



Patient Participation Group Newsletter October 2024

Patient Participation Group Committee

At the recent AGM of the PPG a new committee was elected and we want to take this opportunity to introduce them to you with a short biography. The committee now consists of 5 previous members and eight new members. They are:

Heather Bronks (Committee Chair) Ashe hmann204@hotmail.com

I have lived here at Ashe for nearly 22 years. We have raised our children here and have strong ties to the community which is why I want to help support the vital service that our local medical practice provides. I am fully engaged with supporting the PPG which I think provides a crucial bridge between the practice and the community who depend on their local surgery.

Ian Pryce (Deputy Chair) Oakley

I have been a patient at this practice for just over forty years, and have been a PPG member since it's relaunch. In my professional life I mostly worked in the pharmaceutical industry. Latterly I responded to the government call for help in COVID centres and continue to work for the NHS as a vaccinator and social prescriber. I spend one day a week at the Basingstoke Foodbank.

Tim Parry Oakley

I have been an Oakley resident since 1993 My family and I have been registered patients at the Watership Down practice for the past 25 years. Half of my working career was spent in the NHS the remainder with the Open University. I am a supporter of the NHS and the role of our local practice in creating a healthy local community.

Lisette Kay Oakley

I am a resident of Oakley and a patient since 2010. PPG committee member for 7 years.

Abigail Compton-Burnett Wootton St Lawrence

I have lived in Wootton St Lawrence for nearly 20 years, trained as a nurse, have four children and cared for both of my parents through terminal illness, so has experience of community and hospital care. I have been a PPG member for 4 years. I work at the Barn Nursery School, and am a hospital governor, school governor and member of the Oakley Wellbeing Forum.

Roz Haines Kingsclere

I have lived in Kingsclere for over 30 years. For the last 11 years at the West Berkshire Council I was the finance lead for Adult Social Care where I became very aware of the challenges facing the NHS and ASC in the community, and the benefits of speaking to and working with service users, carers and volunteer groups where sometimes small changes can have huge benefits. I think I could use some of my skills to be of assistance to the PPG.

Brian Elkins Overton

I have been resident in Overton for nearly 40 years and have been a member of the PPG for 7 years and have been active in the community over the years in a number of different roles. I am chair of Overton ACTION which provides transport to medical appointments and a member of Overton Wellbeing forum.

Nigel Dean Oakley

I am a long time resident of Oakley. Committee Member for Basingstoke Group of Diabetes UK Wellbeing walk Leader and associated with 'We Can be Active' initiative in Hampshire and IOW I still play hockey at 73 for Winchester HC. I help South Central Area Hockey Masters.

Lucy Richards

I've lived in Kingsclere since 2000. I joined the PPG a few years ago as a working parent of school age children because I thought it was important to have representation from different cross sections of the community.

Amanda Russell Robbins (Kingsclere)

On completion of my BMA Diploma in 1982, I worked at Guy's Hospital as secretary in Surgery and A&E. When we moved to Thatcham, I worked at a couple of GP surgeries and finally at Burdwood Surgery where I was the Medical Secretary and part of their PPG till I retired in 2014. I would like to be able to contribute to the future direction of the surgeries.

David Backers Overton

Resident in Overton for 35 years. I am an adviser at Basingstoke Citizens Advice for 15 years. Chairman of the Overton Sheepfair (2004). Overton Action driver and an archer for over 40 years My hope is that I can help make the experience of using health care at the Watership Down practice as good as it can be for both patients and staff.

2024/25 Flu Season (up to 31 March 2025)

Please note that we will send influenza vaccination invitation out by SMS and email, with letters being used where SMS and email is not available. We ask that you await an invitation.

The Adult Flu vaccination dates will be:

Sat 5th Oct 2024, Sat 19th Oct 2024, Sat 16th Nov 2024. There will be some ad hoc clinics too.

Providing the Covid vaccine arrives (due to be given from 03 October) it will be offered at the same time as Influenza where a patient is happy to have both at the same time. We will have limited appointments. The National Booking service will be open from 23 Sep 2024.

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)

This is a new vaccination being offered this year to help protect eligible patients from the RSV virus.

This is available to patients who:

- turn 75 years of age on or after 1 September 2024
- are already aged 75 to 79 years old on 1 September 2024
- All women who are at least 28 weeks pregnant (the eligible cohort) on 1 September 2024, will be offered a single dose of the RSV vaccine. After that, pregnant women will become eligible as they reach 28 weeks gestation and remain eligible up to birth (midwifery services to offer initially).

We are limited in how much vaccine we can have now so we will be inviting, as and when we can, by text. This is an on-going vaccination programme throughout the year.