



# Talking Health

Friday 1 April 2016



## News Update

### NEW £10M TOWNLANDS HOSPITAL UP AND RUNNING



The new Townlands Hospital in Henley-on-Thames is now open for business and welcoming patients.

Among the services now up and running in the new £10m purpose-built premises are the Minor Injuries Unit, GP out of hours service, physiotherapy, podiatry and various outpatient clinics.

All services provided at the old hospital moved to the new building in early March and the opening of the hospital marks the culmination of years of work by NHS partners, members of the community and developers. For more information [click here](#)

## ADVICE AND INFORMATION TO HELP PATIENTS TACKLE DIABETES



Diabetes is a growing health problem. There are currently over 28,000 people registered as having diabetes in Oxfordshire and about 2,200 are newly diagnosed each year.

If you, or a family member have diabetes, there is a wide range of useful information and advice available. We have added a patient information video and lots of useful links to the OCCG website [click here](#)

## HEALTH INEQUALITIES COMMISSION TO FOCUS ON DEMENTIA - 11 APRIL



The third session of the Oxfordshire Health Inequalities Commission takes place in Oxford on Monday 11 April and will be hearing evidence in health inequalities among older people, including those living with dementia.

The previous sessions, held in Kidlington and Bicester, welcomed submissions from professionals in pregnancy and the early years sectors and those involved in the health of people of working age.

You can submit written evidence to the commission (which is being led by Professor Sian Griffiths - pictured) on health inequalities and by attendance in person at its meetings - the next will be held at the Rose Hill Centre in Oxford on Monday 11 April (9.30am to 12.30pm). For more information [click here](#)

## OPEN DAY TO SHOWCASE MEDICAL RESEARCH IN OXFORD



A public open day to showcase groundbreaking medical research that is taking place in Oxford across a range of conditions such as cancer and diabetes will be held at the city's John Radcliffe Hospital on Thursday 21 April.

Talks, a tour of clinical facilities, stalls and a debate about the opportunities and challenges of sharing patient data will all feature as part of the day. For more information and to book a place [click here](#)

## Reminders

### STAY FIT AND HEALTHY: TAKE PART IN THE 'ONE YOU' CAMPAIGN



Public Health England's campaign, 'One You', is aimed at helping adults across the country avoid future diseases caused by modern lifestyles.

Everyday habits and behaviours - such as eating too much unhealthy food, drinking more alcohol than is recommended, continuing to smoke and not being active enough - are responsible for around 40 per cent of all deaths in England, and cost the NHS more than £11 billion a year. For more information [click here](#)

## BE CLEAR ON CANCER: BLOOD IN PEE CAMPAIGN



The current NHS Be Clear on Cancer campaign encourages people to go to their doctor if they notice blood in their pee, even if they only see it once. The chances are it's nothing serious, but if it is cancer, finding it early makes it more treatable.

Around 17,450 people in England are diagnosed with bladder or kidney cancer each year. These cancers can affect people of all ages but are most common in those over 50.

Blood in your pee is a key symptom for both bladder and kidney cancer. For more information [click here](#)

## BECOME A HEALTH SERVICES 'MYSTERY SHOPPER'

OCCG wants to recruit 'mystery shoppers' to gather people's comments about their experience of hospital services.

The project, working with the [Patients' Association](#) asks for feedback straight after people have had contact with health services, so it's easier to remember details and OCCG can take action to improve things more quickly. Initially OCCG is looking for help in checking mystery shopper information sheets and testing questions.

If you have recently been an inpatient or outpatient at the John Radcliffe, the Churchill, The Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre or the Horton General Hospital, and can spare the time to help, there are a number of ways to obtain the information sheet and mystery shopper questions to test:

- email Jane Brooks at the Patients Association [jane.brooks@patients-association.com](mailto:jane.brooks@patients-association.com)
- for a print version call the Patients Association on 020 8423 9111 or write to OCCG Mystery Shopper Project, c/o The Patients Association, PO Box 935, Harrow, Middlesex, HA1 3YJ.

## Partnership Information

LAY MEMBERS WANTED TO HELP IMPROVE PATIENT CARE IN THAMES VALLEY: DEADLINE MIDDAY 5 APRIL FOR APPLICATIONS



The Thames Valley Patient Experience Operational Group is looking for two lay partners to join them. You'll help shape health services and improve patient care across the region.

The Operational Group coordinates and delivers the joint patient and public involvement, engagement and experience work of health bodies in the Thames Valley. Deadline for applications is midday, Tuesday 5 April. For more information and to apply [click here](#)

## SHARE YOUR VIEWS ON THE AMBULANCE SERVICE

You are welcome to share your thoughts on the South Central Ambulance Service at a public meeting in Witney this month. The event takes place at the Wesley Methodist Centre in the town on Wednesday 6 April (2.30pm to 4pm). If you wish to attend email: [monica.moro@scas.nhs.uk](mailto:monica.moro@scas.nhs.uk) or tel 01869 365126. For more information [click here](#)

## FREE EVENT TO RAISE AWARENESS OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ISOLATION

You are welcome to attend a free event to highlight the services available to help with mental health and social isolation. You can also find out more on the role of Patient Participation Groups and the work of North East Patient Forum. The event is being held on Saturday 9 April (10am to 2pm) at Exeter Hall, Kidlington OX5 1AB. For more information [click here](#)

## ADVOCATES WANTED TO HELP DISADVANTAGED ADULTS

The Oxfordshire Advocacy service wants to recruit two advocates to support their work helping disadvantaged adults. For more information on the job roles and to apply [click here](#)

## LEARN MORE ABOUT THE EFFECTS OF BRAIN INJURY

Headway Oxfordshire is holding a one day course on Monday 9 May in Oxford for people working with adults with brain injury. The event will highlight the emotional and behavioural aspects of this type of injury. For more information and to book a place [click here](#)

## TAKE PART IN A SURVEY TO HELP IMPROVE COMMUNICATIONS

NHS England would like to know how it can improve their digital communication channels. They want feedback from patients, the public and voluntary organisations via a short online survey that should take no longer than two minutes to complete. To take part [click here](#)

## Locality News

### LOCALITY PPG FORUM 'PUBLIC' MEETINGS IN OXFORDSHIRE



- The Public and Patient Partnership for West Oxfordshire is holding a public event at the Witney Corn Exchange on Saturday 2 April 2016 (10am to 12pm). Drop in and share your views on local health and social care services. For more information [click here](#)

Please contact Richard McCrann at South, Central and West Commissioning Support Unit Communications Team if you have any questions about this e-bulletin: [richard.mccrann@nhs.net](mailto:richard.mccrann@nhs.net)