



PATIENTS' FORUM AGM

WEDNESDAY 13TH NOVEMBER

CHARLES HICKS CENTRE

75 Ermine Street, Huntingdon, PE29 3EZ

6.00 – 7.30pm

Please join us for our Annual General Meeting on
Wednesday 13th November at 6pm.

Currently we have vacancies for a Fundraiser, Secretary and
Communications Officer.

The committee members up for re-election are:

Chair—Roger Merritt

Vice-chair - Elish Millard

Treasurer—Rosemary Smith

<https://www.charleshicksmedicalcentre.nhs.uk/practice-information/patients-forum>



LISTENING TABLES

We want to hear what you think of the Practice? How can it be improved, would you like more information about health matters that concern you and would you like to join the Patients' Forum?

We will be in Roman Gate Surgery on Thursday 7 November and at Charles Hicks Surgery on Wednesday 2 October and 4 December.

Please join us.



Autumn newsletter 2024 from the Patients' Forum

News from the Hicks Group Practice

The BMA have revised the safe working practice guidance which is a set of recommendations and guidelines to support GPs and practices to deliver a safe, high-quality care that is guided by the needs of our patients, staff and practice. We will be reviewing this document closely in the coming weeks, and will discuss with the patient forum any changes planned.



Our list size as of today is 17,045 an increase of 78 patients since the July Patient Forum meeting. In August we have seen 3,028 patients face to face, sent out 1,267 self book appointments, processed 3,039 letters, received 12,523, made 488 referrals and sorted out 5,846 medication issues amongst other things!

The new Community Matron Lesley O'Connor has settled in, and the community matron team continues to grow, providing care to our vulnerable and housebound patients.

We have had some new staff members join our team, Nathan is our new prescription Clerk, we have Lisa a new receptionist, Joanne a new HCA and Anna a newly qualified nurse joining our team. We also said farewell to Joan our longstanding secretary, Ann our receptionist and we will soon be saying farewell to Linda our prescription clerk. Together the 3 of them had been with the practice for 42 years, we wish them all the very best in their retirements.



The BMA's GPs committee England (GPCE) has updated its safe working guidance, to support and enable practices to prioritise their delivery of safe, high-quality patient care, within the regulatory and professional expectations of the Primary Medical Services (GMS/PMS) Contract.

General practice is in crisis. GPs are faced with increasingly unsafe workloads coupled with a rapidly diminishing and exhausted workforce. Structural underinvestment in General Practice and an ever reducing share of the total NHS spend, coupled with hospital workload transfer and the ongoing impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, have generated a vast backlog of care. This is creating further pressure on a system that is already at breaking point.

More information can be found at:

<https://www.bma.org.uk/advice-and-support/gp-practices/managing-workload/safe-working-in-general-practice>



BUDDY SCHEME

The Befriending Service

The Hunts Community Cancer Network (HCCN) has launched a Buddy Scheme to provide support to people in Huntingdonshire with a cancer diagnosis.

Telephone Buddy ...

- * A free service for those over 18 living in Huntingdonshire, to support people diagnosed with cancer who would like someone to talk to about their circumstances and challenges in a weekly call.
- * A telephone Buddy who understands what you're going through, will keep your conversations strictly confidential, are prepared to really listen to you, discuss interests, experiences and share useful information.

Please contact Kim@hccnthecharity.org



News from the Patients' Forum

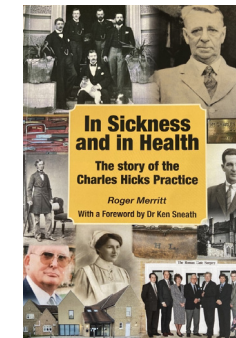


EVENTS



So far this year we have attended two events, Gala Day on 6 July and the Town Show on 7 August. Unfortunately we had to battle the elements on Gala Day but despite the weather, lower than usual visitor numbers and a shortened open time due to some football match kicking off at 5.00pm, we had possibly the best gala day ever! Cakes, books, cards and jigsaws raised £115 - and we sold 11 copies of our book, so another £110 so a total of £225 in takings. Roger Leivers shared our stand and 'adopted' us as one of his chosen beneficiaries which resulted in a contribution of another £110 to match our book sales. Total gross gala return is therefore £335. Well done everyone!! Many thanks to all the cake makers too.

It was a much sunnier day for the Town Show and a lot of interest was shown in our book 'In Sickness and in Health'. We even ran a short quiz called 'Which Doctor' which was won by Kelly Wood who received a copy of the book as a prize.



As a result of our book sales we are purchasing THREE TV screens for use in the surgeries which will enable us to display information for patients.

Our next event is Apple Day Saturday 12th October 10am—3pm at Godmanchester Community Nursery, Park Lane, Godmanchester PE29 2AG. We'd love to see you!