



# Newsletter

Issue 4 : JUNE 2011

Friends of Chiswick Health Centre

[www.fchc.co.uk](http://www.fchc.co.uk)

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## SUMMER MEETING

CHISWICK TOWN HALL

SATURDAY 11<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2011: 10.00am to 11.30am

Please be seated by 10am prompt!

**Mary Macleod : MP for Brentford & Isleworth**

Sue Jeffers: Director of Commissioning Primary Care, Hounslow PCT

Dr Brigitte Unger-Graeber: Chiswick Health Center

Paul Hopper: FCHC Chair

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**Dear Friends, Welcome to our Fourth Newsletter!**

Please do come to our meeting on 11th June. Hear what our speakers have to say about our Health Centre and our Treatment Room and have your say. Mary Macleod will be with us from 10am, please do be prompt, as she can only stay until **10.30am**

We have been busy behind the scenes, with a flurry of letters to Members of Parliament and Hounslow PCT, detailing our concerns over Chiswick Health Centre. We believe we are making a difference by being proactive on your behalf.

After considerable time spent with Hounslow PCT, we believed we had been successful in securing the future of the recently upgraded Treatment Room. However, on 2<sup>nd</sup> May, Hounslow PCT reduced its funding, making it impossible to run it effectively! FCHC has been advised that the Treatment Room at CHC is NOW closed.

As of 25<sup>th</sup> May, we have been told that the Senior Commissioning Manager at NHS Hounslow is looking into the re-commissioning of the treatment room to try and get the service reinstated as soon as possible. We hope to update you further on the 11<sup>th</sup> June 2011

We were saddened to hear of the 'proposed' closure of Chiswick Day Care Centre (This centre offers vital care for the elderly and frail, often preventing the need for hospitalisation) – Both FCHC and the Doctors actively campaigned to prevent the closure of the Centre. Doctors at CHC voiced their concerns to Mary Macleod, who indicated that she would also seek to resist the closure. All parties have asked Hounslow Council to reconsider their recommendation to close this very valuable service to our community.

**FCHC Volunteers Needed – please contact Paul Hopper if you feel you can help:**

An FCHC representative to work with Hounslow Link, the Government Health Watch Organisation.  
An FCHC Publicity / Communications Expert.

*The FCHC Executive Committee:*

*Chairman - Paul Hopper, Treasurer - Geeta Howles/ vacancy, Secretary, Richard Laux*

*Members - Neil Dacey, Nigel Woolner, Beryl Cross, Kevin & Margo Whiston, Jane Blanckenhagen, Jane Thomson, Mike Ambrose, John Todd, Iris Hill*

## **Chiswick Health Centre – Services we would like to have soon:**

The installation of an Echo / ECG (Heart monitoring facility).

Dermatology and Diabetes Clinics.

An integrated care (elderly, diabetics) project working with Imperial College London.

A walk in clinic across the three practices.

## **Good News - Developments at CHC:**

The new Dentists' Area meets Care Quality Commission standards for decontamination / sterilisation.

## **Extract of letters written by FCHC:**

**To: Sue Jeffers, Director of Commissioning Primary Care, Hounslow PCT**

On behalf of FCHC, may I express our deep concern that the CHC Treatment Room has now closed albeit hopefully only temporarily pending further brokerage on funding. In the interests of continuity of patient care, would it not have been better to continue service while the financial details were worked out? Could you please advise when you expect service to be resumed so that we may brief patients accordingly?

**To: Mary Macleod, MP for Brentford and Isleworth**

FCHC has been advised that the Treatment Room at CHC will close with immediate effect. This is hopefully only a temporary measure while further brokerage takes place to find funding, but it would have been preferable from the point of view of patient care for service to have been maintained while these discussions take place

May I please seek your urgent assistance in providing explanations on the two following points, which should probably be addressed to the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for Health respectively:

David Cameron indicated during the General Election that the NHS was safe in his hands. This withdrawal of a basic, local service, even if it is only temporary, does not appear to be in accord with this commitment and clearly raises in the minds of patients the possibility that further diminution of patient care may follow.

Andrew Lansley is re-organising the NHS around GP commissioning, but it is hard to understand how this will succeed if our local GPs cannot even commission a low tech, low cost, local service in the building that they occupy. Your swift response will be appreciated so that we may brief patients accordingly.

## **Membership:**

Thank you for your membership and donations. We have adequate funds to secure the equivalent of at least six further newsletters, so whilst we do not ask for any more funds at this time, new members are always welcome. Please stay in touch.

Send your comments / suggestions to: Friends of Chiswick Health Centre, Fishers Lane, Chiswick, W4 1RX

Hand in your comments / suggestions: At the box by Community Reception, at the Health Centre.

e-mail your comments / suggestions:

chairman@fchc.co.uk **or** treasurer@fchc.co.uk **or** secretary@fchc.co.uk **or** feedback@fchc.co.uk

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