

## A message from Maddy...



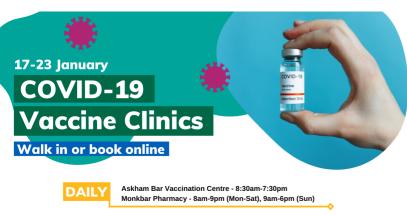
This week we've been busy staging more pop-up Covid-19 vaccination clinics at locations across the city to ensure that everyone has had the opportunity to get their jab. We've also put on some special vaccination clinics for students at the University of York.

Walk-in clinics are being held at York St John University, Burnholme Sports Centre, Wigginton Recreation Hall, St Lawrence Church Hall and a number of pharmacies. See below or visit <u>our website</u> for details.

More than 114 million Covid vaccination doses have now been administered in England, including more than 40 million second doses and more than 30 million booster and third doses. Here in York, we're seeing a steady take up of the booster dose, with around 69 per cent of those eligible now having had their jab.

Our **Big Flu Weekend** event saw around 400 people come to the York Vaccination Centre at Askham Bar for their jabs last

Friday, Saturday and Sunday.



17 Burnholme Sports Centre - 12:30-5:30pm

Wigginton Recreation Hall - 12:30-5:30pm

19 St Lawrence Church Hall - 9am-3:30pm

Burnholme Sports Centre - 12:30-4:30pm
The Gatres Centre, Easingwold - 1-5pm

Wigginton Recreation Hall - 8:30am-1pm
York St John University - 10am-4pm

St Lawrence Chich Hall - 9am-1pm
The Priory Pharmacy, Acomb - 9am-2pm
Huntington Pharmacy - 9:30am-4:30pm

In an exciting new development, our **Babies and Children's Clinic**, which is run jointly with York Hospital, is now open to children up to 11 years of age. The clinic is helping to keep more babies and children out of hospital each week, and I would urge our GP practice colleagues in York to make use of this excellent service. For more information, visit our website.



### Farewell 'Tent of Hope'

This week, we said a fond farewell to our large white 'Tent of Hope' at the York Vaccination Centre, which we've used since December 2020. We're currently in discussion with City of York Council about replacing it with a new portable building. Although we're sad to see it go, we recognise that it has served its purpose and we need to upgrade it to continue to offer a high quality clinical service to the people of York.

# Investing back into the communities that we serve

I'm delighted to announce that, on Monday, we'll be launching a charitable arm called the Nimbuscare Community Trust to support projects and initiatives that have a positive impact on the emotional well being and mental health of people living in the local area. Each year, together with our member GP practices, we will agree a new theme or focus, as well as the amount of funding to be allocated to projects that meet the criteria. A panel will then meet three times each year to award grants of up to £5,000 to organisations and projects that meet the criteria. We're working in partnership with the Two Ridings Community Foundation, which will help to allocate the grant funding on our behalf. Grant applications can be made by a wide range of community, charitable and voluntary organisations. Full details are available from the Two Ridings website.

As a relatively young but rapidly growing not-for-profit organisation, it is very important to us that we give something back to the communities that we serve. Our funding priorities will be reviewed annually but, for the remainder of this year, we want to support organisations and projects that enhance and promote the mental health and emotional wellbeing of local people. This could be anything from offering music therapy to organising walking groups, to name just a couple of ideas. We're keen to support a wide range of projects and initiatives that promote mental health and wellbeing in its very broadest sense. I'd encourage any organisations that would like to submit a grant application or find out more about our Community Trust to visit the Two Ridings website. We're really excited to hear their ideas and proposals.



### Fundraising success

We were delighted to received this thank you message (left) from St Leonard's Hospice in York recently in recognition of the fact that we've now raised more than £1,500 in the collection boxes that we've been using at the York Vaccination Centre. We're delighted to be able to support this incredibly worthwhile, local charity. Well done everyone!

#### #HumansofGeneralPractice

As GP practices face their busiest winter on record, we're proud to be supporting a new campaign aimed at helping people to understand why practices have had to make changes and what they can do to support these changes. The #HumansOfGeneralPractice campaign has been created by GP practices across the region who are part of the BRIDGES Group (Humber, Coast and Vale), which is part of NHS Collaborate, a national, supportive community of leaders working across primary care.

Our Chairman, Professor Mike Holmes, who is also a GP partner at Haxby Group and a Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) council member, is asking patients to be understanding, considerate and kind to their GP practice team, and look after their health. Not only have GP practices stepped up to support the biggest NHS vaccination programme in history, but they now face unprecedented staffing shortages due to high numbers of Covid-related absence.

Mike said: "We know people have had to adapt and we appreciate change is not easy. Many GP practices have had to change overnight to keep services running and protect both staff and patients. They've worked incredibly hard, introduced some great, innovative changes and continued to care for patients. We often forget that they are human too." He said that criticism and false claims that GPs haven't been working during the pandemic has demoralised practice staff, adding: "There's a lot more that people can do to help themselves and we're asking them to work with us, understand all these changes and be on our side."



Look out for our next newsletter update in two weeks' time.
In the meantime, follow us on our social media channels by clicking on the links below.







