opened a new fixed clinic in Dublin. The clinic in Stillorgan is an appointment driven clinic, allowing donors to select a time that suits them to make a donation. This Centre is a new initiative for the Irish Blood Transfusion Service, in so far as it is a fixed centre based in the community, aimed at facilitating donors in the South Dublin area. The IBTS continuously strives to provide a better service to its donors and given the ever increasing demands on people's time we have decided to meet that challenge by providing an appointment driven service at this clinic. This will reduce significantly the amount of time donors spend in the clinic from registration to post donation refreshments.

## Clinic Stigh Lorgan

*I mí na Nollag d'oscail SFAÉ clinic sheasta i mBaile Átha Cliath. Clinic choinnebhunaithe is ea an chlinic i Stigh Lorgan, a ligean do dheontóirí am a roghnú a oireann dóibh féin chun deonachán a thabhairt. Is tionscnamh nua de chuid Sheirbhís Fulaistriúcháin na hÉireann é an tIonad seo, sa mhéid gurb ionad seasta é atá bunaithe sa phobal agus dírithe ar dheontóirí i ndeisceart Bhaile Átha Cliath. Cuireann SFAÉ roimpi i gcónaí seirbhís níos feara a sholáthar dá deontóirí agus, ós rud é go mbionn na héilimh ar am daoine ag siormhéadú, tá sé beartaithe againn an dúshlán a shárú trí sheirbhís choinnebhunaithe a sholáthar sa chlinic seo. Laghdóidh sé go mór an méid ama a chaitheann deontóirí sa chlinic, ón am clárúcháin go dtí an tráth bia is dí i ndiaidh an deonacháin.*



## Neonatal Collections

Only a small proportion of people are suitable to donate blood for unborn and new born babies and the collection of blood for this group has always been a very high priority for the IBTS. The shelf life of blood for neonatals is just 5 days, so we have to collect it on a daily basis.

Since mid-2003 we have improved our working practices to ensure that we make even better use of this limited supply. We now ask these donors to commit in advance to a specific day and where possible, to donate regularly every three months. In this way we can ensure that we meet hospital demand. The response from this special group of donors has been very positive and many will now phone in and ask to be booked in for a neonatal donation. We have also found that by targeting donors in advance we have a much higher success rate, with more than 77% of targeted donors attending when requested.



## Bailiúcháin Nuabheireatais

*Níl ach codán beag daoine ann atá oiriúnach chun fuil a dheonú do leanaí neamhbheirthe nó nuabheirthe, agus bhí bailiú na fola don ghrúpa seo ina thosaíocht an-ard ag SFAÉ i gcónaí. Bíonn saol 5 lá, go díreach, ag fuil do leanaí nuabheirthe agus, mar sin de, bíonn orainn í a bhailiú ar bhonn laethúil.*

*Ó lár 2003, tá feabhas curtha ar ár gcleachtais oibre againn, d'fhonn leas níos fearr fós a bhaint as an soláthar teoranta seo. Táimid anois ag iarraidh ar dheontóirí cinneadh a dhéanamh roimh ré faoi lá ar leith agus, más féidir, deonadh a dhéanamh gach trí mhí. Sa tslí seo cinnteoidimid go mbeidh freastal á dhéanamh ar éileamh na n-ospidéal. Bhí freagairt an-dearfach ón sainghrúpa deontóirí seo agus tá cuid mhór acu ag beartú glao gutháin chun coinne a dhéanamh le deonachán nuabheireatais a thabhairt. Tá faighte amach againn, freisin, go mbíonn an ráta ratha níos fearr má shainaimisítear na deontóirí roimh ré, ós rud é go dtagann níos mó ná 77% de na deontóirí sainaimisithe isteach ag an am a iarrtar.*

## Donor Services Regional Activities

## Imeachtaí Réigiúnacha na Seirbhísí Deontóra

### Carlow Centre

The Carlow Centre has a staff of 33 and organises and operates mobile blood donation clinics in the Southeast region covering counties Carlow, Kilkenny, Waterford, Wexford, Wicklow, Kildare, Laois and Offaly. The centre moved to new premises in November 2003.

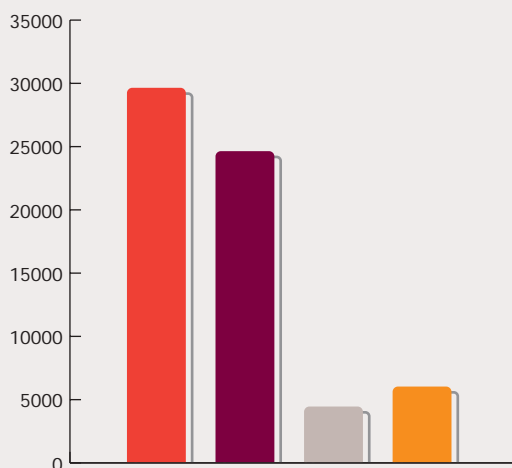
During the year, the Carlow Centre organised donor awareness promotions at both Carlow and Waterford Institutes of Technology. Public information stands were also in place at Superquinn stores in Carlow and Kilkenny during Blood for Life week. Additional leaflet drops were arranged in the larger towns in the region. Staff in the Carlow Centre also liaise closely with local clubs such as the GAA, soccer, ICA, and promote clinics through Parish Newsletters, schools and doctors surgeries as a means of improving donor awareness.

### Ionad Cheatharlach

Tá foireann de 33 duine in Ionad Cheatharlach, agus eagraíonn agus feidhmíonn siad clinicí fuildeonacháin soghluaiste i réigiún den Oirdheiscirt a chlúdaíonn contaetha Cheatharlach, Chill Chainnigh, Phort Láirge, Loch Garman, Chill Mhantáin, Laoise agus Uíbh Fhailí. D'aistrigh an t-ionad go háitreabh nua i Samhain 2003.

I rith na bliana, d'eagraigh Ionad Cheatharlach ócáidí bolscaireachta maidir le feasacht deontóra in Institiúidí Teicneolaíochta Cheatharlach agus Phort Láirge. Socraíodh seastáin eolais phoiblí, freisin, i stórais Superquinn Cheatharlach agus Chill Chainnigh le linn Sheachtain na Fola don Bheatha.

Rinneadh tuilleadh bileog a sheachadadh sna bailte móra sa réigiún.



| CARLOW CENTRE |       |
|---------------|-------|
| Attended      | 30026 |
| Procured      | 25145 |
| Deferred      | 4833  |
| New Donors    | 3493  |

## Donor Awards Ceremony

The South East region donor awards ceremony was in April in the Seven Oaks Hotel, Carlow. A total of 126 donors received their gold drops as 50 time donors and one donor received a porcelain pelican for 100 donations. The awards were presented by well known trainer and ex-jockey Mr. Ted Walsh.

*Bionn an fhoireann in Ionad Ceatharlach i ndlútheadhall, freisin, le clubanna áitiúla mar an CLG, an club sacair, Bantracht naTuaithe, Nuachtlitreacha Paróiste, scoileanna agus seomraí comhairle dochtúra, chun an fheasacht deontóra a fheabhsú.*

## Searmanas na nDámhachtainí Deontóra

*I mí Aibreáin reáchtáladh searmanas na ndámhachtainí deontóra do réigiún an Oirdheiscirt in Ostán Seven Oaks, Ceatharlach. Fuair 126 deontóir in iomlán a mbraonta órga mar dheontóirí 50 uair agus fuair deontóir amháin peileacán porcealláin as 100 deonachán a dhéanamh. Bhronn Ted Walsh, traenálaí agus iarmharcach iomráiteach, na dámhachtainí.*

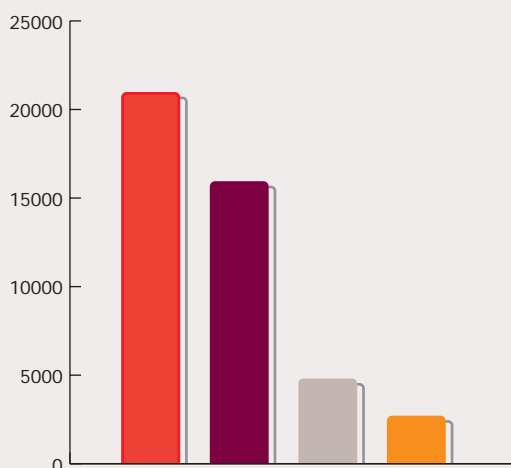
## Tuam Centre

The IBTS Centre in Tuam has a staff of 25 and organises and operates mobile blood donation clinics in Galway, Mayo, Longford, Roscommon and Westmeath.

During Blood for Life Week the Tuam Centre organised information stands in Tesco's in Ballina and in Athlone to promote awareness about blood donation.

Staff in the Tuam Centre work closely with local churches, surgeries, shops, factory/businesses and also use door to door leaflet drops to encourage donors.

The Tuam Centre uses email to publicise specific clinic times and venues with the cooperation of a number of companies and at third level colleges, the Tuam Centre promotes clinics via the internet, so that any student accessing the internet will automatically receive a billboard and clinic details on it.



## Ionad Thuama

Tá foireann 25 duine in Ionad SFAÉ Thuama, agus eagraíonn agus feidhmíonn siad clinicí fuildeonacháin soghluaiste i nGaillimh, Maigh Eo, Longfort, Ros Comáin agus san Iarmhí.

Le linn Sheachtain na Fola don Bheatha d'eagraigh Ionad Thuama seastáin eolais i siopa Tesco i mBéal an Átha agus in Áth Luain chun an fheasacht faoin deonadh fola a chothú.

Oibríonn an fhoireann in Ionad Thuama go dlúth leis na heaglaisí, seomraí comhairle dochtúra, siopaí, monarchana / gnóthaí, agus baineann siad úsáid as seachadadh bileog ó dhoras go doras chun deontóirí a spreagadh.

Baineann Ionad Thuama úsáid as an r-phost chun sainuairéanta agus láithreacha clinicí a fhógairt i gcomhar le roinnt comhlachtaí agus, i gcoláistí tríú léibhéal, cuireann Ionad Thuama na clinicí chun cinn tríd an idirlíon, i dtreo is go bhfaigheann gach mac léinn a dhéanann rochtain ar an idirlíon clár na bhfógraí le sonraí clinice, go huathoibríoch

| TUAM CENTRE  |       |
|--------------|-------|
| ■ Attended   | 21253 |
| ■ Procured   | 16221 |
| ■ Deferred   | 5080  |
| ■ New Donors | 2984  |



## Cork Centre

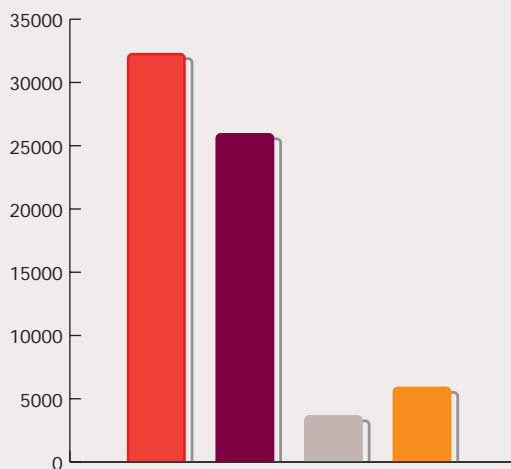
The Cork Centre has a fixed clinic located at St Finbarr's Hospital and also organises mobile clinics in Cork, Kerry, South Tipperary and West Waterford. Staff in Cork organised an information stand at the Adult Education Exhibition held over 3 days. In 2003, staff also ran information stands to promote donor awareness at company premises, where a community clinic was located nearby. Staff also organised information stands at University College Cork and at Cork Institute of Technology.

The IBTS in Cork participated in programmes of activity for health awareness weeks in a number of companies.

## Ionad Chorcaí

Tá clinic sheasta ag Ionad Chorcaí atá lonnaithe in Ospidéal Nmh. Fionnbara agus eagraíonn sé, freisin, clinicí soghluaiste i gcondaetha Chorcaí, Chiarraí, Thiobraid Árann Theas agus in Iarthar Phort Láirge. D'eagraigh foireann Chorcaí seastán eolais ag an Taispeántas Aosoideachais a mhair 3 lá. Reáchtáil an fhoireann seastáin eolais chun feasacht deontóra a mhéadú in áitribh na gcomhlachtaí, má bhíonn clinic pobail lonnaithe i ngar dóibh. Eagraíonn an fhoireann seastáin eolais, freisin, i gColáiste Ollscoile Chorcaí agus in Institiúid Teicneolaíochta Chorcaí.

Bhí SFAÉ páirteach i gclár gníomhaíochtaí a bhain le seachtain feasachta faoi chúrsaí sláinte i roinnt comhlachtaí.



| CORK CENTRE |       |
|-------------|-------|
| Attended    | 32719 |
| Procured    | 26381 |
| Deferred    | 6338  |
| New Donors  | 4085  |

### Donor Awards Ceremony

The donor awards ceremony launched Blood for Life Week in Munster on 21st September. Two donors received 100 time awards and 101 donors were presented with the gold drop for 50 donations.

### Searmanas na nDámhachtainí Deontóra

Tosaíodh Seachtain na Fola don Bheatha sa Mhumhain ar an 21ú Meán Fómhair le searmanas na ndámhachtainí deontóra. Fuair beirt dheontóirí dámhachtainí 100 uair agus bronnadh an braon órga ar 101 deontóir as 50 deonachán a dhéanamh.



## Fixed Clinics in Dublin

The IBTS has two fixed clinics in Dublin, one in D'Olier Street and a new clinic in Stillorgan which opened in December.

## Limerick Centre

A new Area Organiser was appointed for the Limerick Centre in April 2003. During Blood for Life Week, staff at the Limerick Centre ran information stands at Dell, O2 and Superquinn in Castletroy.

The Limerick Centre also held a clinic at Aughinish Alumina for the first time in a number of years.

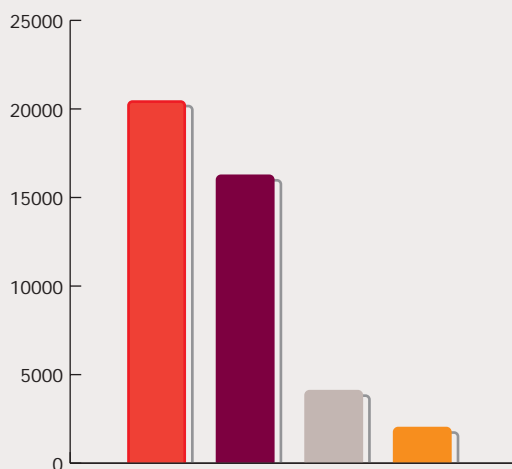
## Clinicí Seasta i mBaile Átha Cliath

Tá dhá chlinic sheasta ag SFAÉ i mBaile Átha Cliath, ceann i Sráid D'Olier agus clinic nua i Stigh Lorgan a osclaíodh i mí na Nollag.

## Aonad Luimnigh

Ceapadh Eagraí Ceantair nua in Ionad Luimnigh in Aibreán 2003. Le linn Sheachtain na Fola don Bheatha, reáchtáil an fhoireann in Ionad Luimnigh seastáin eolais ag Dell, O2 agus Superquinn i gCaladh an Treoigh.

Bhí clinic, freisin, ag Ionad Luimnigh in Aughinish Alumina don chéad uair le roinnt blianta.



| LIMERICK CENTRE |       |
|-----------------|-------|
| Attended        | 20760 |
| Procured        | 16569 |
| Deferred        | 4191  |
| New Donors      | 2327  |

## Ardee Centre

The IBTS Centre in Ardee, County Louth organises and runs clinics in the North East, including Meath, Louth, Cavan and Monaghan.

### Donor Awards Ceremony

The donor awards ceremony in the North East was held on Sunday 18th May 2003 in the Headfort Arms Hotel, Kells, Co. Meath. There were ninety eight 50 times and three 100 times donors presented with their awards by IBTS Board member, Ms. Valerie Mannix.

In its drive to attract new and former donors, the Ardee Centre utilises local voluntary organisers to put up posters and in some instances distribute leaflets and contact local clergy. The Centre sends out letters to parents via primary schools and Ardee staff also maintain a companies/public bodies e-mail database

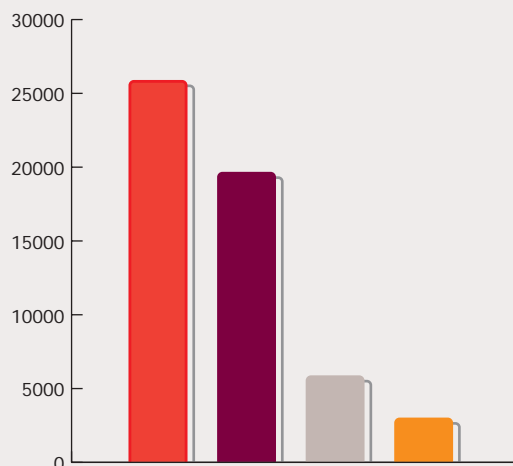
## Ionad Bhaile Átha Fhirdhia

Eagraíonn agus reáchtálann Ionad SFAÉ i mBaile Átha Fhirdhia, Co. Lú, clinicí san Oirthuaisceart, lena n-áirítear contaetha na Mí, Lú, an Chabháin agus Muineacháin.

### Searmanas na nDámhachtainí Deontóra

Reáchtáladh searmanas na ndámhachtainí deontóra san Oirthuaisceart Dé Domhnaigh an 18ú Bealtaine 2003 in Ostán Headfort Arms, Ceanannas, Co. na Mí. Bhronn comhalta Boird ón SFAÉ, Ms. Valerie Mannix, dámhachtainí ar 98 deontóir 50 uair agus 3 dheontóir 100 uair.

D'fhonn deontóirí nua agus seandeontóirí a mhealladh, baineann Ionad Bhaile Átha Fhirdhia úsáid as eagraithe deonacha áitiúla chun postaeir a chrochadh agus, i gcásanna áirithe, bileoga a scaipeadh agus teagmháil a dhéanamh leis an gcléir áitiúil. Cuireann an tIonad



| ARDEE CENTRE |       |
|--------------|-------|
| Attended     | 26226 |
| Procured     | 20007 |
| Deferred     | 6219  |
| New Donors   | 3357  |

for each clinic area and e-mail them in advance of clinics.

Community Diary on Local Radio is also used in most areas to gain awareness.

### **Blood for Life Week**

Staff at the Ardee Centre distributed leaflets at the Shopping Centre in Monaghan town on 22nd, 23rd and 24th of September.

*litreacha chuig tuismitheoirí trí na bunscoileanna, agus coinníonn foireann Bhaile Átha Fhirdhia bunachar sonraí i dtaobh r-phoist na gcuideachtaí/ comhlachtaí poiblí i ngach ceantar clinice agus cuireann siad eolas chucu ar r-phost roimh chlinici.*

*Úsáidtear Dialann Pobail an Raidió Áitiúil i mbunús na gceantar, freisin, chun feasacht a chothú.*

### ***Seachtain na Fola don Bheatha***

*Scaip baill foirne ó Ionad Bhaile Átha Fhirdhia bileoga ag an Lárionad Siopadóireachta i mbaile Mhuineacháin ar an 22ú, 23ú agus 24ú Meán Fómhair.*



“TESTS ARE PERFORMED USING AUTOMATED EQUIPMENT AND TRACKED BY THE UNIQUE BARCODE NUMBER ASSIGNED TO EACH DONATION”

## PROCESSING AND TESTING

### PRÓISEÁIL AGUS TÁSTÁIL

DÉANTAR NA TÁSTÁLACHA SEO LE FEARAS UATHOIBRÍOCH AGUS AIMSÍTEAR IAD TRÍD AN UIMHIR UATHÚIL BARRACHÓID A SHANNAÍTEAR DO GACH DEONACHÁN.

## Processing and Testing

## Próiseáil agus Tástáil

When a person is accepted as a blood donor, a blood donation (470mls) is taken and a number of small blood samples are also collected for testing purposes only. The blood donation is processed in our components laboratory and the following therapeutic products are prepared - red cells, platelets, and plasma. The samples for testing are also sent to our laboratories at the same time. One sample is tested in our grouping laboratory to determine the ABO blood group and rhesus type. The second is sent to the virology laboratory and tested for presence of specific viral markers such as Hepatitis C and syphilis and the third sample is sent to the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service for an additional safety test called Nucleic Acid Test (NAT) or Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) for Hepatitis C and HIV.

In 2003, testing carried out by the IBTS included:

- Hepatitis B virus
- Human Immunodeficiency Virus,
- Cytomegalovirus,
- Hepatitis C,
- Human T Lymphocyte Virus
- Syphilis

These tests are performed using automated equipment and tracked by the unique barcode number assigned to each donation. The results are then transmitted to

*Nuair a ghlactar le duine mar dheontóir fola, glactar a d(h)eonachán fola (470ml.) agus bailítear roinnt mionsamplaí fola chomh maith, chun críche tástála amháin. Déantar an deonachán fola a phróiseáil inár saotharlann comhpháirteanna agus ullmhaítear inti na táirgí teiripeacha – cealla dearga, pláitíní, agus plasma. Cuirtear na samplaí atá le tástáil chuig an tsaotharlann ag an am céanna. Tástáiltear sampla amháin inár saotharlann grúpála chun an fuilghrúpa ABO agus an tíopa rhesus a chinneadh. Cuirtear an dara ceann chuig an tsaotharlann víreolaíochta agus tástáiltear ansiúd é chun sainmharcóirí víreasacha mar Heipítíteas C agus Sífilis a aimsiú, agus cuirtear an tríú sampla chuig Seirbhís Fuilistriúcháin na hAlban chun tástáil sábháilteachta breise a dhéanamh ar a dtugtar Tástáil Aigéid Núicléasaigh (TAN), nó Frithghníomh Slabhrach Polymerase (FSP) do Heipítíteas C agus VEID.*

*I 2003, chuimsigh an tástáil a rinne SFAÉ:*

- Víreas Heipítitis B
- Víreas Easpa Imdhíonachta Dhaonna (VEID)
- Cítímeigilivíreas
- Heipítíteas C
- Víreas Daonna T Limficíte
- agus, freisin, tástáil le haghaidh Sífilise.

*Déantar na tástálacha seo le fearas uathobríoch agus aimsítear iad tríd an uimhir uathúil barrachóid a*

the mainframe computer where all the details and test results are collated. A similar procedure is used on the sample collected for blood grouping and rhesus typing. The results on the third sample are electronically transmitted from the Scottish Blood Transfusion Service to the IBTS within 24 hours.

Each time a donation is accepted the above regime of testing is carried out. This results in five separate virology screens; one for syphilis, two NAT screens, ABO blood group and rhesus type, and a number of crosschecks including checks against previous test results of donor if appropriate. On completion of testing and processing each component unit undergoes a visual inspection. The barcode on the unit is scanned and if all the tests are complete and satisfactory results obtained, the unit is then labelled and cleared for issue.

As blood has a limited life span outside the body, it is important that it be available to hospitals for transfusion as soon as possible after collection. The procedures operated by the IBTS ensure that donations can be issued to hospitals within 48 hours of collection. Red cells are stored at 4°C and have a shelf life of 35 days and platelets are stored at 22°C and have a shelf life of 5 days.

*shannaítear do gach deonachán. Tarchuirtear na torthaí ansin chuig an ríomhaire príomhfhóráma, mar a dhéantar na sonraí uile agus torthaí na dtástálacha a chomhthiomsú. Baintear úsáid as cur chuige den chineál céanna i gcás an tsampla a bhailítear chun grúpáil fola agus tíopáil rhesus a dhéanamh. Tarchuirtear na torthaí ó Sheirbhís Fuilaidriúcháin na hAlban laistigh de 24 uaire.*

*Gach uair a ghlactar le deonachán cuirtear an córas tástála thuas i bhfeidhm. Dá thoradhsan, déantar cúig scagthástáil víreolaíochta ar leith; ceann do shifilis, dhá scagthástáil TAN, ceann don fhuilghrúpa ABO agus tíopa rhesus, agus roinnt tras-seiceálacha, lena n-áirítear seiceáil ar sheantorthaí tástála an deontóra, más cuí.*

*Nuair a bhíonn an tástáil agus an phróiseáil críochnaithe cuirtear gach aonad comhpháirteach faoi scrúdú súile.*

*Breathnaítear an barrachód ar an aonad agus más léir gur críochnaíodh gach tástáil agus go bhfuil na torthaí sásúil, cuirtear lipéad ar an aonad agus glantar é le haghaidh eisiúna.*

*Ós rud é go bhfuil saol teoranta ag fuil lasmuigh den choirp, tá sé tábhachtach go gcuirtear ar fáil d'ospidéal le haghaidh fuilaidriúcháin í a luaithe is féidir tar éis í a bailiú. Cinntíonn gnáthaimh SFAÉ gur féidir deonacháin a eisiúint d'ospidéal laistigh de 48 uaire tar éis í a bhailiú. Stóráiltear cealla dearga ag 4°C agus bíonn saol 35 lá acu; stóráiltear pláitíní ag 22°C agus bíonn saol 5 lá acusan.*



## Laboratories

The routine testing of units for further red cell antigen types for the Rhesus and Kell systems is continuing and Jka /Jkb testing was introduced during the later half of 2003. A further initiative for 2004 will see an increase in the number of antigens routinely typed and S typing will commence in the first half of the year. The introduction of Progesa has made a major contribution to the selection and management of phenotyped units.

The building and fit out of the Nucleic Acid Testing laboratory at the NBC in Dublin is complete and validation of the facility and process is underway. This facility will be used to develop and implement molecular technology in blood screening and/or viral detection. Initially, NAT testing will be for HCV and HIV- 1 and as molecular technologies evolve, introduction of molecular screening for other agents will follow.

The National Tissue Typing Reference Laboratory (NTTRL) had another record year for the number of samples submitted, with an increase of 12% on 2002. The introduction of Class 1 HLA molecular typing took place in July 2003 and augmented the HLA Class II high resolution molecular typing currently provided. All tissue typing is now performed at the molecular

## Saotharlanna

*Tá gnátástáil aonad ar siúl i gcónaí d'fhonn breis tíopaí antaigin na gcealla dearga a shainiú do na córais Rhesus agus Kell, agus tionscnaíodh tástáil JKa/JKb le linn an leith dheiridh de 2003. I dtionscnamh nua i 2004, méadófar líon na n-antaiginí atá le tíopáil mar ghnáthnós agus tosóidh S-tíopáil sa chéad leath den bhliain. Chuir tionscnamh Progesa go mór le roghnú agus le bainistiú na n-aonad feinethiopa.*

*Tá críoch curtha le tógáil agus feistiú na saotharlainne ag an LNF i mBaile Átha Cliath le haghaidh Thástáil Aigéid Núicléasaigh, agus tá bailíocht na háise agus an phróisis á ndearbhú faoi láthair. Úsáidfean an áis chun teicneolaíocht mhóilíneach a fhorbairt agus a úsáid i scagthástáil fola agus/nó i mbrath víris. Mar chéad chéim déanfar tástáil TAN le haghaidh VHC agus VEID-1 agus, de réir mar a fhabhraíonn na teicneolaíochtaí móilíneacha, cuirfean tús le scagthástáil mhóilíneach le haghaidh gníomhaithe eile.*

*Ba bhuaicbhliain eile í seo ag SNTTF ó thaobh líon na samplaí a cuireadh isteach, óir bhí méadú 12% ann ar líon 2002. Tionscnaíodh sainiú tíopaí móilíneacha Rang 1 ALD in Iúil 2003 agus chuir sin leis an tíopáil mhóilíneach ardsóilíre Rang 11 ALD atá ar fáil faoi láthair. Déantar gach tíopáil fíocháin anois ag an leibhéal móilíneach agus cuirfean seirbhís chuimsitheach náisiúnta ar fáil, dá*

level and provides a comprehensive national service for the Unrelated Bone Marrow Registry, Bone Marrow transplantation programmes and disease association studies.

*réir, do Chlárlann na Smeara Neamhghaolmhair, do chláir Smioraistriúcháin agus do staidéir ar na comhcheangail idir galair.*



“ THE IBTS PROVIDES A  
24-HOUR SERVICE TO  
ALL HOSPITALS  
THROUGHOUT THE  
COUNTRY EVERY DAY  
OF THE YEAR ”

## HOSPITAL SERVICES

### SEIRBHÍSÍ OSPIDÉIL

SOLÁTHRAÍONN SFAÉ SEIRBHÍS 24 UAIRE AN  
CHLOIG DO NA HOSPIDÉIL UILE AR FUD NA TÍRE,  
GACH LÁ DEN BHLIAIN.

The Hospital Services Department of the IBTS continues to be the essential link in the distribution chain that ensures blood reaches the patients who need it under controlled temperature conditions. The main function of the Hospital Services Department is to provide safe and secure distribution of all products released for issue to hospitals. This means critical product management and the maintenance of accurate and comprehensive records of both received and issued blood, blood components and derivatives.

*Is í Roinn Seirbhísí Ospidéil an SFAÉ an príomhnasc leanúnach sa slabhra dáilíúcháin a chinntíonn go bhfaigheann na hothair an fhuil atá de dhíth orthu faoi chúinsí teochta rialaithe. Is príomhfheidhm de chuid Roinn na Seirbhísí Ospidéil í a shocrú go ndéantar dáiliú slán sábháilte ar gach táirge a scaoiltear chuig na hospidéal. Is ionann seo agus bainistiú criticiúil a dhéanamh ar tháirgí, agus taifid chruinn chuimsitheacha a choinneáil faoin bhfuil a fuarthas agus a eisíodh, agus faoi chomhpháirteanna agus dhíorthaigh fola.*

## BLOOD &amp; BLOOD PRODUCTS ISSUED

| Product                        | 2003       | 2002       |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Red Cells & Whole Blood        | 130,088    | 127,601    |
| Platelets – Therapeutic Doses  | 16,521     | 15,480     |
| Frozen Plasma                  | 414        | 4,153      |
| Octaplas                       | 21,757     | 19,403     |
| Cryoprecipitate                | 908        | 1,432      |
| Factor VIIA (xIU)              | 284,340    | 579,661    |
| Protein C (x IU)               | 87,500     | 87,000     |
| Anti Thrombin III (x IU)       | 14,500     | 53,000     |
| Factor VIII Recombinant (x IU) | 18,731,228 | 17,082,144 |
| Factor VIII Plasma             | -          | 2,082,500  |
| Von Willebrand Factor (x IU)   | 417,000    | 385,500    |
| Factor IX Recombinant (xIU)    | 10,198,390 | 11,180,310 |
| Prothromplex (x IU)            | 620,400    | 574,200    |
| Factor XIII                    | 7,250      | 6,750      |

The Hospital Services Department is responsible for monitoring stocks and blood products on an ongoing basis. The IBTS provides a 24-hour service to all hospitals throughout the country every day of the year.

## Tissue Banking

The Homograft Heart Valve Bank operate in a purpose built GMP clean room facility at the headquarters of the Irish Blood Transfusion Service on James's Street, Dublin 8. A quality management system is in place and the bank conforms to the standards of the European Eye Bank Association and the British Association of Tissue Banks.

## Eye Bank

The remit of the Eye Bank is to organise and administer an eye banking service throughout Ireland.

The Eye Bank accepts whole eye donations and supplies organ cultured corneas to ophthalmic surgeons throughout Ireland.

The ophthalmic director of the Eye Bank is Mr. P. Condon, M.Ch. FRCS FRCOphth and the medical director is Dr. William G. Murphy, MD, FRCPEdin, FRCPath. A Medical Advisory Group consisting of the corneal surgeons who receive tissue from the bank and

*Tá Roinn na Seirbhísí Ospidéal freagrach as monatóireacht leanúnach a dhéanamh ar stoic agus ar tháirgí fola. Soláthraíonn SFAÉ seirbhís 24 uaire an chloig do na hospidéal uile ar fud na tíre, gach lá den bhliain.*

## Baincéireacht Fíocháin

*Feidhmíonn Banc Súl na hÉireann agus an Banc na gComhlaí Croí Hómanódúcháin in saináis íonghlan i gceannáras Sheirbhís Fuilaidriúcháin na hÉireann ar Shráid Sheamais, Baile Átha Cliath 8. Tá córas ardchaighdeáin bainistíochta i bhfeidhm agus cloíonn an banc leis na caighdeáin atá ag Banc Súl na hÉireann, Cumann Bhanc Súl na hEorpa agus Cumann Bhanc Fíocháin na Breataine.*

## Banc na Súl

*Is é an cúram atá ar Bhanc na Súl, seirbhís baincéireachta súl a eagrú agus a riaradh ar fud na hÉireann. Glacann Banc na Súl le deonacháin slánsúile agus soláthraíonn sé coirní orgánsaothraithe do mháinlianna oftalmacha ar fud na hÉireann.*

*Is é Mr. P. Condon, M.Ch. FRCS FRCOphth stiúthóir oftalmach Bhanc na Súl agus is é an Dr. William G. Murphy, MD, FRCPEdin, FRCPath an stiúthóir míochaine. Bíonn cruinnithe bliantúla ag an nGrúpa Comhairleach*

a representative from the Irish College of Ophthalmologists meet on an annual basis to review the standards of the bank and advise on any proposed changes.

During 2003, 92 corneal grafts were issued to surgeons throughout Ireland of which 49 were imported from the USA. This occurred as there were insufficient Irish donations to meet national demand. 22 scleral patches and 4 pieces of amnion tissue were also issued. Sclera is issued for eyelid reconstruction, enucleation and the implant of valves to treat glaucoma. Amnion is used to treat persistent epithelial defects.

## Homograft Heart Valve Bank

The Homograft Heart Valve Bank processes and cryopreserves human cardiovascular tissue donated for transplantation purposes. A Cardiothoracic advisory group under the chair of the Cardiothoracic Director, Mr. A.E. Wood meets on a regular basis to review the activities of the bank and ensure that it maintains and complies with international best practise. During 2003, thirty three valves were issued, 9 of which were imported, with the majority issued for children undergoing repair of congenital heart defects.

*Míochaine, comhdhéanta de na máinlianna coirneacha a ghlacann fíochán ón mbanc agus ionadaí ó Choláiste Oftailmeolaithe na hÉireann, chun athbhreithniú a dhéanamh ar chaighdeán an bhainc agus comhairle a thabhairt faoi na hathruithe a mholtar.*

*Le linn 2003, eisíodh 92 nódú coirneach do mháinlianna ar fud na hÉireann. Ollmhairíodh 49 acu seo ó SAM, toisc nach raibh dóthain deonachán Éireannach ar fáil don éileamh náisiúnta. Eisíodh 22 phaiste scléarach agus 4 pháiosa fíocháin aimnín, freisin. Eisítear scléara chun caipíní súile a athdhéanamh agus a sciolladh, agus chun comhlá a ionchlannú, mar chóireáil le haghaidh glácóma. Úsáidtear aimnín mar chóireáil d'éalanga buana eipitéiliacha.*

## **Banc na gComhláí Croí Hómanódúcháin**

*Próiseálann agus críochoamhnaíonn Banc na gComhláí Croí Hómanódúcháin an fíochán cardashoithíoch a dheonaítear le haghaidh aistriúcháin. Tagann grúpa comhairleach cardatóracsach le chéile go rialta faoi chathaoirleacht an Stiúrthóra Cardatóracsáigh, Mr. A. E. Wood, chun imeachtaí an bhainc a athbhreithniú, agus a chinntiú go gcoinníonn agus go gcomhlíonann sé an sárchleachtas idirnáisiúnta. Le linn 2003, eisíodh 33 chomhla, 9 gcinn acu a allmhairíodh, agus eisíodh a bhformhór do pháistí a raibh deisiúchán ar siúl ar éalanga croí comhbheirthe acu.*



“ THE SAFETY OF THESE PRODUCTS RELIES ON THE CONTROL OF THE SOURCE MATERIAL AT ALL STAGES INCLUDING MANUFACTURING, STORAGE, TRANSPORT AND ISSUE ”

## QUALITY ASSURANCE

### RATHÚ CAIGHDEÁN

BÍONN SÁBHÁILTEAGHT NA DTÁIRGÍ SEO AG BRATH AR RIALÚ AN BHUNÁBHAIR AG GACH CÉIM, LENA N-ÁIRÍTEAR DÉANTÚS, STÓRÁIL, IOMPAR AGUS EISIÚINT.

Attention to detail must be exercised in all aspects of the quality of blood components produced at the Irish Blood Transfusion Service to nurture public and professional confidence in the safety of blood products.

Blood products, derived from human blood have special features arising from the biological nature of the source material and as such, the safety of these products relies on the control of the source material at all stages including manufacturing, storage, transport and issue.

The quality of the blood components produced depends on the specified product requirements, and on the effectiveness of the quality management systems in place.

Quality is the responsibility of all persons involved in the IBTS working to assure this overarching quality objective is met.

The IBTS is regularly inspected by the IMB (Irish Medicines Board) as part of the its remit. During 2003, the IMB completed 7 GMP (Good Manufacturing Practice) inspections of the National Blood Centre, Munster Regional Transfusion Centre (MRTC) and Regional Centres. The outcome was satisfactory for all centres, with the exception of the MRTC where, major non-conformances were cited in the area of Quality

*Is gá faire ar shonraí i gcás gach gné de chaighdeán na gcomhphárteanna fola a tháirgtear i Seirbhís Fuilistriúcháin na hÉireann, d'fhonn muinín an phobail agus na ngairmithe a chothú i leith shábháilteacht na dtáirgí fola.*

*Tá gnéithe speisialta ag táirgí fola a fhaightear ón bhfuil dhaonna, a éiríonn as nádúr bitheolaíoch an bhunábhair agus, mar sin de, bíonn sábháilteacht na dtáirgí seo ag brath ar rialú an bhunábhair ag gach céim, lena n-áirítear déantús, stóráil, iompar agus eisiúint.*

*Brathann caighdeán na gcomhphárteanna fola a tháirgtear ar na sainriachtanais táirge, agus ar éifeacht na gcóras bainistíochta caigheáin atá i bhfeidhm. Tá gach duine atá páirteach in oibriú SFAÉ freagrach as na caighdeáin a chinnteoidh go n-aimseofar an forchuspóir caighdeáin seo.*

*Déanann BME (Bord Míochaine na hÉireann) cigireacht rialta ar SFAÉ mar chuid dá chúram. Le linn 2003 rinne BMÉ 7 scrúdú DCD (Dea-Chleachtas Déantúis) ar an Lárionad Náisiúnta Fola, ar Ionad Aistriúcháin Réigiún na Mumhan (IARM) agus ar Ionaid Réigiúnacha. Bhí an toradh sásúil i ngach ionad, seachas in IARM, mar ar luadh neamh-comhfhreagracht mhór sna réimsí seo a leanas: Bainistiú Caighdeáin, Áitreabh, Pearsanra, Déantús agus Trealamh.*

*Chuathas i mbun gnímh láithreach faoi chúrsaí áitribh*



Management, Premises, Personnel, Manufacturing and Equipment.

Immediate action was undertaken with regard to the premises and equipment at the MRTC with a management group headed by the IBTS Chief Executive directing the work. An outline plan and budget was approved by the Board of the IBTS in December 2003 to address these major issues and subsequently presented to the IMB.

Progesa, the IBTS main computer software database was implemented during 2003, firstly in the MRTC in March 2003 and at the NBC in May 2003.

A number of significant validation programmes were undertaken during 2003, including the design and development of the NAT testing laboratory at the NBC. There were a total of 80 validation projects

*agus trealaimh in IARM, le grúpa bainistíochta faoi cheannas Phríomhfheidhmeannach SFAÉ ag stiúru na hoibre. I Nollaig 2003, d'fhaomhaigh Bord SFAÉ plean agus buiséad imlíneach chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar na mórcheisteanna seo, agus cuireadh an toradh faoi bhráid BMÉ ina dhiaidh sin.*

*Le linn 2003, feidhmíodh Progesa, príomhbhunachar sonraí ríomhaireachta SFAÉ, in IARM ar dtús i Márta 2003, agus sa LNF i mBealtaine 2003.*

*Tugadh faoi roinnt clár suntasach maidir le dearbhú bailíochta le linn 2003, lena n-áirítear dearadh agus forbairt na saortharlainne tástála TAN san LNF. Le linn 2003 tionscnaíodh 80 tionscadal bailíochta in iomlán, ar bhonn náisiúnta, agus críochnaíodh 80% acu faoi dheireadh na bliana.*

*Le linn 2003, rinne SFAÉ measúnú ar thionchar na*



initiated nationally during 2003 with an 80% completion rate by year-end.

The impact of the In-Vitro Diagnostic Directive (98/79/EC) was assessed by the IBTS during 2003. A number of testing technologies were subsequently identified as requiring replacement, two of these CMV and TPHA are targeted for 2004.

One of the most significant regulatory impacts for the IBTS during 2003, was the adoption by the European Union on January 27th 2003, of Directive 2002/98/EC on setting standards of quality and safety for the collection, testing, processing, storage and distribution of human blood and blood components. It is intended that this directive will be transposed into national legislation by February 2005. The IBTS will work towards ensuring compliance with this essential directive.

Monthly reports detailing QMS non-conformances, complaints, recalls and changes were compiled during the year. In excess of 1,100 changes were managed nationally under the QMS during 2003.

*Treorach Diagnóisi InVitro (98/79/EC). Sainithníodh, ina dhiaidh sin, go raibh roinnt áirithe teicneolaíochtaí tástála ann ar ghá iad a athrú, agus táthar chun diriú ar dhá cheann acu, CMV agus TPHA, i 2004.*

*Ceann de na tionchair rialaitheachta ba mhó ar SFAÉ le linn 2003 ab ea glacadh an Aontais Eorpaigh in Eanáir 2003, le Treoir 2002/98/EC maidir le caighdeáin cáilíochta agus sábháilteachta a cheapadh maidir le bailiú, tástáil, próiseáil, stóráil agus scaipeadh na fola daonna agus comhpháirteanna fola. Tá sé i gceist an treoir a aistriú isteach sa reachtaíocht náisiúnta faoi Fheabhra 2005. Beidh SFAÉ ag obair chun a chinntiú go gcomhlionfar an treoir riachtanach seo.*

*Cuireadh tuairiscí míosúla le chéile ag tabhairt sonraí faoi neamhchomhlíonadh QMS, gearáin, aisghairmeacha agus athruithe i rith na bliana. Bainistíodh níos mó ná 1,100 athrú ar bhonn náisiúnta faoin QMS le linn 2003.*



“THE MRTC COLLECTS,  
TESTS, PROCESSES AND  
DISTRIBUTES DONATIONS  
IN THE MUNSTER REGION”

**MUNSTER REGIONAL TRANSFUSION CENTRE**  
**IONAD AISTRIÚCHÁIN RÉIGIÚN NA MUMHAN**  
BAILÍONN, TÁSTÁLANN, PRÓISEÁLANN AGUS  
SCAIPEANN IARM NA DEONACHÁIN I RÉIGIÚN  
NA MUMHAN.

## Munster Regional Transfusion Centre

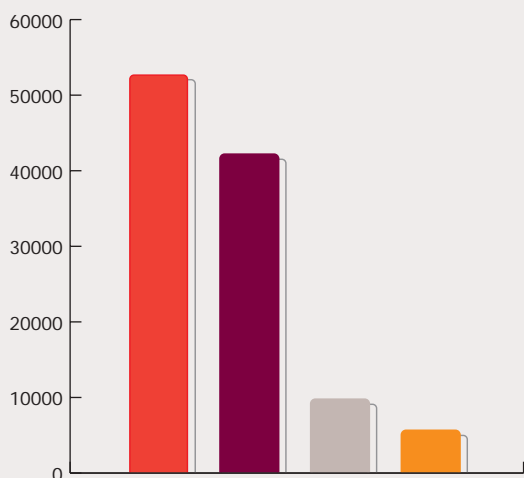
## Ionad Aistriúcháin Réigiún na Mumhan

The Munster Regional Transfusion Centre (MRTC) is based in Cork. The MRTC collects, tests, processes and distributes donations in the Munster Region. The Centre operates a fixed donor clinic as well as two mobile teams, one based in Cork, the other based in Limerick. These mobile teams collect donations in Cork, Kerry, West Waterford, Tipperary, Limerick and Clare.

The Platelet Apheresis Programme developed from a programme supporting bank holiday availability of platelets, to a regular programme in December 2003.

*Tá Ionad Aistriúcháin Réigiún na Mumhan (IARM) lonnaithe i gCorcaigh. Bailíonn, tástálann, próiseálann agus scaipeann IARM na deonacháin i Réigiún na Mumhan. Tá clinic deontóra sheasta á feidhmiú ag an Ionad, maraon le dhá fhoireann shoghluaiste, ceann acu i gCorcaigh, an ceann eile i Luimneach. Bailíonn na foirne soghluaiste seo na deonacháin i gcontaetha Chorcaí, Chiarraí, Iarthair Phort Láirge, Thiobraid Árinn, Luimnigh agus an Chláir.*

*Forbraíodh Clár Aifirise na bPláitíní ó chlár a chabhraigh le soláthar pláitíní ar shaorlaethanta bainc, go clár rialta i Nollaig 2003.*



| MRTC       |       |
|------------|-------|
| Attended   | 53479 |
| Procured   | 42950 |
| Deferred   | 10529 |
| New Donors | 6412  |

## Testing and Hospital Services

In addition to providing blood components to hospitals throughout Munster, the MRTC also provides modifications and extended typing, where required, for specific patients. The Centre also provides crossmatch laboratory services for hospitals in Cork City, an antenatal screening service and bone banking service. The Centre acts as a reference laboratory in the region.

The Centre issued 34,707 red cell units, 3,736 pools of platelets and 3,699 units of plasma. 8,183 samples were received from individual patients for compatibility services and 8,420 units of red cells were crossmatched. 2,639 units of red cells and 1,023 platelet components were irradiated prior to issue. In special cases transfusion components were provided to accompany patients going abroad for specialist services. Some 3,000 samples were received in the antenatal laboratory for screening of pregnant women for serological antibodies.

The Therapeutic Apheresis Programme provided 133 plasma exchange procedures for 55 patients, 16 haematology patients, 38 neurology patients and one renal patient.

## Tástáil agus Seirbhísí Ospidéal

*Chomh maith le comhphárteanna fola a sholáthar d'ospidéal ar fud na Mumhan, cuireann IARM modhnú agus tíopáil leathnaithe ar fáil, nuair is gá, d'othair ar leith. Cuireann an tIonad, freisin, seirbhísí saotharlainne trasmhaitseála ar fáil do na hospidéal i gCathair Chorcaí, mar aon le seirbhís scagthástála réamhbhreithe agus seirbhís baincúireachta cnámh. Feidhmíonn an tIonad mar shaotharlann tagartha sa réigiún.*

*D'eisigh an tIonad 34,707 aonad de chealla dearga, 3,736 linn pláitíní agus 3,699 aonad plasma. Fuarthas 8,183 shampla ó othair ar leith le haghaidh seirbhísí comhoiriúnachta, agus trasmhaitseáladh 8,420 aonad de chealla dearga. Ionradáidh 2,639 aonad cealla dearga agus 1,023 chomhpháirt pláitíní sular eisíodh iad. I gcásanna speisialta soláthraíodh comhphárteanna aistriúcháin d'othair a bhí ag dul thar lear le haghaidh sainseirbhísí. Glacadh 3,000 éigin sampla sa tsaotharlann réamhbhreithe chun mná torracha a scagthástáil le haghaidh antasubstaintí seireolaíocha.*

*Chuir an Clár Aifiríse Teiripí 133 mhodh malartaithe plasma ar fáil do 55 othar, 16 othar haemaiteolaíocha, 38 n-othar neareolaíocha, agus othar duánach amháin.*

## Bone Bank

The Munster Musculoskeletal Tissue Bank was established in 1994 and accredited to the ISO standard in 1998. Development has been deferred pending policy decisions by the Department of Health on tissue banking services in Ireland. Up to late 2003 service delivery was restricted on a routine basis to Cork City hospitals.

During 2003, the Musculoskeletal Tissue Bank had 184 donations and 3 batches of bone were despatched to Yorkshire after primary testing and re-testing at 6 months. The Tissue Bank introduced vCJD risk reduction measures in line with the Blood Transfusion Service. The Musculoskeletal Tissue Bank is actively involved with the peer association, British Association for Tissue Banking.

## Other Activities

MRTC staff have been active participants in Hospital Transfusion Committees (HTCs) throughout the region and are members of 13 HTCs which held 43 meetings during 2003. MRTC supported transfusion practice in hospitals by assisting individual haemovigilance/transfusion surveillance officers in their development of transfusion services in hospitals,

## Banc Cnámh

Bunaíodh Banc Fíocháin Mhatánchnámharlaigh na Mumhan agus creidiúnaíodh é ag caighdeán ECI i 1998. Tá a fhorbairt curtha siar go dtí go ndéanfaidh an Roinn Sláinte cinneadh polasaí maidir le seirbhísí baincéireachta fíocháin d'Éirinn. Go dtí deireadh 2003 bhí seachadadh na seirbhísí teoranta, ar an ngnáthbhonn, do na hospidéil i gCathair Chorcaí.

Fuair an Banc Fíocháin Matánchnámharlaigh 184 dheonachán le linn 2003, agus seoladh 3 bhaisc cnámh chuig Yorkshire i ndiaidh a gcéadtástála agus a n-atástála tar éis 6 mhí. Thionscnaigh an Banc Fíocháin bearta chun baol vGCJ a laghdú, rud a bhí ag teacht lena ndearna an tSeirbhís Fuilaistriúcháin. Bíonn baint ghníomhach ag an mBanc Fíocháin Matánchnámharlaigh lena chumann comhcheime, an British Association for Tissue Banking.

## Gníomhaíochta Eile

Bíonn baill foirne IARM rannpháirteach go gníomhach i gCoistí Aistriúcháin na nOspidéal (CAO) ar fud an réigiúin, agus is baill iad de 13 CAO a raibh 43 chruinniú acu le linn 2003. Chuidigh IARM le cleachtas aistriúcháin na n-ospidéal, trí chúnaimh a sholáthar d'oifigigh iniúchta haemafaireachais/aistriúcháin ar leith nuair a

working together with the Southern Haemovigilance Working Group.

The MRTC Annual Professional Users Symposium was held on 9th December, and addressed current issues and developments including the impact of the EU Directive on Hospitals, an overview of the British Committee for Standards in Haematology (BCSH) guidelines for Neonates & Children and BCSH guidelines for Platelet Use. The Hospital Haemovigilance/Transfusion Surveillance Officers and Chiefs of Laboratory presented developments in transfusion practice at their individual hospitals.

MRTC provides screening services for the ongoing HCV programmes including anti-D recipients of 15,273 have been screened at MRTC by end year 2003 and transfusion recipients of whom 4,275 have been screened to end year 2003.

*bhí seirbhísí aistriúcháin á bhforbairt acu sna hospidéal, agus d'oibrigh siad i gcomhar le Grúpa Oibre Haemafaireachais an Deiscirt.*

*Reáchtáladh an Siompóisiam Bliantúil d'Úsáideoirí Gairmiúla IARM ar an 9ú Nollaig, agus díródh ar shaincheisteanna agus ar fhorbairtí reatha ann, lena n-áirítear an tionchar a bhí ag Treoir an AE maidir le hOspidéal, forbhreithniú ar threoirlínte Choiste na Breataine um Chaighdeán Haemaiteolaíochta (CBCH) i leith Nua-naíonna agus Leanaí, agus treoirlínte CBCH i leith Úsáid Pláitíní. Léirigh na hOifigigh Iniúchta Haemafaireachais/Aistriúcháin agus Ceannasaithe Saotharlainne na nOspidéal na forbairtí i gcleachtas an aistriúcháin a tharla ina n-ospidéal ar leith féin.*

*Soláthraíonn CBCH seirbhísí scagthástála do na cláir leanúnacha VHC, lena n-áirítear faighteoirí frith-D, a ndearnadh scagthástáil ar 15,273 acu san IARM suas go deireadh na bliana 2003, agus faighteoirí aistriúcháin a ndearnadh scagthástáil ar 4,275 acu suas go deireadh na bliana 2003.*



“THE SUCCESS OF THE SCHEME TO DATE CAN BE DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTED TO THE WORK AND ENTHUSIASM OF THE TRANSFUSION SURVEILLANCE OFFICERS SUPPORTED BY THE TRANSFUSION MEDICAL SCIENTISTS AND CONSULTANT HAEMATOLOGISTS IN THE HOSPITALS”

**NATIONAL HAEMOVIGILANCE OFFICE**

### **AN OIFIG NÁISIÚNTA HAEMAF Aireachais**

IS FÉIDIR RATHÚLACHT NA SCÉIMEGO NUIGE SEO A CHUR SÍOS GO DÍREACH D’OB AIR AGUS DO DHÍOGRAIS NA N-OIFIGEACH INIÚCHTA AISTRIÚCHÁIN, AGUS DO THACAÍOCHT NA LIA-EOLAITHE FUILAISTRIÚCHÁIN AGUS NA HAEMAITHEOLAITHE COMHAIRLEACHA SNA HOSPIDÉIL.



# National Haemovigilance Office

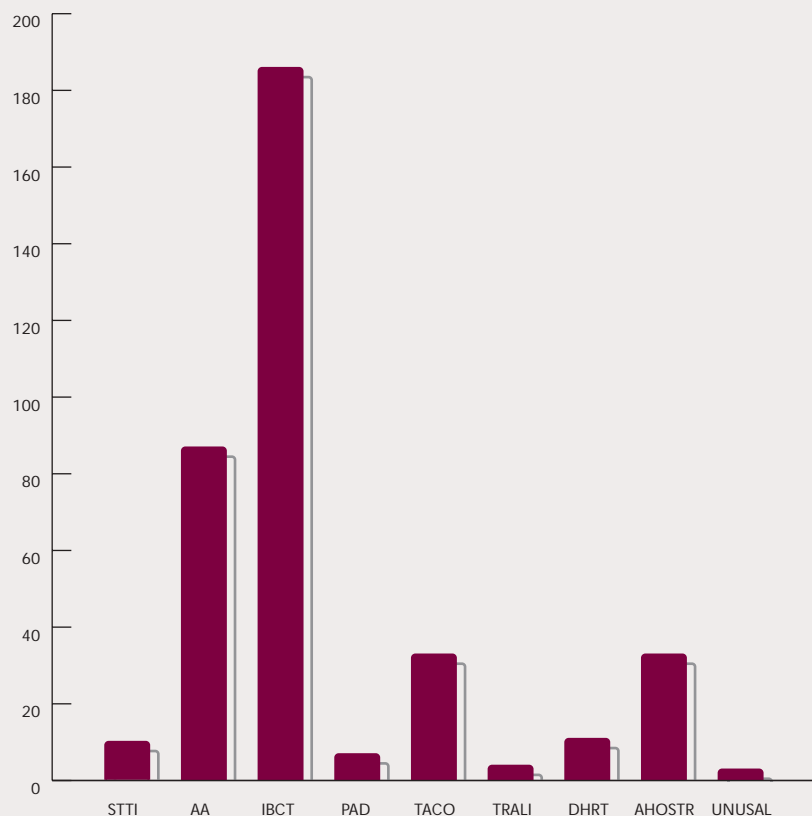
# An Oifig Náisiúnta Haemafaireachais

The NHO scheme has been fully operational since October 1999. The remit of the NHO is to collect and follow up reports from hospitals, healthcare institutions and GPs of serious adverse reactions or events to blood components and providing feedback information to improve transfusion practice. The success of the scheme to date can be directly attributed to the work and enthusiasm of the Transfusion Surveillance Officers supported by the transfusion medical scientists and Consultant Haematologists in the hospitals.

The NHO Annual Report for 2002 was published in December 2003. With the publication of this report, the NHO has completed three full years in operation. During that time, 384 incidents have been reported and participation in the scheme has increased with over 90% of hospitals participating. There were 85 incidents which fulfilled the criteria for a reportable event in 2000. In 2001 the number had risen to 144 and in 2002 155 incidents fulfilled the criteria for a haemovigilance event. The greatest number of reports were received in the category of Incorrect Blood Component Transfused (IBCT), with 187 cases (49%) reported during the first three years, is similar to other haemovigilance schemes that collect this type of data. The rise in the numbers of reports received is probably due to several factors, which includes the increasing numbers of Transfusion Surveillance Officers now established in post, a heightened awareness of the scheme and an increased openness among hospital staff to report.

*Tá scéim an ONH i bhfeidhm go hiomlán ó Dheireadh Fómhair 1999. Tá sé mar chúram ar an ONH na tuairiscí ó ospidéal, institiúidí sláinteachais agus il-lianna maidir le frithghníomhartha nó teagmhais thromaí dhíobhálacha do chomhphárteanna fola, a bhailiú agus a leanúint, agus aiseolas a sholáthar d'fhonn na cleachtas fuilaisriúcháin a fheabhsú. Is féidir rathúlacht na scéime go nuige seo a chur síos go díreach d'obair agus do dhíograis na nOifigeach Iníuchta Aistriúcháin, agus do thacaíocht na lia-eolaithe fuilaisriúcháin agus na Haemaiteolaithe Comhairleacha sna hospidéal.*

*Foilsíodh Tuarascáil Bhliantúil an ONH do 2002 i Nollaig 2003. Le foilsiú na tuarascála seo, tá trí bliana iomlána oibre curtha isteach ag an ONH. I rith an ama sin, tuairiscíodh 384 theagmhas agus méadaíodh an rannpháirtíocht sa scéim go 90% de na hospidéal uile. I 2000 tharla 85 theagmhas a bhí ag teacht leis na critéir do theagmhas intuairiscithe. I 2001 mhéadaigh a líon go 144, agus i 2002 chomhlíon 155 chás na critéir do theagmhas haemafaireachais. Fuarthas an líon is mó tuairiscí sa chatagóir do Chomhphárteanna Fola Míchearta Aistrithe (CFMA), mar ar tuairiscíodh 187 gcás (49%) sa chéad trí bliana, rud atá ar aon dul leis na scéimeanna haemafaireachais eile a bhailíonn sonraí dá sórt. Is féidir an méadú ar líon na dtuairiscí a chur síos d'ábhair éagsúla, lena n-áirítear an méadú ar líon na nOifigeach Iníuchta Aistriúcháin atá ceaptha anois don phost, méadú feasachta i leith na scéime, agus oscailteacht bhreise i measc foirne na n-ospidéal maidir le tuairiscíú a dhéanamh.*



COMPARISON OF NHO INCIDENTS PER CATEGORY 2001 - 2002

| Category   | Total      | %     |
|--|------------|-------|
| Suspected Transfusion Transmitted Infection (STTI)                   | 12         | *(3%) |
| Severe Acute Anaphylactoid/Anaphylactic Reaction (AA)                | 88         | (23%) |
| Incorrect Blood Component Transfused (IBCT)                          | 187        | (49%) |
| Pre-deposit Autologous Donor Incident (PAD)                          | 8          | (2%)  |
| Transfusion Associated Circulatory Overload (TACO)                   | 34         | 9%    |
| Transfusion Related Acute Lung Injury (TRALI)                        | 5          | (1%)  |
| Delayed Haemolytic Transfusion Reaction (DHTR)                       | 12         | (3%)  |
| Acute Haemolytic or Other Severe Acute Transfusion Reaction (AHOSTR) | 34         | (9%)  |
| Unusual Transfusion Reaction (Unusual)                               | 4          | (1%)  |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>384</b> |       |

## Near Miss Project

Studies of safety incidents in commercial aviation, petrochemical processing and nuclear power industries point out that 'Near Miss' events are more prevalent, but very similar to those associated with full-blown disasters. Such events provide a valuable source of information on deficiencies within an existing system. The safety of transfusion can be improved through identification of weak points within a system, incorporating data relating to both adverse and 'Near Miss' events. As part of the haemovigilance reporting system in Ireland a 'Near Miss' research project funded by the IBTS commenced reporting in May 2003. Ten hospitals with differing blood usage have agreed to participate in this scheme. Investigating such 'Near Miss' incidents using the Medical Event Reporting System for Transfusion Medicine (MERS-TM) allows a systematic analysis of events including root-cause analysis to be carried out. The project should provide invaluable insight in identifying both system and human failures within organisations and allow appropriate improvements to be put in place. The project should also raise awareness and levels of error detection, while reporting in a no fault environment and an open reporting culture will continue to be encouraged within our hospitals.

## Tionscadal na Neasteagmhais

Léiríonn na staidéir ar theagmhais sabháilteachta san eitleoireacht trádálach, sa phróiseáil pheitricéimiceach agus i dtionscal na cumhachta núicléiche, gurb iad na neasteagmhais is coitianta, cé go mbíonn siad an-chosúil le cinn a bhaineann le matalaing chríochnaithe. Soláthraíonn teagmhais dá sórt foinse luachmhar eolais faoi na laigí a bhaineann leis na córais sheanbhunaithe. In aghaidh gach aistriú den fhuil mhícheart, aithnítear go gcosctar go leor teagmhais eile trí ghnáthaimh chúramacha seiceála, fiú má dhéantar earráid ag pointe éigin sa phróiseas. Is féidir sábháilteacht an aistriúcháin a fheabhsú trí phointí laga sa chóras a shainiú, lena n-áirítear sonraí a bhaineann le teagmhais dhíobhálacha agus "neasteagmhais" ar aon. Mar chuid de chóras tuairiscithe an haemafaireachais in Éirinn, tionscnaíodh tionscadal taighde faoi "neasteagmhais" le maoiniú SFAÉ, agus tosaíodh an tuairisciú uaidh i mBealtaine 2003. Thoiligh deich n-ospidéal, a bhaineann úsáid éagsúla as fuil, páirt a ghlacadh sa scéim. Trí imscrúdú a dhéanamh ar "neasteagmhais" dá leithéid agus úsáid a bhaint as an gCóras um Thuairisciú Teagmhais Míochaine den Mhíochain Aistriúcháin (CTTM-MA), is féidir anailis chórasach a dhéanamh ar theagmhais, lena n-áirítear anailis fhréamhchúise. Ba chóir go dtabharfaidh an tionscadal léargas luachmhar ar theipeanna córais agus ar theipeanna daonna laistigh d'eagraíochtaí, agus go n-éascóidh sé an tslí leis na feabhsúcháin chuí a dhéanamh. Ba cheart go méadóidh an tionscadal, freisin, feasacht daoine agus leibhéal braite agus tuairiscithe

## Educational

There was an excellent attendance at NHO Annual Conference which was held in the Tullamore Court Hotel on the 20th November 2003. The theme for the day was “Haemovigilance – Learning from Mistakes and the Culture of Errors” and presentations were given by national and international speakers. The keynote address was given by Dr. Harold Kaplan Professor of Clinical Pathology at The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University, and Director of Transfusion Medicine, New York Presbyterian Hospital. Dr. Kaplan’s presentation was on standardised Medical Event Reporting System for Transfusion Medicine (MERS-TM) which he was involved in developing.

The NHO compiles a newsletter twice a year. The newsletter allows the Transfusion Surveillance Officers the opportunity to publish information on study days or audits they have carried out or research proposed in their hospitals.

We also hold a number of orientation and training days at the National Blood Centre for new Transfusion Surveillance Officers. These sessions provide the TSOs with insight into the various stages of blood processing before it goes out to the hospitals.

*earráidí i dtimpeallacht a bheadh “gan locht”, i dtreo go gcothófaí feasta inár n-ospidéal an cineál cultúir a ghlacfaidh le tuairisciú.*

## Oideachasúil

*Bhí freastal sármhaith ar ár gComhdháil Bhliantúil a reáchtáladh in Óstán Tullamore Court ar an 20ú Samhain 2003. Ba é “Haemafaireachas – Ag Foghlaim ó Dhearmaid agus ó Chultúr na nEarráidí” téama an lae, agus thug cainteoirí náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta na haithisc. Ba é an Dr. Harold Kaplan, Ollamh le Paiteolaíocht Chliniciúil i gColáiste Lianna agus Máinlianna Ollscoil Columbia agus Stiúrthóir na Míochaine Aistriúcháin in Ospidéal Preispitéireach Nua-Eabhrach, a thug an t-aitheasc bunsmaoinimh. Bhí toirbhirt an Dr. Kaplan bunaithe ar an gCóras caighdeánaithe um Thuairisciú Teagmhas Míochaine den Mhíochain Aistriúcháin a raibh sé féin páirteach ina fhorbairt.*

*Cuireann an ONH nuachtlitir ar fáil dhá uair sa bhliain. Tugann an nuachtlitir deis d’Oifigigh Iniúchta Aistriúcháin eolas a fhoilsiú faoi laethanta staidéir nó iniúchtaí a rinne siad, nó faoi thaighde a mholtar ina n-ospidéal.*

*Eagraíonn an Lárionad Náisiúnta Fola roinnt laethanta treoshuimh nó traenála do na nua-Oifigigh Iniúchta Aistriúcháin. Tugann na seisiúin seo léargas do na hOIF ar na céimeanna éagsúla atá i gceist i bpróiseáil na fola, sula dtéann siad amach chuig na hospidéal.*



“ THE TOTAL NUMBER OF TRANSPLANTS FACILITATED BY THE REGISTRY TO DATE IS 129. OF THESE, 105 WERE FOR IRISH RECIPIENTS AND 24 WERE FOR INTERNATIONAL RECIPIENTS ”

### IRISH UNRELATED BONE MARROW REGISTRY

### CLÁRLANN SMIOR NEAMHGHOLMHAR NA HÉIREANN

D'ÉASCAIGH AN CHLÁRLANN 129 N-AISTRIÚCHÁN IN IOMLÁN GO DTÍ SEO.

B'FHAIGHTEOIRÍ ÉIREANNACHA 105 ACU, AGUS B'FHAIGHTEOIRÍ IDIRNÁISIÚNTA AN 24 EILE.

## Irish Unrelated Bone Marrow Registry

## Clárlann Smior Neamhghaolmhar na hÉireann

The Irish Unrelated Bone Marrow Registry (IUBMR) was set up in 1989 to have a panel of matched unrelated volunteer donors available for both Irish and international patients in need of a bone marrow transplant and to search for suitably matched donors for these patients. In 2003 the IUBMR facilitated the 50th bone marrow donation from an Irish donor.

The panel consists of 16,892 donors whose anonymised tissue types are submitted on a monthly basis to the Bone Marrow Donors Worldwide (BMDW) Directory, a central database of donors which can be searched on behalf of patients requiring transplantation.

### Registry Activities

The total number of transplants facilitated by the Registry to date is 129. Of these, 105 were for Irish recipients and 24 were for international recipients.

In 2003 the Registry facilitated 14 transplants on behalf of Irish (12) and International (2) patients. The origin of the donors were: Irish (6), UK (1), Germany (5), US (1), Leuven (1). Eight (8) of the transplants were bone marrow, five (5) were peripheral blood stem cell transplants and one (1) was an umbilical cord transplant.

*Cuireadh Clárlann Smior Neamhghaolmhar na hÉireann (CSNÉ) ar bun i 1989 chun go mbeadh painéal de dheontóirí maitseáilte neamhghaolmhara ann do na hothair Éireannacha agus idirnáisiúnta a mbeadh smioraistriú de dhíth orthu, agus chun deontóirí atá meaitseáilte go cuí a chuardach do na hothair seo. In 2003 d'éascaigh an CSNÉ an 50ú deonachán smeara ó dheontóir Éireannach.*

*Tá an painéal comhdhéanta de 16,892 dheontóir a gcuirtear a dtíopaí fíocháin, gan ainm leo, faoi bhráid Stiúrthóireacht Bone Marrow Donors Worldwide (BMDW), lárbhunachar sonraí na ndeontóirí, ar féidir é a chuardach thar ceann na n-othar a bhfuil smioraistriú de dhíth orthu.*

### Gníomhaíochtaí na Clárlainne

*D'éascaigh an Chlárlann 129 n-aistriúchán in iomlán go dtí seo. B'fhaighteoirí Éireannacha 105 dhuine den 129 seo, agus b'fhaighteoirí idirnáisiúnta iad an 24 eile.*

*I 2003 d'éascaigh an Chlárlann 14 aistriúchán thar ceann othar Éireannach (12) agus idirnáisiúnta (2). B'as na tíortha seo a leanas na deontóirí: Éire (6), RA (1), An Ghearmáin (5), na SA (1), Leuven (1). Smior a bhí i gceist in ocht (8) n-aistriúchán, aistriú gascheall imeallach fola a bhí i gceist i gcúig (5) cinn agus aistriú corda imleacáin i gcás amháin (1).*

## Computerisation

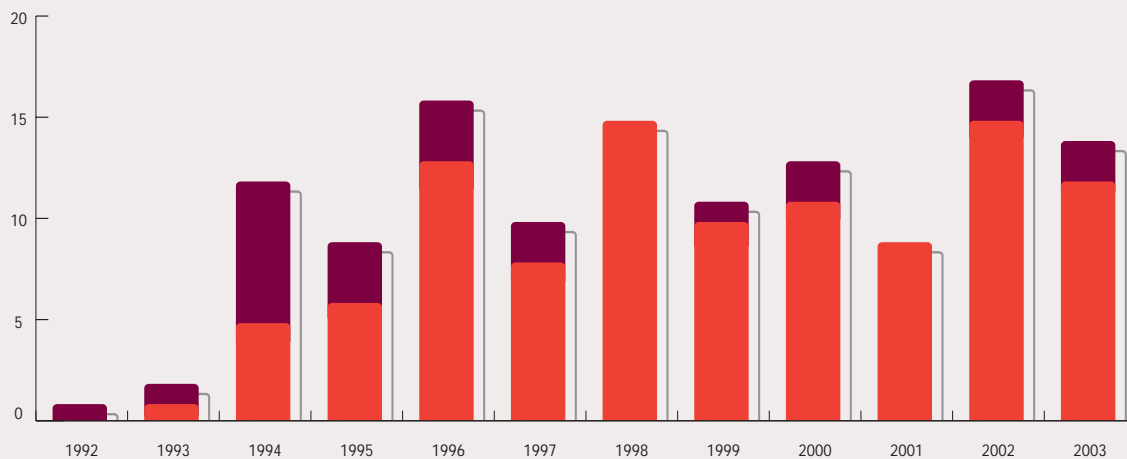
A new database Solar for bone marrow donors was purchased from the Anthony Nolan Trust in 2002. All existing donors were entered into this new database and the programme went live in May 2003. This database is used in conjunction with the National Tissue Typing Reference Laboratory (NTTRL) database and the blood donors database Progesa.

In 2004 the database will have a link with the European Marrow Donor Information System (EMDIS). This will allow us to search the participating registries directly, including the National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP) which has over 4 million donors.

## Ríomhairiú

I 2002 ceanníodh bunachar sonraí nua, 'Solar', le haghaidh deontóirí smeara, ó Iontaobhas Anthony Nolan. Ionchuireadh ainm gach deontóir, idir shean agus nua, sa bhunachar sonraí nua seo agus cuireadh an clár ag feidhmiú i mBealtaine 2003. Úsáidtear é seo i gcomhar le bunachar sonraí an tSaotharlann Náisiúnta Tagartha um Thiopáil Fiocháin (SNTTF) agus le 'Progesa', bunachar sonraí na ndeontóirí fola.

I 2004 cruthófar nasc idir an bunachar sonraí agus Córas Faisnéise na hEorpa um Dheontóirí Smeara (CFEDS). Cuirfidh seo ar ár gcumas cuardach díreach a dhéanamh sna clárlanna rannpháirteacha, lena n-áirítear Clár Náisiúnta na nDeontóirí Smeara (CNDS) a bhfuil os cionn 4 mhilliún deontóir air.



IUBMR TRANSPLANTS FACILITATED 1992-2003

|               | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 |
|---------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Irish         | 0    | 1    | 5    | 6    | 13   | 8    | 15   | 10   | 11   | 9    | 15   | 12   |
| International | 1    | 1    | 7    | 3    | 3    | 2    | 0    | 1    | 2    | 0    | 2    | 2    |



“THERAPEUTIC APHERESIS IS A FIRST LINE THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTION FOR A NUMBER OF NEUROLOGICAL, RENAL AND HAEMATOLOGICAL CONDITIONS”

## THERAPEUTIC APHERESIS SERVICE

### SEIRBHÍS NA HAIFIRÉISE TEIRIPÍ

IDIRGHABHÁIL THEIRIPEACH CÉADLÍNE ATÁ SAN AIFIRÉIS THEIRPEACH A ÚSÁIDTEAR LE HAGHAIDH ROINNT ÁRITHE RIOCHTAÍ NÉAREOLAÍOCHTA, DUÁNACH AGUS HAEMATEOLAÍOCHTA.



## Therapeutic Apheresis Service

## Seirbhís na hAifiréise Teiripí

This is an essential clinical service provided by the IBTS. Therapeutic apheresis is a first line therapeutic intervention for a number of Neurological, Renal and Haematological conditions. Amongst others these include Myasthenia Gravis, Guillain Barre, Goodpasture's Syndrome and Thrombotic Thrombocytopenic Purpura.

The procedures are performed using mobile apheresis equipment. Towards the end of 2003 equipment with continuous flow technology was introduced. This has allowed the IBTS to start providing a service for patients requiring Red Cell Exchange. With the increasing diversity in ethnicity in the Irish population, it is envisaged that this procedure will occur more frequently. Two patients were treated in October and December 2003.

Throughout 2003 a total of 283 procedures were performed, the majority of which were Plasma Exchanges. Almost half of these were performed on patients with Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy requiring maintenance therapy.

*Is seirbhís riachtanach chliniciúil í seo a chuireann SFAÉ. Idirghabháil theiripeach céadline atá san aifiréise theiripeach a úsáidtear le haghaidh roinnt áirithe riochtaí néareolaíochta, duánach agus haemaiteolaíochta. Cuimsíonn siad seo, i measc rudaí eile, Miaistéine Thromaí, Guillain Barre, Siondróm Goodpasture agus Purpura Trombóiteach Trombaicítipéineach.*

*Feidhmítear na gnáthaimh le trealamh aifiréise. I dtreo dheireadh 2003 tugadh trealamh isteach a raibh teicneolaíocht bhuancreafa ag gabháil leis. Chuir seo ar chumas BFAÉ tosú ar sheirbhís a sholáthar d'othair a mbionn Malartú na gCeall Dearg de dhíth orthu. Agus na héagsúlachtaí eitneachais ag méadú i measc phobal na hÉireann, meastar go mbeidh an modh oibre seo in úsáid níos minicí feasta. Cuireadh cóireáil ar bheirt othar i nDeireadh Fómhair agus i Nollaig 2003.*

*Le linn 2003 feidhmíodh 283 ngnáthamh in iomlán agus ba mhalartuithe plasma a mbunús. Feidhmíodh iad seo i leith othar a raibh Polainéarapaite Dímhiaillionáiteach Ainsealach Athlastach acu, agus teiripe chothaithe de dhíth orthu.*

## Education and Development

A number of educational / academic activities occurred in 2003. Staff underwent training on the use of the new equipment. A number of refresher days were organised for staff training. Post graduate tutorials were given to nurses following the Renal Course in the Dublin Hospitals. Staff also attended the UK Therapeutic Apheresis Special Interest Group meeting and the annual meeting of the British Blood Transfusion Society.

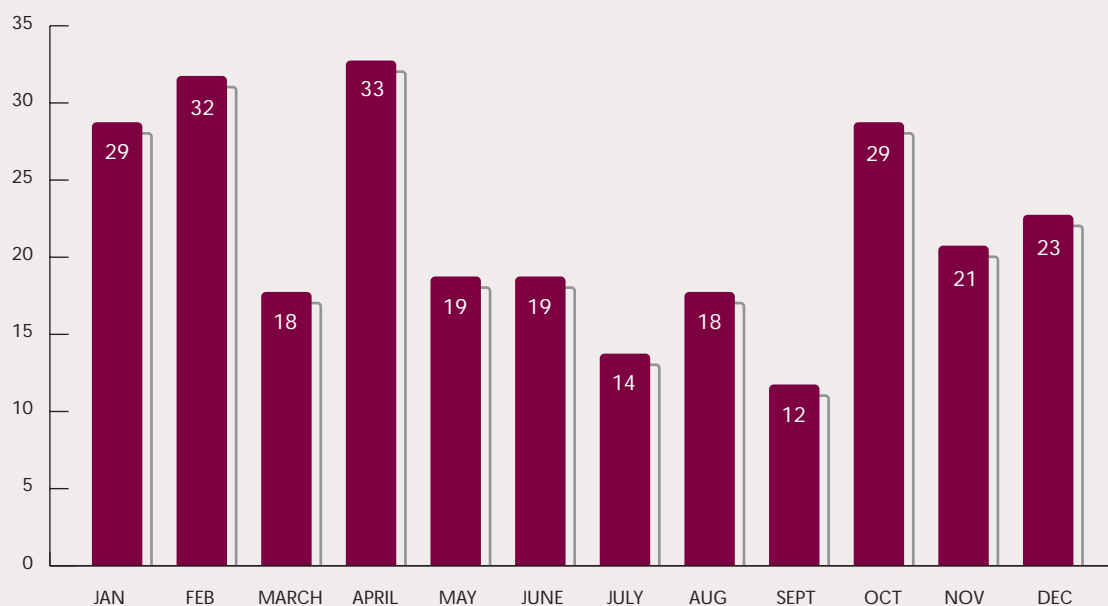
Two staff members have completed their Higher Diplomas and a Clinical Nurse Specialist has been appointed to the Service.

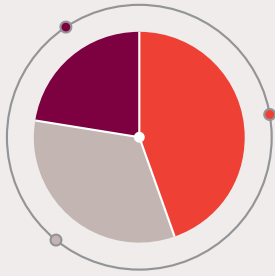
## Oideachas agus Forbairt

Tharla roinnt áirithe imeachtaí oideachasúla/acadúla i 2003. Tugadh oiliúint don fhoireann maidir le húsáid an trealaimh nua. Eagraíodh roinnt laethanta athnuachana le haghaidh oiliúint na foirne. Tugadh ranganna teagaisc iarchéime d'altraí tar éis Chúrsa na nDuán in Oispidéal Bhaile Átha Cliath. D'fhreastail baill foirne, freisin, ar chruinniú de Ghrúpa Sainleasa Aiféise Teiripí an RA agus ar chruinniú bliantúil Chumann Fuilaistriúcháin na Breataine.

Tá a nArd-Diplomáí críochnaithe ag beirt bhall foirne agus ceapadh Saineolaí Altramais Chliniciúil don tSeirbhís.

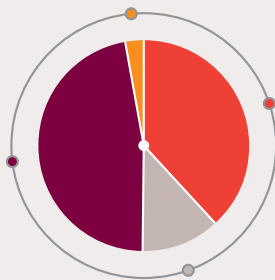
THERAPEUTIC APHERESIS SERVICE BREAKDOWN OF CASES BY MONTH | TOTAL 283





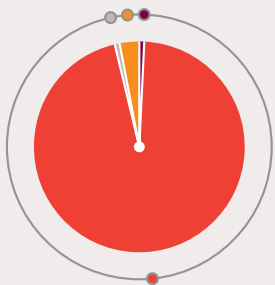
## BREAKDOWN OF CASES BY PROCEDURE

|              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| Emergency    | 62         |
| Elective     | 91         |
| Maintenance  | 130        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>283</b> |




## BREAKDOWN OF CASES BY HOSPITAL

|                |            |
|----------------|------------|
| Other          | 8          |
| St Vincents    | 133        |
| Mater Hospital | 34         |
| Tallaght       | 108        |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>283</b> |



## BREAKDOWN OF CASES BY TYPE

|                             |            |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Red Cell Depletion          | 8          |
| Red Cell Exchange           | 2          |
| Leucoreduction              | 2          |
| Therapeutic Plasma Exchange | 271        |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>283</b> |



“THE RECIPIENT TRACING UNIT  
TRACES AND OFFERS TESTING  
TO RECIPIENTS OF ANTI D  
BETWEEN THE RISK YEARS OF  
1977-79 AND 1991-94”

## RECIPIENT TRACING UNIT

### AN TAONAD UM AIMSIÚ FAIGHTEOIRÍ

LORGAÍONN AN T-AONAD UM AIMSIÚ  
FAIGHTEOIRÍ NA DAOINE A FUAIR FRITH-D SNA  
BLIANTA PRIACAIL 1977-79 AGUS 1991-94.

## Recipient Tracing Unit

## An tAonad um Aimsiú Faighteoirí

The Recipient Tracing Unit traces and offers testing to recipients of Anti D between the risk years of 1977 – 79 and 1991- 94 as part of the follow up to the Anti D HCV Screening Programme established in 1994.

In addition, it administers the Anti D Reassurance programme which offers retesting, through the individuals' GP, to all recipients who have tested negative, but who were exposed to an infectious or potentially infectious batch of Anti D. This Programme was set up by the Expert Group, a multi-disciplinary Group appointed by the Minister for Health & Children. To date 7,526 recipients have re-tested under the Reassurance programme.

A further aspect of the programme offers HCV testing to transfusion recipients who received blood prior to the introduction of HCV testing for blood donations, introduced in October 1991. It also investigates suspected transfusion transmitted infections reported by health professionals to the National Haemovigilance Office in the IBTS.

Though over 67,000 individuals have been tested under the Anti D Screening Programme, not all the individuals who were exposed have been tested and the Recipient Tracing Unit is continuing to trace, in co-operation with the hospitals the individuals who may not realise they have received Anti D during the risk

*Lorgaíonn an tAonad um Aimsiú Faighteoirí na daoine a fuair Frith-D sna blianta pricaill 1977-79 agus 1991-94, agus tairgíonn sé tástáil Frith-D dóibh mar chuid den Chlár Scagthástála VHC Frith-D a bunaíodh i 1994.*

*Ina theanntasan, riarann sé an clár Athdheimhnithe Frith-D a thairgíonn atástáil do gach faighteoir a fuair toradh diúltach ar thástáil, ach a nochtadh do dhol Frith-D a bhí ionfhabhtaioch nó d'acmhainn ionfhabhtaioch, trína dhochtúir.*

*Ba é an Grúpa Saineolaithe, grúpa ildiscipline a cheap an tAire Sláinte agus Leanaí, a d'fheidhmigh an Clár seo. Go dtí seo rinneadh tástáil ar 7,526 bhfaighteoir faoin gClár Athdheimhnithe.*

*Gné eile den chlár is ea go dtairgtear tástáil i leith VHC d'fhaighteoirí aistriúcháin a fuair fuil sular seoladh an tástáil ar dheonacháin fola i leith VHC i nDeireadh Fómhair 1991. Scrúdaíonn sé, freisin, fabhtuithe a mheastar gur tarchuireadh iad trí aistriúchán ar thug gairmithe sláinte tuairisc orthu don Oifig Náisiúnta Haemafaireacháin i SFAÉ.*

*Cé gur tástáladh 67,000 dhuine faoin gClár Scagthástála Frith-D, níor tástáladh gach duine a nochtadh agus tá an tAonad um Aimsiú Faighteoirí ag gabháil, i gcomhar leis na hospidéal, ar lorg daoine nach eol dóibh féin, b'fhéidir, go bhfuair siad Frith-D le linn na dtréimhsí pricaill. De na daoine a fuair dola Frith-D d'acmhainn ionfhabhtaioch le*

periods. To date 994 recipients who received potentially infectious batches of Anti D within the risk years have screened Eliza positive for Hepatitis C. The remainder have screened Eliza negative.

*linn na mblianta priacail, scaghástáladh 994 nduine acu go dtí seo Eliza-dhearfach ó thaobh Heipitíteas C de. Bhí an fuilleach Eliza-dhiúltach.*



“ WE HAVE AN IT SYSTEM IN PLACE THAT PROVIDES AN EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE SERVICE TO THE ORGANISATION AND SUPPORTS THE MAXIMUM SAFETY OF OUR DONORS AND QUALITY OF OUR PRODUCTS ”

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

### TEICNEOLAÍOCHT FAISNÉISE

TÁ CÓRAS TF ANN A THABHARFAIDH SEIRBHÍS ÉIFEACHTACH ÉIFEACHTÚIL DON EAGRAÍOCHT AGUS A CHINNTEOIDH UASMHÉID SÁBHÁILTEACHTA DÁR NDEONTÓIRÍ, AGUS ARDCHAIGHDEÁN ÁR DTÁIRGÍ.

# Information Technology

# Teicneolaíocht Faisnéise

The IT team currently provides a critical support function within the IBTS, with the objective of having an IT system in place that provides an efficient and effective service to the organisation and supports the maximum safety of our donors and quality of our products. The IT department provides IT support to over 600 personnel, which are based in eight permanent sites, with 6 mobile units on the road most days. There are over 350 PCs in use throughout the organisation running numerous applications with various degrees of complexity and requirements under Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP).

## Progesa

One of the major goals of the IBTS was achieved in 2003 with the successful implementation of the Progesa project; it went live in Cork and Limerick centres on 18th March and in all other centres on 8th May. This system replicates industry best practice in respect of process flow, operating procedures and quality management. It was integral to the tracing of blood and blood components from donor to patient.

A user group was established to look at Progesa issues in all centres after go-live, the group comprised of users from all relevant sections of the IBTS. A work list was developed over the span of the meetings and all

*Faoi láthair tá feidhm chriticiúil tacaíochta ag an bhfoireann TF in SFAÉ, agus tá sé mar aidhm acu anois go mbeidh córas TF acu a thabharfaidh seirbhís éifeachtach éifeachtúil don eagraíocht uile agus a chinnteoidh uasmhéid sábháilteachta dár ndeontóirí, agus ardchaighdeán ár dtáirgí. Tugann an roinn TF tacaíocht i leith TF do bhreis agus 600 ball foirne atá lonnaithe in ocht mbuansuíomh, le 6 aonad shoghluaiste ar an mbóthar acu bunús na laethanta. Tá thar 350 RP in úsáid ar fud na heagraíochta a bhfuil iliomad feidhmiúchán sa siúl acu ag leibhéil éagsúla castachta agus riachtanas, faoin Dea-Chleachtas Déantúsaíochta (DCD).*

## Progesa

*Baineadh ceann de mhórspríocanna SFAÉ amach i 2003, le forfheidhmiú rathúil an tionscadail Progesa; cuireadh i bhfeidhm é in ionaid Chorcaí agus Luimnigh ar an 18ú Márta agus i ngach ionad eile ar an 8ú Bealtaine.*

*Déanann an córas seo macasamhail an tsárchleachtais thionsclaigh i dtaca le sreabhú próisis, gnáthaimh feidhmíochta agus bainistiú caighdeáin. Is cuid intreach é de rianú na fola agus na gcomhpháirteanna fola ó dheontóir go hothar.*

*Nuair a cuireadh Progesa i bhfeidhm, bunaíodh grúpa úsáideoirí i ngach ionad chun imscrúdú a dhéanamh ar cheisteanna a bhain leis, agus bhí úsáideoirí as gach*



issues were resolved, with the exception of management information required from the system. It is planned to address these requirements in 2004, with the possibility of the development of a data warehouse project.

With the ever-changing requirements on Progesa from various IBTS business elements, there is a requirement to evaluate the later versions of software available to see which meets our needs and to put in place a plan to implement that version.

### Blood Bank Control System (BBCS)

This system is now used for look back only as not all data in this system was migrated to Progesa. The remaining data could form the basis from which the development of the data warehouse could be built.

### Bone Marrow

The national Bone Marrow system was developed in 2002 but went live in the first quarter of 2003. The system has successfully allowed bone marrow users to search and match potential bone marrow matches nationally. The system requires updating to allow for new functionality to allow users to search on seven other EU bone marrow registries giving a greater

*rannóg ábhartha de SFAÉ air. Forbraíodh liosta oibre thar thréimhse na gcruinnithe agus réitíodh gach ceist, seachas an fhaisnéis bainistíochta a bheadh ag teastáil ón gcóras. Tá sé beartaithe aghaidh a thabhairt ar na riachtanais seo i 2004, agus tharlódh go bhforbrófar tionscadal sonraí trádstorais dá thoradh.*

*Toisc go bhfuil riachtanais na n-eilimintí gnó éagsúla i SFAÉ ag síorathrú i leith Progesa, is gá na leaganacha is déanaí den bhogábhar a mheas, féachaint cé acu is oiriúnaí dár riachtanais, agus plean a chur ar bun chun an leagan sin a fhorfheidhmiú.*

### Córas Rialaithe an Bhainc Fola (CRBF)

*Baintear úsáid as an gcóras seo anois ar mhaithe le radharc siar a ghlacadh, go díreach, ós rud é nár tarchuireadh gach sonra den chóras chuig Progesa. D'fhéadfaí na sonraí atá fágtha a úsáid mar bhonn do thrádstóras sonraí.*

### Smior

*Forbraíodh an córas náisiúnta Smeara i 2002, ach cuireadh ag feidhmiú é sa chéad ráithe de 2003. D'éirigh leis an gcóras úsáideoirí smeara a chumasú chun meaitseanna féideartha smeara a rianadh agus iad a mheaitseáil ag an leibhéal náisiúnta. Tá nuashonrú de*

possibility of finding a potential suitable match. This development will start in the second quarter of 2004.

Part of the implementation achieved in 2003 was the electronic scanning of bone marrow registry consent forms, which allows for greater management of data as the consent forms are now held on CD allowing faster retrieval of data. Over 10,000 consent forms have been scanned with expectations that a further 2,000 be scanned annually.

## Platelets Matching

The development of platelets matching technology for the platelets department requires to be validated to ensure compliance with GAMP category 5 software. The validation and development were complete as outlined in the user requirement specification in 2003 but before go-live users identified significant changes to the search mechanism, to give safer matching and less user interaction. Work will commence in the first quarter of 2004 to develop and validate the changes.

## Laboratory Automate Interfaces

A number of developments in this area have taken place in 2003 where results from various laboratories testing equipment are passed to Progesa.

*dhíth ar an gcóras anois, chun feidhm nua a chruthú a ligfeadh d'úsáideoirí seacht gclárlann smeara eile an AE a chuardach, agus seans níos fearr a thabhairt dóibh, dá réir, meaitseanna oiriúnacha a fháil. Tosóidh an fhorbairt seo sa dara ráithe de 2004.*

*Mar chuid den fheidhmíocht a forbraíodh i 2003, déantar scanadh ríomhchuidithe anois ar na foirmeacha comhthola i gclárlann na smeara, rud a fheabhsaíonn bainistiú na sonraí, ós é go bhfuil na foirmeacha comhthola ar dhlúthdhiosca ónar féidir sonraí a aisghabháil go gasta. Tá scanadh déanta ar níos mó ná 10,000 foirm comhthola, agus táthar ag dréim le 2,000 a scanadh gach bliain feasta.*

## Meaitseáil Pláitíní

*An teicneolaíocht meaitseála pláitíní atá á forbairt do roinn na bpláitíní, is gá a bailíochtsan a dhearbhu, lena chinntiú go bhfuil sí comhoiriúnach le bogábhar GAMP, catagóir 5. Críochnaíodh an dearbhú bailíochna agus an fhorbairt de réir sonraíochta riachtanais an úsáideora i 2003, ach tharla sin sular aithin úsáideoirí feidhmiúla na hathruithe suntasacha ba ghá sa mheicníocht cuardaigh, chun go mbeadh meaitseáil níos sábháilte ann agus níos lú idirghníomhaíochta ag úsáideoirí. Sa chéad ráithe de 2004 tosófar ag obair ar fhorbairt agus ar dhearbhu bailíochna na n-athruithe.*

MRTC Autovue is used to cross match samples for patients, this interface was validated and implemented in the 2003.

NBC NAT is used for the transfer of results for NAT testing to Progesa for all samples taken nationally. Development and validation of the transfer mechanism was completed towards the end of 2003.

### Text Messaging

This project was implemented during Blood for Life Week in September to help notify existing donors about clinic times.

### Comhéadain Uathoibríocha Saotharlainne

*Tharla roinnt forbairtí sa réimse seo i 2003, trína n-aistrítear torthaí ó fhearas tástála na saotharlanna éagsúla chuig Progesa.*

*IARM Úsáidtear Autovue chun samplaí a thrasmheaitseáil do na hothair. Dearbháidh bailíocht an chomhéadain seo agus feidhmíodh é i 2003.*

*LNF Úsáidtear TAN chun torthaí tástála TAN a aistriú chuig Progesa i gcás gach sampla a ghlactar ar bhonn náisiúnta. Críochnaíodh an fhorbairt agus an dearbhú bailíochta don mheicníocht aistriúcháin faoi dheireadh 2003.*

### Ag Cur Téacsteachtaireachtaí

*Cuireadh an tionscadal seo i bhfeidhm le linn Sheachtain na Fola don Bheatha i mí Mheán Fómhair chun fógra a thabhairt do na deontóirí reatha faoi amanna clinice.*



## Network Infrastructure

The support and upgrading of the IBTS infrastructure continued throughout the year with the relocation of the Carlow centre. The IBTS Wide Area Network was expanded in December, with the opening of a fixed centre in Stillorgan.

## IT Personnel

With the implementation of the Progesa system, super users were integrated into the IT team bringing with them experience of the system, which will enable them to play an integral part in the future development of the team. This experience and the stability of the rest of the team allows the IT department support the entire organisation.

## Bonneagar Gréasáin

*Leanadh ag tacú le bonneagar SFAÉ agus á uasghrádú i rith na bliana, le hathlonnú ionad Cheatharlach. Fairsingíodh Gréasán Leathan-Cheantair SFAÉ i mí na Nollag, nuair a osclaíodh ionad seasta i Stigh Lorgan.*

## Pearsanra na TF

*Nuair a cuireadh córas Progesa i bhfeidhm, tugadh sárúsáideoirí isteach i bhfoireann na TF, agus thug siadsan leo taithí ar an gcóras a chuirfidh ar a gcumas páirt intreach a ghlacadh i bhforbairt na foirne feasta. Leis an taithí seo agus le cobhsaíocht na coda eile den fhoireann, beidh an roinn TF in ann tacaíocht a thabhairt don eagraíocht uile.*



“ UPDATING THE IBTS HR  
FUNCTION INTO LINE WITH  
NEW LEGISLATIVE  
REQUIREMENTS AND TO MEET  
FUTURE BUSINESS OBJECTIVES  
AND DEVELOPMENTS ”

## HUMAN RESOURCES

### DAONACMHAINNÍ

NUASHONRÚ FHEIDHM DA SFAÉ, AG TEACHT LE RIACHTANAIS NA  
REACHTÁÍOCHTA NUA AGUS CHUN AIDHMEANNA AGUS FORBARTÍ GNÓ A  
AIMSIÚ SA TODHCHAÍ.

## HR Review

An external review of the Human Resources department during 2002 concluded that a number of areas needed updating to bring the IBTS HR function into line with new legislative requirements and to meet future business objectives and developments. The areas of HR deemed for development were structure, the management of data, policies and procedures.

The report recommended the appointment of a HR Director plus support roles for Employee Relations, Training and Development, General HR Cork, Management Development, HR Information Systems, Communications, Partnership Development and Performance Management to mention a few.

Mr. Brian Kirwan was appointed HR Director in June 2003.

Ms. Chantelle Fleming was appointed Employee Relations Manager in September 2003.

Ms. Olga Flinter was appointed Training and Development Manager in September 2003.

## Athbheithniú ar DA

*I rith 2002 rinneadh athbheithniú seachtrach ar an roinn Daonacmhainní agus cinneadh gur ghá roinnt réimsí a nuashonrú chun go mbeidh feidhm DA SFAÉ ag teacht le riachtanais na reachtaíochta nua agus go mbeifear in ann aidhmeanna agus forbairtí gnó a aimsiú sa todhchaí. Measadh gurb iad struchtúr, bainistiú sonraí, polasaithe agus gnáthaimh, na réimsí DA ina bhfuil gá le forbairt.*

*Mhol an tuairisc go gceapfaí Stiúrthóir DA agus go mbeadh ról tacaíochta ag Caidreamh le Fostaithe, Traenáil agus Forbairt, DA Ginearálta i gCorcaigh, Forbairt Bainistíochta, Córais Faisnéise DA, Cumarsáid, Forbairt na Comhpháirtíochta, agus Bainistiú Feidhmíochta, chun roinnt acu a lua.*

*Ceapadh Brian Kirwan ina Stiúrthóir DA i Meitheamh 2003.*

*Ceapadh Ms. Chantelle Fleming ina Bainisteoir Caidrimh le Fostaithe.*

*Ceapadh Ms. Olga Flinter ina Bainisteoir Traenála agus Forbartha i Meán Fómhair 2003.*

## Policies and Procedures

In December 2003 the IBTS implemented a Dignity at Work, Grievance and Disciplinary Policy, which were drawn up in accordance with the principles of the nationally agreed policies for the health service. Information and training workshops to support the introduction and implementation of these policies commenced in December 2003 and will continue to be made available to all staff nationwide.

Work commenced on the further development of HR policies and procedures to support the on-going modernisation and development of the IBTS.

## Partnership

Workplace Partnership is concerned with building better workplace relations between management, unions and staff. Poor working relationships between staff and management will inevitably lead to poorer morale, poorer performance and poorer service. Partnership does not replace the existing Industrial Relations infrastructure. Rather, the Partnership process is another approach to dealing with issues that arise in organisations. It is aligned with current strategies to assist in the overall management of issues that may arise and indeed to introduce initiatives, programmes etc. that will enhance the working

## Polasaithe agus Gnáthaimh

*I Nollaig 2003 d'fheidhmigh SFAÉ Polasaí um Dhinit ar Obair, Ghearáin agus Dhisciplín, a ceapadh de réir prionsabal na bpolasaithe a comhaontaíodh ag an leibhéal náisiúnta don tseirbhis sláinte. Tionscnaíodh saotharlanna faisnéise agus traenála chun tacú le tionscnamh agus le feidhmiú na bpolasaithe seo i Nollaig 2003 agus cuirfear ar fáil ar bhonn leanúnach iad don fhoireann uile ar fud na tíre.*

*Tosaíodh ar obair chun tuilleadh forbartha a dhéanamh ar na polasaithe agus gnáthaimh DA, d'fhonn tacú le nuachóiriú agus le forbairt leanúnach SFAÉ.*

## Comhpháirtíocht

*Is í an aidhm atá ag Comhpháirtíocht san Ionad Oibre, caidreamh níos fearr a chothú san ionad oibre idir an bhainistíocht, na ceardchumann agus an fhoireann. Nuair a bhíonn droch-chaidreamh oibre idir an fhoireann agus an bhainistíocht bíonn an misneach níos measa, an fheidhmíocht níos measa agus an tseirbhis níos measa. Níl an Chomhpháirtíocht ann le hionad reatha bhonneagar an Chaidrimh Thionsclaigh a ghlacadh. Is amhlaidh gur cur chuige eile atá sa Chomhpháirtíocht chun déileáil le saincheistanna a éiríonn in eagraíochtaí. Tagann sí leis na straitéisí reatha atá ann chun tacú le forbainistiú na gceistanna a d'fhéadfadh teacht chun*

environment of the IBTS.

The Partnership Steering Group (PSG) held their first official meeting in November 2003.

The Steering Group consists of 22 members who undertook extensive training so that everyone in the process has a shared understanding of the process.

The IBTS engaged a Partnership Facilitator, Seosamh O' Maolalai, from the Health Services National Partnership Forum (HSNPF) to assist in the development of workplace Partnership. He facilitated training and continues to facilitate PSG meetings.

## Sustaining Progress

The Sustaining Progress National Pay Agreement, July 2003 – June 2005, provides for the establishment of Performance Verification Groups in respect of each sector of the public sector to oversee the attainment of

*cinn, agus tús a chur le tionscnaimh, cláir etc, a d'fheabhsódh comhshaol oibre SFAÉ.*

*Bhí a chéad chruinniú oifigiúil ag Grúpa Stiúrtha na Comhpháirtíochta (GSC) i Samhain 2003.*

*Tá 22 bhall ar an nGrúpa Stiúrtha agus rinne siad traenáil leathan sa dóigh go bhfuil tuiscint choitianta ar an bpróiseas anois ag gach duine atá páirteach ann.*

*D'fhostaigh SFAÉ Éascaitheoir Comhpháirtíochta,*

*Seosamh Ó Maolalái ó Fhóram Náisiúnta*

*Comhpháirtíochta na Seirbhísí Sláinte (FNCSS) chun*

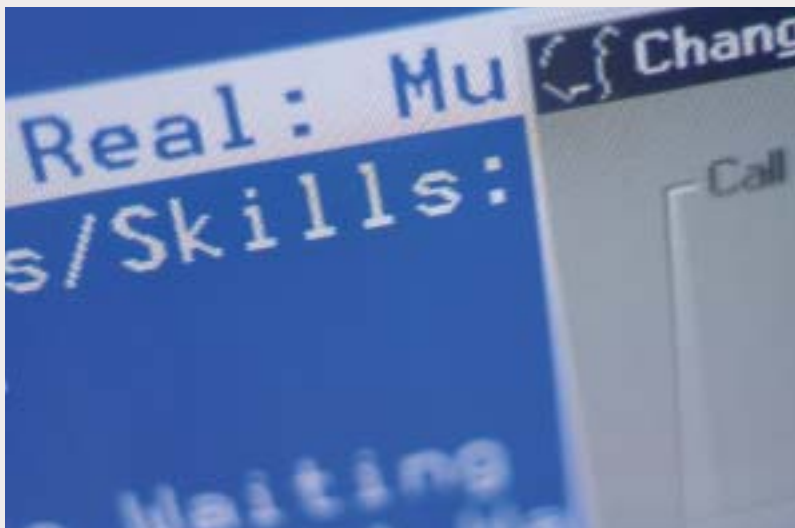
*cuidiú le forbairt na Comhpháirtíochta san ionad oibre.*

*D'éascaigh sé an traenáil agus éascaíonn sé cruinnithe den GSC ar bhonn leanúnach.*

## Cothú an Dul Chun Cinn

*Déantar soláthar sa Chomhaontú Náisiúnta Pá um*

*Cothú an Dul Chun Cinn, Iúil 2003 – Meitheamh 2005,*





the objectives set out in the agreement. The performance verification process requires that Heads of Organisations within the health sector prepare and submit progress reports on the attainment of objectives set out in the Action Plan agreed for the sector by the National Partnership Forum and approved by the Performance Verification Group. Mr. Andrew Kelly, Acting Chief Executive submitted the IBTS Action Plan on the 29th October 2003. Management, the IBTS Partnership Steering Group and Union Officials also received the Action Plan Template. Heads of Organisation were also requested to nominate a dedicated contact person to liaise with the HSNPF staff on an ongoing basis in preparing the reports from individual organisations. Ms Chantelle Fleming, ER Manager, has been appointed to this liaison role.

This process is viewed as an opportunity to effect real and verifiable changes over the lifetime of this agreement. As such, Heads of Organisations have been advised to identify specific actions, work practices, structures and initiatives that will help facilitate the modernisation of organisations within the health service, in the overall context of this agreement. Heads of Organisations are required to submit progress reports to the Health Services National Partnership Forum, which in turn is required to submit them, in addition to an overall report on the health

*chun Grúpaí um Ráthú Feidhmíochta a bhunú i ngach cuid den earnáil phoiblí, agus maoirsiú a dhéanamh ar aimsiú na gcuspóirí atá luaite sa chomhaontú. Éilíonn an próiseas um ráthú feidhmíochta go n-ullmhóidh agus go dtairgeadh Ceannasaithe Eagraíochta san earnáil sláinte, tuairiscí faoin dul chun cinn ar aimsiú na gcuspóirí sa Phlean Gníomhaíochta a aontáidh don earnáil ag an bhFóram Náisiúnta Comhpháirtíochta agus a bhí faoifa ag an nGrúpa um Ráthú Feidhmíochta. Chuir an PF, Andrew Kelly, Plean Gníomhaíochta SFAÉ ar fáil ar an 29ú Deireadh Fómhair 2003. Fuair an Bhainistíocht, Grúpa Stiúrtha na Comhpháirtíochta i SFAÉ agus Oifigigh an Cheardchumainn, freisin, Fíoraí an Phlean Gníomhaíochta. Iarradh ar na Ceannasaithe Eagraíochta teagmhálaí tiomnaithe a ainmniú chun tadhall leanúnach a dhéanamh le foireann an FNCSS nuair a bheadh tuairiscí á n-ullmhú ag na heagraíochtaí ar leith. Ceapadh Chantell Fleming, Bainisteoir CF, don ról tadhail seo.*

*Féachtar ar an bpróiseas seo mar dheis chun fíorathruithe indeimhnithe a chur i bhfeidhm le linn saoil an chomhaontaithe seo. Dá réir sin, comhairlíodh do na Ceannasaithe Eagraíochta sainaithe a chur ar na gníomhaíochtaí, cleachtais oibre, struchtúir agus tionscnaimh sainiúla a éascóidh nuachóiriú na n-eagraíochtaí sa tseirbhís sláinte, i gcomhthéacs ginearálta an chomhaontaithe seo. Ní mór do na Ceannasaithe Eagraíochta tuairiscí faoin dul chun cinn a chur faoi*

sector, to the Secretary General of the Department of Health and Children.

Assessment of verified progress is undertaken by the Performance Verification Group for the sector and organisations and grades within the sector, following receipt of the reports and an assessment of progress achieved by the Secretary General.

### Laboratory Development Project

This project, introduced to review the workings of the laboratories in the National Blood Centre and the Munster Regional Transfusion Centre, commenced in September 2003. Over the past number of years the developments and demands on transfusion centres are impacting on the work practices of the IBTS. It is essential that the IBTS develops the capacity to meet these demands in a planned manner, best utilising the expertise of staff and within budgetary and cost factors.

### Staff Headcount

The total staff headcount as at December 2003 was 609 nationwide. The year saw the introduction of the NAT Laboratory in the National Blood Centre and also the opening of a new blood collection clinic in Stillorgan, Dublin.

*bhráid Fhóram Náisiúnta Comhpháirtíochta na Seirbhísí Sláinte a bhfuil an cúram air iad a chur, maraon le tuairisc ghinearálta faoin earnáil sláinte, chuig Ard-Rúnaí na Roinne Sláinte agus Leanáí.*

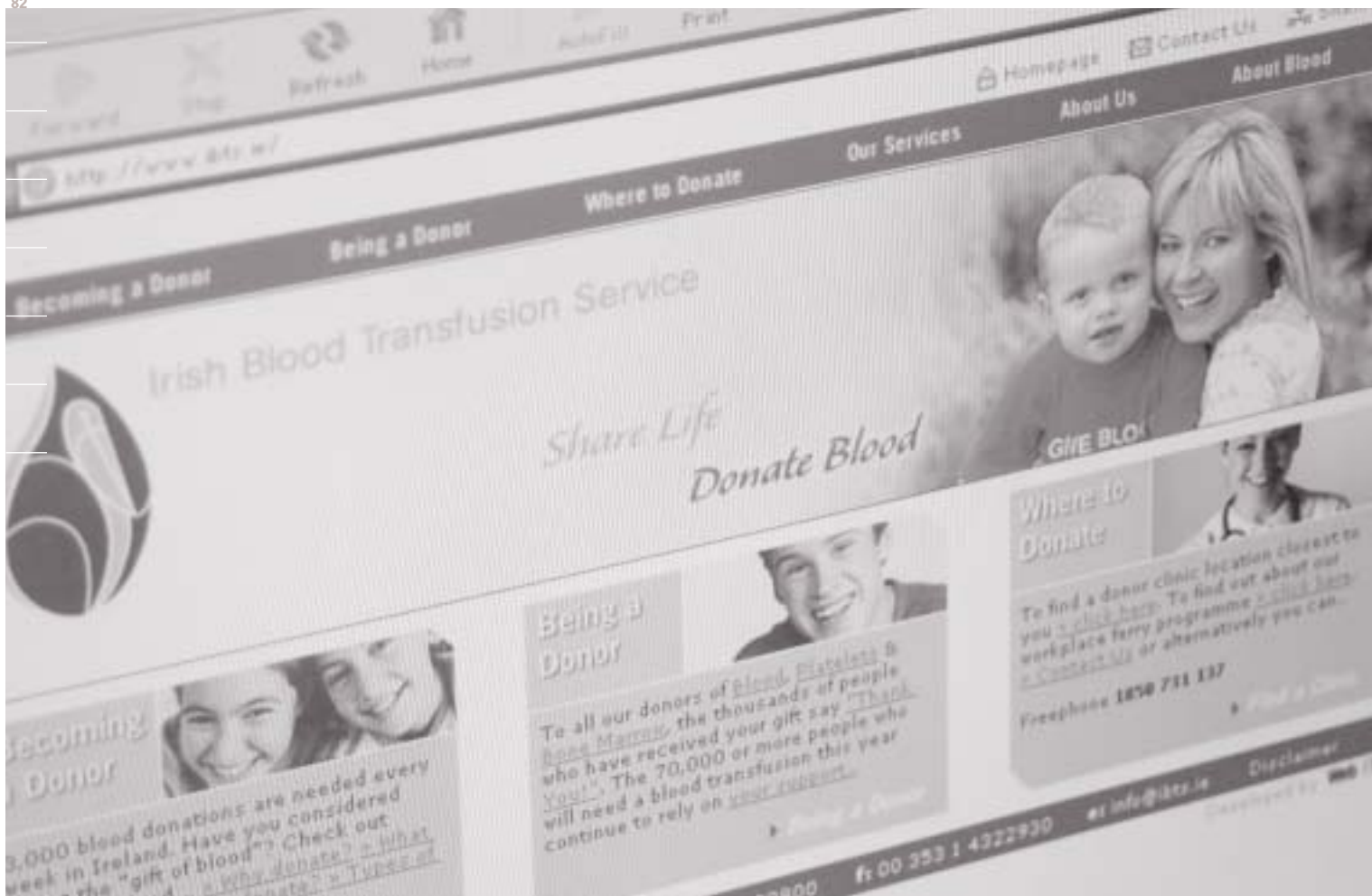
*Is é an Grúpa um Ráthú Feidhmíochta don earnáil, maraon leis na heagraíochtaí agus na gráid san earnáil, a dhéanann measúnú ar an dul chun cinn ráthaithe, tar éis don Ard-Rúnaí tuairiscí agus measúnú ar an dul chun cinn a fháil.*

### An Tionscadal Forbartha Saotharlainne

*Ba i Meán Fómhair 2003 a bunaíodh an tionscadal seo, agus tionscnaíodh é chun athbhreithniú a dhéanamh ar fheidhmiú na saotharlann sa Lárionad Náisiúnta Fola agus in Ionad Aistriúcháin Réigiúnach na Mumhan. Le blianta beaga anuas, tá tionchar ag forbairtí agus ag éilimh na n-ionad fullaistriúcháin ar chleachtais oibre SFAÉ. Is gá do SFAÉ anois acmhainn a fhorbairt chun na héilimh seo a fhreastal ar mhodh pleanáilte, ag baint uasleasa as saineolas na foirne agus ag fanacht laistigh de na fachtóirí buiséid agus costais.*

### Líon Foirne

*Ba é 609 líon iomlán na foirne ar fud na tíre i Nollaig 2003. Le linn na bliana tionscnaíodh Saotharlann TAN sa Lárionad Náisiúnta Fola agus osclaíodh, freisin, clinic nua fuilbhailiúcháin i Stigh Lorgan, Baile Átha Cliath.*



“ SINCE THE NEW SITE WENT LIVE, WWW.IBTS.IE AVERAGED BETWEEN 4,500 AND 5,000 VISITS A MONTH ”

## COMMUNICATIONS

### CUMARSÁID

Ó SEOLADH AN SUÍOMH NUA, TUGADH MEÁNLIÓN DE IDIR 4,500 AGUS 5,000 CUAIRT SA MHÍ AR WWW.IBTS.IE.

## IBTS website

The IBTS website was redeveloped in 2003, incorporating additional features to improve functionality and provide information for donors and potential donors. It is now possible to register for an email alert for your next nearest clinic, book an appointment to donate blood at our Stillorgan clinic and search the clinics schedule by county or by date, using our calendar facility.

The new site went live at the beginning of October and feedback from our users has been very positive.

Our general information request email address continues to be popular with the public, in 2003 info@ibts.ie received 1,203 valid queries. These covered a wide range of issues, from students doing research on projects, to donors with specific queries about medication, travel abroad or informing us of changes in their details for our records.

Since the new site went live, www.ibts.ie averaged between 4,500 and 5,000 visits a month, the most popular feature of the site was the clinics schedule/calendar, which also had the highest entry page level, indicating that return visitors had book marked that page.

## Gréasán SFAÉ

*Athfhorbraíodh an láithreán gréasán atá ag SFAÉ i 2003, le gnéithe breise ann chun an fheidhmíocht a fheabhsú agus eolas a sholáthar do dheontóirí agus do dheontóirí féideartha. Is féidir clárú anois chun fógra r-phoist a fháil faoin gclinic is gaire duit, coinne a dhéanamh chun fuil a dheonú i gclinic Stigh Lorgan, agus sceideal na gclínici a chuardach ar bhonn contae nó dáta, ag baint úsáide as an áis féillire.*

*Cuireadh an láthair nua i bhfeidhm ag tús Dheireadh Fómhair agus tá an t-aiseolas ónár n-úsáideoirí an-dearfach. Baineann an pobal an-úsáid leanúnach as ár seoladh r-phoist le haghaidh iarrataí ar eolas ginearálta; i 2003 fuair info@ibts.ie 1,203 fhiosrú bhailí. Chuimsigh siad seo raon fairsing ceisteanna, ó dhaoine ar nós mac léinn atá ag déanamh taighde ar thionscadail, go deontóirí le ceisteanna sainiúla faoi mhíochain nó faoi thaisteal thar lear, nó ó dhaoine a sholáthraíonn eolas do na taifid faoi athruithe ar a gcuid sonraí.*

*Ó seoladh an suíomh nua, tugadh meánlíon de idir 4,500 agus 5,000 cuairt sa mhí ar www.ibts.ie. Bhí an tarraingt is mó ag an bpobal ar an ngné den suíomh a bhain le sceideal / féillire na gclínici, agus bhí an leibhéal is mó leathanach iontrála aige, freisin, ag léiriú go ndearna athchuirteoirí an leathanach a leabharmharcáil.*

## Publications

The IBTS published two issues of Donor Digest, Issue 5 and 6 in 2003. Donor Digest is a 4 page information newsletter for donors, which is available at clinics throughout the country.

The 2002 Annual Report was published in July. The National Haemovigilance Office 2002 Annual Report was published in December.

All of our publications are available at [www.ibts.ie](http://www.ibts.ie)

## Freedom of Information

The IBTS received 16 requests under the Freedom of Information Act in 2002. The IBTS posts the Board minutes subsequent to ratification by the Board and subject to FOI on [www.ibts.ie](http://www.ibts.ie).

## Foilseacháin

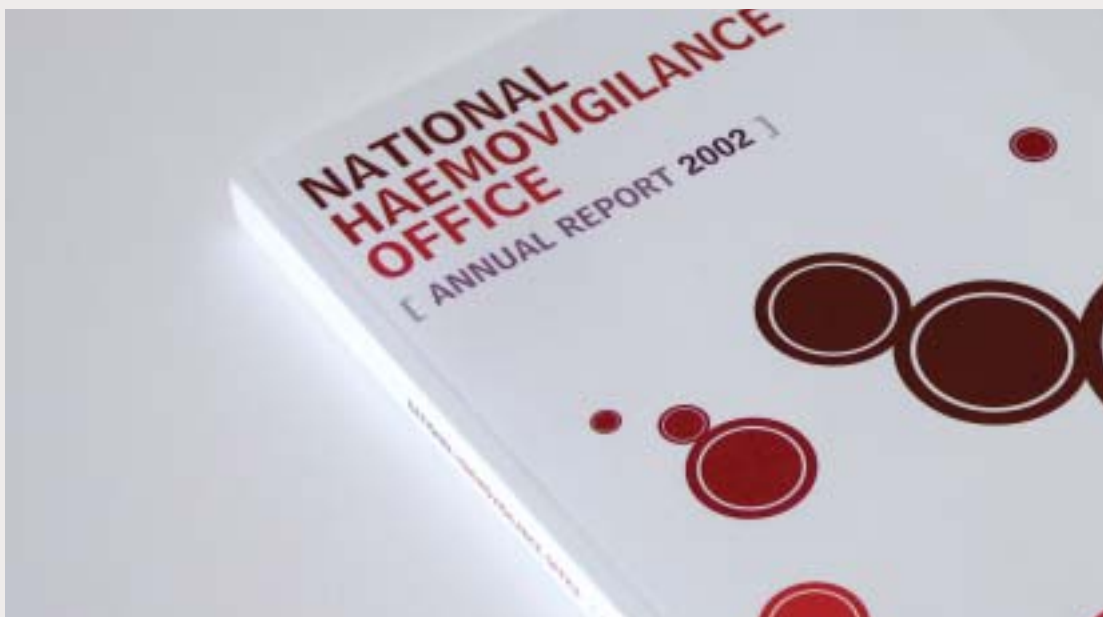
*I 2003 d'fhoilsigh SFAÉ dhá eisiúint den Díolaim Deontóra, eisiúint 5 agus 6. Nuachtlitir eolais 4 leathanach do dheontóirí is ea an Díolaim Deontóra, agus tá sí ar fáil i gclínici ar fud na tíre.*

*Foilsíodh Tuarascáil Bhliantúil 2002 i mí Iúil. D'fhoilsigh an Oifig Náisiúnta Haemafaireachais a Tuarascáil Bhliantúil do 2002 i mí na Nollag.*

*Tá ár bhfoilseacháin uile ar fáil ar [www.ibts.ie](http://www.ibts.ie).*

## Saoráil Faisnéise

*Fuair SFAÉ 16 iarraidh faoin Acht um Shaoráil Faisnéise i 2002. Cuireann SFAÉ miontuairiscí an Bhoird ar fáil ar [www.ibts.ie](http://www.ibts.ie), tar éis iad a bheith daingnithe ag an mBord, agus iad faoi réir na SF.*



## Internal Communications

The IBTS has developed an internal communications strategy. Key features include the publication of a quarterly newsletter for all staff, the development of an organisation wide intranet and the implementation of an internal staff briefing process. The strategy is overseen by an implementation group comprised of staff from across the organisation. The IBTS also produced the first staff diary and directory in 2003.

## Research

IBTS staff contributed to articles and carried out research that was published in a number of medical journals, including Vox Sang, Tissue Antigens and British Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

Medical, laboratory and quality staff were involved in this research which covered the following:

ISBT - Guidelines for validation and maintaining the validation state of automated systems in blood banking. Two sets of HLA Class II DRB and DQB1 alleles co-segregate among family members in a single maternal haplotype.

Antenatal screening for human platelet antigen-1a: results of a prospective study at a large maternity hospital in Ireland.

## Cumarsáid Inmheánach

*Tá straitéis um chumarsáid inmheánach forbartha ag SFAÉ. I measc príomhghnéithe na straitéise tá nuachtlitir ráithiúil don fhoireann uile, forbairt inlin ar fud na heagraíochta agus feidhmiú próisis mionteagaisc don fhoireann inmheánach. Déanann grúpa forfheidhmithe, atá comhdhéanta de bhaill foirne ar fud na heagraíochta, an straitéis a mhaoirsiú. Chuir SFAÉ a chéad dialann agus eolaire foirne ar fáil, freisin, i 2003.*

## Taighde

*Chuir foireann SFAÉ faisnéis ar fáil d'altanna, agus rinne siad taighde a foilsíodh in irisí míochaine áirithe, lena n-áirítear Vox Sang, Tissue Antigens agus an British Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.*

*Bhí baill foirne leighis, saotharlainne agus ardchaighdeán páirteach sa taighde, a chuimsigh an méid seo a leanas:*

*ISBT – Treoirlínte chun bailíocht na gcóras uathoibríoch i mbaincéireacht na fola a dhearbhu agus an staid bhaill a choinneáil.*

*Déanann dhá shraith de alleles ALD Rang II DRB agus DQB1 comhdheighilt idir baill teaghlaigh i haplóitíop máthartha amháin.*

*Scagthástáil réamhbhreithe le haghaidh antaigin-1A i bpláitíní daonna: torthaí ar staidéir ionchais in ospidéal mór máithreachais i mBaile Átha Cliath.*



“THE BOARD MAINLY GENERATES INCOME BY CHARGING HOSPITALS FOR THE PRODUCT AND SERVICES, WHICH IT SUPPLIES”

## FINANCE

### AIRGEADAS

GINEANN AN BORD A IONCAM, GO PRÍOMHA, TRÍ CHOSTAS A GHEARRADH AR OSPIDÉIL AS NA TÁIRGÍ AGUS SEIRBHÍSÍ A SHOLÁTHRAÍONN SÉ.

|                                      | 2003          | 2002    |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------|
|                                      | €'000         | €'000   |
| <b>Income</b>                        |               |         |
| Recurring income                     | <b>99,244</b> | 106,807 |
| Non-recurring income                 | <b>79</b>     | 74      |
|                                      | .....         | .....   |
| Total Income                         | <b>99,323</b> | 106,881 |
| <b>Expenditure</b>                   |               |         |
| Total expenditure                    | <b>94,055</b> | 96,661  |
|                                      | .....         | .....   |
| Surplus for year                     | <b>5,268</b>  | 10,220  |
| Accumulated reserve at 1st January   | <b>9,409</b>  | (811)   |
|                                      | .....         | .....   |
| Accumulated reserve at 31st December | <b>14,677</b> | 9,409   |
|                                      | .....         | .....   |

## Income

The Board's total income for 2003 of €99.3 million (2002 €106.8 million) is analysed into recurring income and non-recurring income.

Recurring income consists of revenue generated from products and services provided to hospitals of €99.2 million (2002 €104.9 million). The Board mainly generates income by charging hospitals for the product and services, which it supplies. The Board did

## Ioncam

*Miondealaítear ioncam iomlán an Bhoird, €99.3 milliún i 2003 (€106.8 milliún i 2002), idir ioncam athfhillteach agus ioncam neamh-athfhillteach. Cuimsíonn an t-ioncam athfhillteach ioncam €99.2 milliún (€104.9 milliún i 2002) a gineadh as táirgí agus seirbhísí a cuireadh ar fáil d'ospidéal. Gineann an Bord a ioncam, go príomha, trí chostas a ghearradh ar ospidéal as na táirgí agus seirbhísí a sholáthraíonn sé. Ní raibh aon mhéadú*



not have any increase in its sales prices during 2003 i.e. sales prices for 2003 were the same as those for 2002. Accordingly all changes in income are related to increased or decreased demand for its products and services. Also included is direct funding of €1.3 million (2002 €1.9 million) received from the Department of Health and Children in relation to expenditure incurred on the Hepatitis C programme.

Non-recurring income during 2003 includes interest earned on bank deposits and proceeds from the sale of fixed assets.

## Expenditure

Expenditure for 2003 amounted to €94 million, which is a decrease of €2.6 million on 2002. Purchase of Blood Products for resale cost €5.1 million less during 2003 due to decreased demand for these clotting factor substitutes. The Board invested a once-off lump sum of €2 million in the pension fund following its actuarial valuation as at 1st May 2002 and the poor investment performance of the fund during the year. Other increased expenditure in 2003 mainly related to implementing national pay agreements within the organisation.

*ar phraghsanna díolacháin an Bhoird le linn 2003, i.e., bhí na praghsanna díolacháin mar an gcéanna i 2002 agus i 2003. Mar sin de, baineann gach athrú ioncaim le méadú nó laghdú éilimh ar tháirgí agus ar sheirbhísí. San áireamh, freisin, tá maoiniú díreach €1.3 milliún (€1.9 milliún i 2002) a fuarthas ón Roinn Sláinte agus Leanaí i leith caiteachais ar an gclár Heipitítis C.*

*Cuimsíonn an t-ioncam neamh-athfhillteach i 2003 an t-ús a gnóthaíodh ar thaiscí bainc agus an fáltas ó dhíolachán sócmhainní seasta.*

## Caiteachas

*Bhí caiteachas €94 milliún ann i 2003, rud ab ionann agus laghdú €2.6 milliún ar 2002. Chosain ceannachán Táirgí Fola a bhí le hathdhíol €5.1 milliún níos lú i 2003, de bharr laghdú éilimh ar na fachtóirí téachta ionadacha seo. D'infheistigh an Bord cnapshuim aon uaire €2 milliún sa chiste pinsin, i ndiaidh luacháil an achtaire ar an 1ú Bealtaine 2002, agus an drochthoraidh ar infheistíocht sa chiste i rith na bliana. Bhain an bhreis caiteachais eile i 2003 le forfheidhmiú na gcomhaontuithe pá san eagraíocht, ach go háirithe.*

## Capital Expenditure

Expenditure of €4 million was invested in capital projects during 2003. Projects mainly related to the introduction of NAT testing within Ireland, the set-up of a new fixed donor clinic in Stillorgan, transferring our Carlow premises to a new site and further enhancements to our information technology systems.

## Significant Changes

The upgrade of the financial management system within the finance department was fully implemented in December 2003. The successful implementation could not have happen without the dedication and co-operation of the staff within the finance function who wholeheartedly embraced this change.

The planning of an integrated Human Resources Management and Payroll system throughout the organisation commenced during 2003. Following extensive consultation and participation with all departments and across all locations of the organisation a detailed user requirement specification was developed. The 'Core' integrated system was selected following a competitive tender and will be implemented during 2004. The system will assist managers with human resource planning and control.

## Caiteachas Caipitil

*Infheistíodh caiteachas €4 mhilliún i dtionscadail caipitil le linn 2003. Bhain na tionscadail seo go príomha le tosú na tástála TAN in Éirinn, bunú clinice nua deontóra i Stigh Lorgan, aistriú ár n-áitrimh i gCeatharlach go suíomh nua, agus le breis feabhsúchán ar ár gcórais teicneolaíochta faisnéise.*

## Athruithe Suntasacha

*I Nollaig 2003 rinneadh uasghrádú iomlán ar an gcóras bainistíochta airgeadais sa roinn airgeadais. Ní fhéadfaimis an forfheidhmiú rathúil seo a chur i gcrích gan tiomantas agus comhoibriú na foirne laistigh den fheidhm airgeadais, a ghlac leis an athrú le lánchroí.*

*Le linn 2003 tosaíodh ar an bpleanáil le haghaidh córais chomhtháite um Bainistiú Daonacmhainní agus Párolla ar fud na heagraíochta. Tar éis comhairliúcháin agus rannpháirte leithne na ranna, sna láithreacha uile ar fud na heagraíochta, forbraíodh mionsonraíocht faoi riachtanais úsáideora. Roghnaíodh córas comhtháite 'Core' tar éis dúinn tairiscint iomaíoch a fháil, agus cuirfear i bhfeidhm é le linn 2004. Tabharfaidh an córas seo cabhair do bhainisteoirí maidir le pleanáil daonacmhainní agus cúrsaí rialaithe.*

## Prompt Payment Legislation

The Board complies with the requirements of Prompt Payment Legislation except where noted below. The Board's standard credit taken, unless otherwise specified in specific contractual arrangements, are 30 days from the date of invoice or confirmation of acceptance of the goods or services which are subject to payment. It is the Board's policy to ensure that all accounts are paid promptly. During the year ended 31 December 2003, under the terms of applicable legislation, a total of 151 invoices to the value of €515,000 were late, by an average of 38 days. These invoices constituted 1.4% by number and less than 1% by value of all payments to suppliers for goods and services during the year. Total interest paid in respect of all late payments amounted to €2,974. The Board continuously reviews its administrative procedures in order to assist in minimising the time taken for invoice query and resolution.

## An Reachtaíocht um Íocaíocht Pras

*Comhlíonann an Bord riachtanais na Reachtaíochta um Íocaíocht Pras, seachas sna cásanna thíosluaite. Is é an gnáthchairde a ghlacann an Bord, mura shonraítear a mhalairt i sainsocruithe conartha, ná 30 lá ó dháta an tsonraisc nó ón lá a dheimhnítear gur glacadh le hearraí nó seirbhísí atá faoi réir íocaíochta. Is é polasaí an Bhoird a chinntiú go n-íoctar gach cuntas go pras. Sa bhliain dár chrioch 31 Nollaig 2003, faoi na téarmaí reachtaíochta infheidhmithe, bhí 151 sonrasc de luach €515,000 38 lá mall ar an meán. B'ionann sin agus 1.4% de líon iomlán na sonrasc, agus 1% i dtéarmaí na n-íocaíochtaí déanacha. Déanann an Bord athbhreithniú rialta ar a ghnáthaimh riaracháin d'fhonn cur le hioslaghdú an ama a ghlacann sé sonrasc a fhiosrú agus a réiteach.*

# Corporate Governance

# Rialachas Corparáideach

The Board's policy is to maintain the highest standards of corporate governance, in line with generally accepted policies and practices. The Board is accountable to the Minister for Health and Children.

*Is é polasaí an Bhoird na caighdeáin is airde a choinneáil i leith rialachais chorparáidigh, de réir na bpolasaithe agus na gcleachtas a bhfuil gnáthghlacadh leo. Tá an Bord freagrach don Aire Sláinte agus Leanaí.*

## Compliance with the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies

The Board is committed to complying with the relevant provisions of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies, published by the Department of Finance in 2001.

## Comhlíonadh an Chóid Cleachtais i leith Rialachas na gComhlachtaí Stáit

*Tá an Bord tiomanta do chomhlíonadh forálacha ábhartha an Chóid Cleachtais um Rialachas na gComhlachtaí Stáit, a d'fhoilsigh an Roinn Airgeadais i 2001.*

The IBTS during the year, received reports on internal control and going concern issues. The Board regularly reviews the reports of the Irish Medicines Board on operational and compliance controls and risk management. The Board will continue to review these reports and to work closely with the IMB to ensure the highest international standards.

*Fuair SFAÉ tuairiscí ar an rialú inmheánach agus ar cheisteanna faoi chúraimí leantacha i rith na bliana. Déanann an Bord athbhreithniú rialta ar thuairiscí Bhord Míochaine na hÉireann faoi rialuithe feidhmíochta agus comhail, agus faoi bhainistiú priacail. Déanfaidh an Bord athbhreithniú leanúnach ar na tuairiscí seo agus oibreoidh sé go dlúth le BMÉ chun na sárchaighdeáin idirnáisiúnta a chinntiú.*

## Workings of the Board

The Board is comprised of twelve members including a non-executive Chairman appointed by the Minister for Health and Children.

## Feidhmiú an Bhoird

*Tá beirt chomhalta déag ar an mBord, lena n-áirítear Cathaoirleach neamh-fheidhmeannach a cheap an tAire Sláinte agus Leanaí.*

The Board meets monthly. All members receive appropriate and timely information, to enable the Board to discharge its duties. The Board takes appropriate independent, professional advice as necessary.

The Board has activated a committee structure to assist in the effective discharge of its responsibilities.

### Medical Advisory Committee

The Medical Advisory Committee is comprised of the medically qualified members of the Board and the medical consulting staff and meets on a monthly basis. Its function is to monitor developments relevant to the field of transfusion medicine and related fields, to inform the Board of any such developments and to advise the Board on appropriate action.

### Finance Committee

The Finance Committee meets seven times per year and is comprised of three members of the Board. It is also attended by the Chief Executive Officer, National Medical Director, Director of Finance and Management Accountant. The Committee may review any matters relating to the financial affairs of the Board. It reviews the annual capital and operating budgets, management accounts, insurance,

*Tagann an Bord le chéile go míosúil. Faigheann na comhaltaí uile faisnéis chuí, thráthúil le gur féidir leis an mBord a dhualgais a chomhlíonadh. Glacann an Bord le cuíchomhairle ghairmiúil neamhspleách de réir mar is gá.*

*Tá struchtúr coistí curtha i bhfeidhm ag an mBord, chun cabhrú leis a chuid dualgais a comhlíonadh go héifeachtach.*

### Coiste Comhairleach Míochaine

*Cuimsíonn an Coiste Comhairleach Míochaine na comhaltaí Boird atá cáilithe i gcúrsaí míochaine agus an fhoireann chomhairleach míochaine, agus tagann sé le chéile ar bhonn míosúil. Tá an fheidhm aige monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar fhorbairtí ábhartha i réimse na míochaine aistriúcháin agus i réimsí bainteacha, na forbairtí dá sórt a chur in iúl don Bhard, agus an Bord a chomhairliú faoin ngníomhaíocht cuí.*

### An Coiste Airgeadais

*Tagann an Coiste Airgeadais le chéile seacht n-uaire in aghaidh na bliana agus tá trí chomhalta Boird air. Freastalaíonn an Príomh-Fheidhmeannach, an Stiúrthóir Náisiúnta Míochaine, an Stiúrthóir Airgeadais agus an Cuntasóir Bainistíochta air, freisin. Is féidir leis an gCoiste aon ábhair a bhaineann le cúrsaí airgeadais an Bhoird a athbhreithniú. Athbhreithníonn sé na buiséid náisiúnta*

procurement, treasury policy and banking and financing arrangements. The finance committee operates under formal terms of reference. The Committee reports to the Board on management and financial reports and advises on relevant decision making.

## Audit Committee

The Audit Committee meets four times per year and is comprised of three members of the Board. It is also attended by the Chief Executive, the National Medical Director, the Director of Finance, the HR Director, the Management Accountant and the Internal Auditor. The Committee may review any matters relating to the financial affairs of the Board. It reviews the annual financial statements, reports of the Internal Auditor, the accounting policies, compliance with accounting standards and the accounting implications of major transactions. The external auditors meet with the Committee to review the results of the annual audit of the Board's financial statements. The Audit Committee operates under formal terms of reference.

*caipitil agus feidhmíochta, cuntais bainistíochta, cúrsaí árachais, soláthar, polasaí ciste, agus na socruithe baincúireachta agus maoinithe. Feidhmíonn an coiste airgeadais faoi théarmaí foirmeálta tagartha. Cuireann an Coiste tuairisc ar fáil don Bhord faoi na tuairiscí bainistíochta agus airgeadais, agus comhairlíonn sé é i leith cinnteoireachta ábhartha.*

## An Coiste Iniúcháireachta

*Tagann an Coiste Iniúcháireachta le chéile ceithre huairte sa bhliain agus tá trí chomhalta boird air. Freastalaíonn an Príomh-Fheidhmeannach, an Stiúrthóir Náisiúnta Míochaine, an Stiúrthóir Airgeadais, an Stiúrthóir Daonacmhainní, an Cuntasóir Bainistíochta agus an tIniúcháir Inmheánach air, freisin. Is féidir leis an gCoiste athbhreithniú a dhéanamh ar aon ábhair a bhaineann le cúrsaí airgeadais an Bhoird. Déanann sé athbhreithniú ar ráitis airgeadais bhliantúla, ar thuairiscí don Iniúcháir Inmheánach, ar na polasaithe cuntasáíochta, ar chomhlíonadh na gcaighdeán cuntasáíochta agus ar impleachtaí cuntasáíochta na bpríomhidirbheart. Casann na hiniúcháirí seachtracha leis an gCoiste chun torthaí an iniúchta bhliantúil ar ráitis airgeadais an Bhoird a bhreithniú. Feidhmíonn an Coiste Iniúcháireachta faoi théarmaí tagartha foirmeálta.*

## Going Concern

After making reasonable inquiries, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the IBTS has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing financial statements.

## Internal Control

The Board members are responsible for internal control in the IBTS and for reviewing its effectiveness.

The Board's system of internal financial control comprises those controls established in order to provide reasonable assurance of:

- The safeguarding of assets against unauthorised use or disposition; and
- The maintenance of proper accounting records and reliable financial information used within the organisation.

The key elements of the Board's system of internal financial control are as follows:

- a comprehensive system of financial reporting, accounting, treasury management and project appraisal;

## Gnóthas Leantach

*Tar éis fiosrú réasúnta a dhéanamh, tá dóchas réasúnta ag na stiúrthóirí go bhfuil go leor acmhainní ag SFAÉ chun leanúint ag feidhmiú sa todhchaí ionchais. Mar sin, leanann siad ag ullmhú na ráiteas airgeadais ar bhonn gnóthais leantaigh.*

## Rialú Inmheánach

*Tá na comhaltai Bhoird freagrach as rialú inmheánach SFAÉ, agus as athbhreithniú a dhéanamh ar a éifeachtúlacht. Cuimsíonn córas inmheánach an Bhoird maidir le rialú airgeadais na rialuithe sin a ceapadh chun ráthaíocht réasúnta a thabhairt maidir le:*

- *sócmhainní a chosaint ar úsáid nó ar dhiúscairt neamhúdaraithe; agus*
- *taifid chuí cuntasaiochta agus faisnéis iontaoifa airgeadais a choinneáil in úsáid san eagraíocht. Is iad seo a leanas na príomhheallimintí de chóras inmheánach an Bhoird um rialú airgeadais:*
- *córas cuimsitheach maidir le tuairisciú airgeadais, cuntasaiocht, bainistiú ciste agus measúnú ar t hionscadail;*

- clearly defined limits and procedures for financial expenditure including procurement and capital expenditure;
  - annual budgets for the Board with costs centres assigned to budget managers
  - monitoring of performance against budgets on a monthly basis and reporting thereon to the Board;
  - a clearly defined organisation structure with appropriate segregation of duties and limits of authority;
  - an internal audit function which reviews key financial systems and controls and general operations in the organisation; and
  - an audit committee which approves audit plans and deals with significant control issues raised by internal or external audit and which approves the year-end financial statements before submission to the full Board.
- teorainneacha agus gnáthaimh léirshainithe i leith caiteachais airgeadais, lena n-áirítear caiteachas soláthair agus caipitil;
  - buiséid bhliantúla an Bhoird ina mbíonn na costionaid sannaithe do bhainisteoirí buiséid;
  - monatóireacht feidhmíochta in aghaidh buiséid ar bhonn míosúil, agus tuairisciú don Bhord ina taobh;
  - struchtúr eagraíochta atá léirshainithe, le leithscaradh cuí ar dhualgais agus teorainneacha údaráis;
  - feidhm iniúchta inmheánaigh a athbhreithníonn príomhchórais agus príomhrialuithe airgeadais, agus feidhmeanna ginearálta na heagraíochta; agus
  - coiste iniúchóireachta a fhaomhann na pleananna iniúchóireachta agus a phléann le cibé ceisteanna rialaithe suntasacha a ardaítear tríd an iniúchadh inmheánach nó seachtrach, agus a fhaomhann na ráitis airgeadais bhliantúla sula gcuirtear faoi bhráid an Bhoird iad.

The Board is aware that the system of internal control is designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives. Internal control can only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance against material mis-statement or loss.

*Tuigeann an Bhord gur ceapadh an córas rialaithe inmheánach chun bainistiú, seachas díthiú, a dhéanamh ar an mbaol nach n-aimseofaí na cuspóirí gnó. Ní thig leis an rialú inmheánach ach rátháíocht réasúnta, seachas rátháíocht iomlán, a thabhairt maidir le míráitis nó cailliúint ábhartha.*



## Statement of Board Members' Responsibilities

The Board is required by the Blood Transfusion Service Board (Establishment) Order 1965, to prepare financial statements for each financial year which, in accordance with applicable Irish law and accounting standards, give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Irish Blood Transfusion Service and of its income and expenditure for that year. In preparing those financial statements, the Board is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- disclose and explain any material departure from applicable accounting standards;
- prepare the financial position of the Irish Blood Transfusion Service and which ensures that the financial statements comply with the Order.

The Board is responsible for keeping proper books of account, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the Irish Blood Transfusion Service and to enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Order. It is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Irish Blood Transfusion Service and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and the detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## Ráiteas maidir le Dualgais na gComhaltaí Boird

*Faoi réir an Ordú um an tSeirbhís Fuilaeistriúcháin Náisiúnta (Bunaíocht) 1965, caithfidh an Bord ráitis airgeadais a ullmhú do gach bliain airgeadais, de réir dlí agus caighdeán cuntasáiochta cuí na hÉireann, dearcadh fíor cothrom a thabhairt faoin staid ina bhfuil Seirbhís Fuilaeistriúcháin na hÉireann agus a ioncam agus caiteachas don bhliain sin. Ag ullmhú na ráitis airgeadais sin dó, ní mór don Bhord:*

- *polasaithe cuí cuntasáiochta a roghnú agus a fheidhmiú*
- *breithiúnais agus meastacháin a dhéanamh atá réasúnta agus stuama*
- *aon imeacht ábhartha ó na caighdeáin cuntasáiochta bainteacha a nochtadh agus a mhíniú*
- *na ráitis airgeadais a ullmhú ar bhonn gnóthais leantaigh, mura bhfuil sé míchuí a mheas go leanfaidh Seirbhís Fuilaeistriúcháin na hÉireann ag feidhmiú.*

*Tá an Bord freagrach as leabhair cuntais chuí a choinneáil a nochtann go cruinn réasúnta i dtráth ar bith, staid airgeadais Sheirbhís Fuilaeistriúcháin na hÉireann, agus as cuidiú léi a chinntiú go bhfuil na ráitis airgeadais ag teacht leis an ordú. Tá sé freagrach, freisin, as sócmhainní Sheirbhís Fuilaeistriúcháin na hÉireann a chosaint agus as céimeanna réasúnta a ghlacadh, dá réir sin, chun calaois nó mirialtachtaí eile a chosc agus a bhrath.*

# Members of the Board

# Comhaltaí an Bhoird

## Members of the Board

Ms M McGrath, Chair (appointed 01/10/03)

Mr M McLoone (term of appointment expired 31/08/03)

Dr G Crotty

Dr H Enright

Mr P Farrell (resigned 09/04/03)

Dr M Horgan (re-appointed 01/06/03)

Dr L Keane (re-appointed 20/04/03)

Mr D Keenan (appointed 22/09/03)

Mr D Lowe (appointed 01/12/03)

Ms V Mannix

Mr T McNamara (re-appointed 01/06/03)

Dr K Murphy (term of appointment expired 31/05/03)

Dr A O'Connor (term of appointment expired 30/06/03)

Prof C Van Der Poel

Mr S Wyse (appointed 07/01/04)

## Comhaltaí an Bhoird

*Ms M McGrath, Cathaoirleach (ceaptha 01/10/03)*

*Mr M McLoone (tréimhse ceapacháin críochnaithe 31/08/03)*

*Dr G Crotty*

*Dr H Enright*

*Mr P Farrell (éirithe as 09/04/03)*

*Dr M Horgan (athcheaptha 01/06/03)*

*Dr L Keane (athcheaptha 20/04/03)*

*Mr D Keenan (ceaptha 22/09/03)*

*Mr D Lowe (ceaptha 01/12/03)*

*Ms V Mannix*

*Mr T McNamara (athcheaptha 01/06/03)*

*Dr K Murphy (tréimhse ceapacháin críochnaithe 31/05/03)*

*Dr A O'Connor (tréimhse ceapacháin críochnaithe 30/06/03)*

*Prof C Van Der Poel*

*Mr S Wyse (ceaptha 07/01/04)*

**Auditors**

Comptroller &amp; Auditor General

Treasury Building

Lower Castle Yard

Dublin Castle

Dublin 2

***Iniúcháirí****Ard-Reachtair Cuntais agus Ciste**Teach an Chiste**Clós an Chaisleáin Thiar**Caisleán Bhaile Átha Cliath**Baile Átha Cliath 2***Solicitors**

McCann Fitzgerald Solicitors

2 Harbourmaster Place

Customs House Dock

Dublin 1

***Aturnaetha****McCann Fitzgerald Aturnaetha**2 Plás an Mháistir Cuain**Duga Theach an Chustaim**Baile Átha Cliath 1***Bankers**

Allied Irish Bank

Dame Street,

Dublin 2

***Baincéirí****Banc-Aontas Éireann**Sráid an Dáma**Baile Átha Cliath 2*

# Irish Blood Transfusion Service

# Seirbhís Fuilaidriúcháin

## IBTS Headquarters

National Blood Centre

James's Street, Dublin 8

Telephone 01 4322800 Fax 01 4322930

## Ceannáras SFAÉ

An Lárionad Náisiúnta Fola

Sráid Shéamais, Baile Átha Cliath 8

Teileafón 01 4322800 Facs 01 4322930

## Munster Regional Transfusion Centre

St Finbarr's Hospital, Douglas Road, Cork

Telephone 021 4807400 Fax 021 4313014

## Ionad Fuilaidriúcháin Réigiúnach na Mumhan

Ospidéal Nmh. Fionnbarra, Bóthar na Dúghlaise, Corcaigh

Teileafón 021 4807400 Facs 021 4313014

## Dublin Blood Donor Clinic

2-5 D'Olier Street, Dublin 2

Telephone 01 6703366

## Clinic Deontóirí Fola Bhaile Átha Cliath

2-5 Sráid D'Olier, Baile Átha Cliath 2

Teileafón 01 6703366

## Stillorgan Blood Donation Clinic

6 Old Dublin Road, Stillorgan, Co Dublin

Telephone 1850 808 808

## Clinic Deontóirí Fola Bhaile Átha Cliath

6 Bóthar Shean-Bhaile Átha Cliath, Stigh Lurgan,

Teileafón 1850 808 808

## Limerick Centre

1 Mungret Street, Limerick

Telephone 061 415392 Fax 061 400345

## Ionad Luimnigh

1 Sráid Mhungairit, Luimneach

Teileafón 061 415392 Facs 061 400345

## Carlow Centre

Kernanstown Industrial Estate

Hackettstown Road, Carlow

Telephone 059 9132125 Fax 059 9132163

## Ionad Cheatharlach

Eastát Tionscail Bhaile Chearnáin

Bóthar Bhaile Haicéid, Ceatharlach

Teileafón 059 9132125 Facs 059 9132163

## Ardee Centre

John Street, Ardee, Co Louth

Telephone 0416859994 Fax 041 6859996

## Ionad Bhaile Átha Fhirdhia

Sráid Eoin, Baile Átha Fhirdhia, Co Lú

Teileafón 041 6859994 Facs 041 6859996

## Tuam Centre

Unit 49, N17 Business Park, Tuam, Co Galway

Telephone 093 70832 Fax 093 70587

## Ionad Thuama

Aonad 49, Páirc Gnó N17, Tuaim, Co na Gaillimhe

Teileafón 093 70832 Facs 093 70587

# Notes

# *Notáí*



#### IBTS HEADQUARTERS

National Blood Centre, James's Street, Dublin 8

Telephone 01 4322800

Fax 01 4322930

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