



■ **WELL-READ** – Dr Stewart Petersen, left, head of medical and social care education at the University of Leicester, and Hilary Buckingham, acting trust board chairman, in the new centre's expanded library

ET picture by Alison Bagley: 260606-15-11

Hospital's £3.4m learning centre

■ **By Martin Robinson**

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A MULTIMILLION pound education centre was officially opened at the area's main hospital yesterday.

Kettering General Hospital's new Prince William Education Centre – which contains an expanded library, an IT suite with 32 computers, three new seminar rooms and hi-tech interactive learning equip-

ment – took two years to build and cost £3.4m.

Professor Stewart Petersen, head of medical and social care education at the University of Leicester, whose students often train on the site, opened the new development, which offers significant improvements in on-site education and training facilities for the hospital's 3,000 staff.

The facilities, which also include clinical skills and dental skills rooms, allow doctors, student medics and nurses to

further their training and education. The library also includes a fiction section to allow the non-medical staff to use the facility.

Kettering General Hospital's director of human resources and communication Alan James said: "This is an exciting new development which will enable us to significantly improve our educational facilities for a very wide cross-section of staff.

"The education and training of staff is an essential part

of a hospital's business.

"The new centre will be a significant enhancement to our on-site provision and will enable us to train our staff in first class, purpose-built and designed facilities."

The hospital already has a post-graduate centre called the Prince William Postgraduate Medical Education Centre – which houses lecture theatres and is based mainly around the education of doctors – which will now be incorporated within the new centre.