

A message from Maddy...



I'm incredibly proud of the way that our teams collaborate with organisations across the city to deliver high quality care for local people. Last month, we updated you on some of work that we're involved in to help both patients and the NHS recover from the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. This approach has been welcomed by Councillor Carol Runciman, who is City of York Council's Executive Member for Health and Adult Social Care. Speaking about the covid recovery services that we deliver in collaboration with City of York Council, York Council for Voluntary Service and York and Scarborough Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Councillor Runciman said: "This is another fantastic example of how organisations across the city have come together to support people through the pandemic. From the vaccination effort to welfare calls to residents and step down care at Peppermill Court for people with Covid-19, who are discharged from hospital but not well enough to look after themselves at home, and so much more - there is much to be proud of. We look forward to continuing to build on these relationships to support residents through the pandemic and also as part of wider efforts to improve health outcomes."

#IWD2022

It was wonderful to come together to mark International Women's Day on 8 March, when our team and guests heard

award winning writer and work life coach Lynne Copp speak about 'the dance'.

Lynne explained how we're all guilty of 'dancing to the tunes of others' and often have little time to focus on our own aspirations and potential.





We hope that hearing Lynne's presentation has inspired those who attended to grow and develop to their full potential - see our photographs from the event (left and above).

New spirometry suite opens at our Askham Bar site

Last week, we opened our new Spirometry Suite at the York Vaccination Centre at Askham Bar, where we'll be carrying out spirometry tests on behalf of our member GP practices. Spirometry is a simple test used to help diagnose and monitor certain lung conditions by measuring how much air you can breathe out in one forced breath.



During the pandemic, GP Practices had to pause Spirometry testing due to the potential risk of spreading Covid-19. This means that hundreds of people across the country have had to wait for testing to get the results that could confirm a diagnosis of respiratory problems.

Our dedicated Spirometry Suite (pictured left) is located within our new, temporary, modular building at the Askham Bar site and opened last Wednesday, 9 March. It contains specialist equipment and has the necessary ventilation required for the safe testing of patients. This is another example of how our member GP practices have joined together to help our community recover.

Community Fund closing date approaches

Just a quick reminder to local community groups, charities and voluntary organisations that the closing date for the first round of grant applications to the Nimbuscare Community Fund is next Monday, 21 March. For details of the eligibility criteria and how to apply, click [here](#).

Thumbs up for our babies and children's clinic

A York mum has given our babies and children's clinic, which is located at our Askham Bar site, a huge thumbs up. Lucy said she was 'hugely impressed' with the team at our [Children's Ambulatory Treatment Hub](#), adding: "The team there is really knowledgeable and the whole process was so fluid."

Lucy has used the service for both her four-year-old and 13 month-old daughters. Her eldest daughter suffers with recurrent viral induced wheeze and, in the past, has had to go to hospital as a result of her condition.

Lucy said: "We have used the new service several times, it's such a helpful step between hospital support and our GP, who has limited capacity. It's a win-win situation for everybody."

When her younger daughter developed bronchiolitis, Lucy was able to get vital support for her too, explaining: "They were amazing - initially they observed her and wanted to monitor her again during her nap. Her oxygen levels had dropped and they picked it up quickly as this needed addressing. This is such a valuable and much needed service, especially in the winter."

Well done Mike!

Another piece of good news that I'm delighted to share with you this week is that our Chair, Professor Mike Holmes, has been elected as the next Chair of the RCGP's (Royal College of GPs) Trustee Board.

Mike said: "I'm delighted to have been elected and will formally take up this role at the end of April. In this role I hope I can really make a difference to the direction of General Practice at a national level. It's vital that the College membership includes GPs from the North of England and I'm really pleased to have been voted into this really important role."

Well done Mike!





Thank you!

In the last edition, we revealed that our Operational Services Coordinator, Libby Edwards, was collecting donations of essential items for the people of Ukraine. Libby was delighted by the fantastic response to her appeal, having received hundreds of pounds worth of items, as well as buying even more with the cash donations that were sent to her. Thank you all for your generous donations, which are now being distributed to the people of Ukraine.

Improving Access Service

Please be aware that the Haxby Improving Access Hub is now being run from Haxby & Wigginton Health Centre and Gale Farm Surgery on alternating weeks. The Hub at Huntington Surgery has now closed. If you're booking patients into the Improving Access sessions, please note that the addresses of these surgeries are:

- Haxby & Wigginton Health Centre, The Village, Wigginton, York, YO32 2LL.
- Gale Farm Surgery, 109-119 Front Street, Acomb, York, YO24 3BU.

Over to you...

Last month, we invited our member GP Practices to submit news items for publication in this newsletter. The Haxby Group responded by sending us the following story:

York footballer helps Haxby patients

Primary Care Practitioner (PCP) Russ Howarth is a man of many talents. The former international footballer swapped his career saving goals for one saving lives as a paramedic and is now working as a full time PCP at Haxby Group York. The ex-Bradford, Tranmere and York goalkeeper recently helped an opposition player involved in an aerial collision during a match, using his paramedic skills.

Russ (39) made his football debut at 17 and played many games before changing direction. He also worked for a charity overseeing a landmine clearance programme in Afghanistan. Since returning to York, he's been playing for Wigginton Grasshoppers. Patients can now get to see him as a key member of Haxby's clinical team; you don't always need to see a doctor to get the right care.

- Please send your submissions to lucy@lucyoates.co.uk.



Look out for our next newsletter update in two weeks' time.

In the meantime, please follow us on our social media channels by clicking on the links below.

Thank you all for your hard work and support.

18 March 2022

Overseas Vaccine Validation Service launched

A new Overseas Vaccine Validation Service will be launched next Wednesday, 23 March, to capture evidence of Covid-19 vaccinations administered in countries outside of England and have them recorded in the National Immunisation Management System (NIMS). We'll be operating this service from the York Vaccination Centre at Askham Bar from Monday to Friday. Appointments can be booked through the [National Booking System](#) for patients who:

- are aged 18 or over
- have an NHS number
- have received a Covid vaccine dose outside of England that is one of the four MHRA-approved vaccine types used in England; Astra Zeneca (Vaxzevria), Pfizer (Comirnaty), Janssen or Moderna (Spikevax).

Join us for a

National Day of
Reflection
23 March

National Day Of Reflection

Next Wednesday, 23 March, we'll be observing a minute's silence at 12 noon as part of the National Day of Reflection, which marks the second anniversary of the first Covid-19 lockdown. It's an opportunity to support the millions of people who are grieving, and remember the family, friends, neighbours and colleagues we've lost during the pandemic. York Minster is welcoming visitors for prayer and reflection throughout the day, as well as holding a special Choral Evensong service at 5.30pm, featuring music and readings chosen for the day. As part of the service, Poet Laureate Simon Armitage, will give the first reading of 'Only Human', a poem specially commissioned by the Chapter of York to mark the National Day of Reflection.



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