



News Update

BUS TOUR TO PROMOTE DYING MATTERS WEEK (14 - 20 MAY)



A bus will be touring various towns in Oxfordshire next week to raise awareness of end of life care such as making a will, planning a funeral and coping with bereavement. You are welcome to join the bus and meet staff in Kidlington and Bicester (Monday, 14 May), Banbury and Wallingford (Wednesday, 16 May), and Oxford and Witney (Thursday, 17 May).

There will be other events taking place at various locations during the week to discuss death and dying - to find out what is happening and more on the bus tour [click here](#)

PUBLIC WELCOME AT OCCG'S NEXT BOARD MEETING IN OXFORD



The Board will meet on Thursday 24 May (9am to 12.45pm) at Jubilee House, Oxford OX4 2LH. You can submit a question before or attend the meeting in person and listen to the discussions. The agenda and papers are available from a week before the meeting. For more information and to find out how to submit a question to the Board [click here](#)

ELECTRONIC REFERRAL BETTER FOR PATIENT HEALTH AND WELLBEING



OCCG is working to ensure most patient referrals from GPs to hospital consultants are sent electronically by 1 October 2018. In Oxfordshire between 65 and 80 per cent of referrals are currently sent electronically, with all GP practices using the system for at least some referrals.

The work is part of NHS England's plans for 'Paperless 2020' which aims to:

- give patients more control over their health and well-being
- empower carers
- reduce the administrative burden for care professionals
- support the development of new medicines and treatments

There is more information on the [NHS Digital website](#)

Reminders

HELP CELEBRATE THE NHS 70TH BIRTHDAY



The National Health Service is turning 70 on 5 July 2018. It's the perfect opportunity to celebrate the achievements of one of the nation's most loved institutions, to appreciate the vital role the service plays in our lives, and to recognise and thank the extraordinary NHS staff – the everyday heroes – who are there to guide, support and care for us, day in, day out. To find out how you can celebrate the occasion [click here](#)

Partnership Information

HEALTH WATCHDOG TURNS THE SPOTLIGHT ON WANTAGE



Healthwatch Oxfordshire is visiting [Wantage and Grove](#) in May to find out which health and social care services are working well - and which ones need improving.

As part of the visit a meeting is being held on 17 May at Wantage Methodist Church, Newbury Street (10am to noon) which is aimed at local voluntary and community groups. To book your place contact Kanika Lang on 01865 520 520 or email kanika.lang@healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk

FILM REVEALS SUPPORT FOR HOMELESS PATIENTS



A film tells a powerful story of a partnership between patients who are homeless and their GP surgery in Oxford who have worked together to improve services offered to local homeless people.

The short video was made at Luther Street Medical Centre which specialises in offering primary care to homeless people. It includes interviews with patients and staff at the practice - to watch the video [click here](#)

SHARE YOUR VIEWS ON A NEW SERVICE TO SUPPORT VETERANS



The Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust has launched a consultation to help shape a new £4 million programme to fund new ways of working to reduce serious stress in veterans, their carers and families.

The consultation will look at how the programme should be delivered and the types of projects to be funded. They want to hear from the public, veterans and charities with an interest in the armed forces community, and mental health or health bodies. To take part in the survey, which closes on Tuesday 19 June [click here](#)

Other Consultations

VIEW ALL OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

You can view and take part in all of the council's current consultations. You can see more information about a specific consultation by visiting the relevant webpage [click here](#)

AMBULANCE MEMBERSHIP AND PATIENT CARE SURVEY



South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (SCAS) 2018 has organised the survey and it's your chance to help shape the Trust's plans for the year ahead.

It is important that SCAS, as a NHS Foundation Trust, takes account of feedback and opinions of local communities who have used or currently use their emergency and non-emergency services.

To take part in the survey which is open until Sunday 24 June [click here](#)

Locality News

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES: UPCOMING PATIENT GROUP MEETINGS



- Oxford's patient participation group members and patients are invited to a talk on 'The changing face of general practice'. This is being held on Tuesday 15 May (1pm to 4pm) at the West Oxford Community Centre, Botley Road, OX2 0BT. To reserve a place and for more information email: nicola.perrett@healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk
- North Oxfordshire's locality patient forum will be holding a public meeting on Thursday 14 June at Banbury Town Hall, OX16 5QB (7.15pm onwards) to discuss social prescribing. This involves GPs or health workers referring patients on to local activities such as befriending, gardening or arts activities to improve health and wellbeing. Details to follow.
- A public talk on the over-use of antibiotics is being held on Saturday 22 September at the Corn Exchange in Witney (10.30am). Professor Carl Heneghan of the University of Oxford, will be looking at the reasons antibiotics don't always work and what the future holds for them. More details to follow in his newsletter.

Please contact Richard McCrann at South, Central and West
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