

HEALTH REPORT:

I attended the Annual General Meeting of the Surrey combined CCG Clinical commissioning groups. The Fetcham branch of Molebridge GP practice will not close. Not only was I given this advice at the CCG meeting personally during the tea break, but it is also reported in the Leatherhead Advertiser. I do not know whether or not it will continue with both Fetcham and Kingston Road, being open only on two or three days a week.

Under the new scheme of joining up groups of GP practices, I have had confirmation through another patient that it seems that GPs can refer patients between different practices to GPs who have particular skills. as well as for emergency appointments. E.g. Dr. Abellini (spelling?) has left Ashlea in Ashtead and is now working for Molebridge but Ashlea patients can still be referred to her, as I believe she specialises in OAP mental health.

Hearing Aids: From this June, adults over the age of 50 can self refer for NHS hearing aids. I will forward the paperwork. I myself was tested and given new hearing aids at Spec savers in Leatherhead and they are better in most respects than my previous private hearing aid. Although it is back to having to use batteries, they have the advantage of volume control and being able to use the loop system.

Patient emissaccess: I will forward the e-mail which explains that patients who use this facility to re-order prescriptions and make appointments can now order on behalf of relatives.

Ashlea GP practice – Although the patient list is closed, GPs will still see emergency patients and family relatives of patients already registered.

Epsom Hospital: The CCG appreciates the fact of Mr. Elkeles action over the sale of land at EGH, as a wise decision as although this was a much lower price received, it guarantees the suitability of the use of the land for appropriate housing which will help the Hospital. (See further comment below)

“Happy HealthDay” November 2nd at the Letherhead Institute. I was able to speak to several people at the CCGs AGM during the refreshment break and was given some useful contacts. I was pleased and encouraged by the fact that all those I have spoken to think that this is an excellent idea and supports the aims and objectives of the 10 year plan for promoting health.

There is to be a much closer working between NHS and local Government social care and encouraging people to take more responsibility for their own health rather than relying on GPs and A & E departments for minor health concerns. The focus of the day will be on holistic health, with voluntary and statutory advisors, relevant to all ages with basic education on Mind Body and spirit, Nutrition Exercise and Stress relief etc. Primarily focused on North Leatherhead, but extended to the BLeAF area. Help eventually with advertising would be very much appreciated, as I do not have unlimited funds. I will circulate the poster and programme when this is finalised.

Skype your GP - This facility is already up and running in one of the other area CCGs. I have personally used the “call back” telephone appointment. The report on **Epsom Hospital** at the CCG committee meeting in the afternoon was optimistic, but in discussion during the break it was confirmed that the A&E department is short of staff and has lost a Consultant. In general, there are in fact more staff in the Hospital and they are seeing more patients. But personally it has taken 5 months for the consultant to see and report on the tests I had in December. However, the computer records for each patient do ensure that the GP is aware of a patient’s condition and treatment. A personal friend of mine who is in a serious state of health, never has to wait when he arrives at A& E, he is always treated as a known emergency and passed straight through for immediate attention. GPs recommend that if you have a serious condition and it deteriorates, get yourself to the GP surgery if possible and they will rush you through by ambulance instead of having a lengthy wait by dialling 111

Hilary Porter 30.6.19