



FRIENDS of DAVENPORT HOUSE

Your Patient Participation Group

Reg Charity No: 1184307

Bulletin # 40
April 2026
News from the Practice



TOP NEWS

MEET THE PARTNERS
AGM 29th April @ 7.00
Eric Morecambe Hall

Staff Spotlight
Dr Hayley Kirsop



Dr Kirsop, Davenport House's longest-serving GP, joined the team in 2016 and is celebrating her 10th year at the practice this month. Born and bred in Harpenden, Hayley feels privileged to care for the townspeople where she grew up and now raises her family alongside.

Having graduated from Imperial College School of Medicine in 2006, Dr Kirsop completed her GP training on the Chelsea and Westminster scheme. She worked as a partner in west London before returning to Harpenden after her first son was born. Her specialisation is diabetes care, and she collaborates with our practice nurses and pharmacists to manage the in-house diabetes team. She also enjoys women's health and teaching.

Outside of the surgery, Hayley is a passionate Chelsea FC fan and spends her weekends watching her football-mad sons play. She enjoys reformer Pilates, long walks and travel. She also supports her children's school through charity work and enjoys wine tasting trips with her husband.

'I love working at Davenport House, mainly because I'm fortunate to have an amazing team of talented, hardworking, supportive colleagues'



To find out more about PPGs:
<https://tinyurl.com/2xnn9w7z>

To join our PPG
<https://tinyurl.com/FoDH-Join>

For any specific question, email
membership@patientgroup.org.uk

SPRING COVID VACCINATION

will be offered to:

- ✓ Everyone aged 75 and over
- ✓ Residents in care homes for older adults
- ✓ Immunosuppressed people aged 6 months and over

History of the Harpenden Trust

Our last newsletter spoke about the Harpenden Trust spotlight held as part of our PCN (Primary Care Network) AGM. A brief history may be of interest to patients.

The aim of the Harpenden Trust – to help Harpenden people in need, individually and collectively – remains the same as when it was founded in 1948 by local people, with Dr Charles Hill (later Lord Hill) the first President and Dr Agnes Kelynack the first Chairman. Cont. overleaf

JOIN YOUR PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

To voice your views to help our GP practice and receive updates from the Practice, what's happening with processes, changes and new developments in our local area.

HEALTH NEWS & ACTIVITIES

The Patient Participation Group has helped to fund the following items for the surgery; ECG licensing, the Spirometer, the Jayez system, and the new lighting

cont. In 1950 the Trust's role was described by the Daily Sketch newspaper as 'a social experiment without parallel in this country' - the better-off helping the less well-off. Even though Harpenden is regarded as a wealthy community, there are still residents suffering hardship - financial or otherwise - and people in need of the support of a good neighbour. The Harpenden Trust is here to be that good neighbour with the active support of the town's residents.

For 60 years the Trust concentrated its support on Harpenden families and individuals. Then, in 2008, when Abbeyfield Harpenden closed down, the net proceeds of the sale of the property were handed over to the Trust (originally known as the Abbeyfield Benefaction but now more simply as the 'Abbeyfield Endowment') to be put into a separate Community Fund, with its income to benefit organisations, charities and community groups within Harpenden.

The original Trust, with its work with families and individuals, was renamed the Care Fund and, as a community organisation, it receives a grant from the Community Fund to help finance its activities.

The role of the Trust and the work of its volunteers was recognised in 2008 (its 60th birthday) with the bestowing of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, the highest honour given to voluntary groups in the UK.

Two books about the History of the Trust are available from the Trust's offices in Southdown (opposite the Plough & Harrow).

FLU SURVEY

Take part in the NHS flu survey <https://tinyurl.com/flu-survey>.

TAKE A LIVER SCREENING TEST

Raising awareness, transforming lives. It only takes two minutes. <https://tinyurl.com/2r2ssr5s>



LUNG CANCER SCREENING

A brilliant new screening service that will be available to all ex smokers by 2028 is being offered to people in Herts registered with their GP, aged between 55 - 74 years, who have a history of smoking or are current smokers.

<https://tinyurl.com/tdm9yh>
46

You may feel healthy and strong, but high blood pressure has no symptoms. If left untreated, it can cause a heart attack or stroke.



Find a pharmacy for a free blood pressure check. hertsandwestsex.ics.nhs.uk/bp or scan the QR code.



Useful Links & Articles

Mental Health

Information for Children and Young Adults can be found here

<https://tinyurl.com/y8nc4ztr> or

<https://tinyurl.com/y5xse8av>

Next Health Walks

There are guided walks all over the county, look under St Albans district for Harpenden walks

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/healthwalks or email us at

Healthwalks.cms@hertfordshire.gov.uk or Tel 01992 555888

NHS APP

There are many helpful YouTube videos which show you how to do things within the App.

<https://tinyurl.com/Help-with-NHS-APP>

Other useful information & 'how to' guides

- *Canceling appointments*
- *What your pharmacy can prescribe*
- *How to book a blood test*
- *How to use the NHS App sessions*
- *Options for booking an appointment*
- *Repeat prescription ordering*
- *Vaccine eligibility information.*

There are usually several ways to do these things, if you scroll down on this page it will show you the options:

<https://tinyurl.com/wr6nbvpp>

FRIENDS:

www.friendsdavenporthouse.org.uk

SURGERY:

www.davenportssurgery.co.uk

Disclaimer: All information, content, and material in this newsletter is for informational purposes only and is not intended to serve as a substitute for the consultation, diagnosis, and/or medical treatment of a qualified physician or healthcare provider.

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