

Marden Medical Centre Patient Participation Group



News Update

Marden Medical Centre News:

For the latest Marden Medical Centre updates please refer to the Surgery website:

<https://www.mardenmedicalcentre.nhs.uk/>

New Clinical Pharmacist

Like the rest of the NHS, General Practice is under unprecedented pressure, and we have never been busier. We are always looking for ways to use our limited resources most efficiently.

More than ever, we rely on our **practice team** working together to support you. A clinical pharmacist has joined us, Chinny. Clinical Pharmacists are trained in the assessment and treatment of medical conditions and have skills in the use and review of medications. She will be working with the doctors and the rest of the team to provide clinical and medication reviews. Search: [What is a Clinical Pharmacist NHS](#) .

Remote Access to GP Services

Use of **remote technology** during the pandemic has, in many cases, proven successful. Patients often find this convenient as they do not need to book time out of their day to attend the surgery. Efficient information gathering means that we can devote our limited time to patients that really need it. Search: [Medlink Solutions Remote Reviews](#) .

We know that some patients have been worried about **spam**, but can assure you that a text message from the surgery regarding your condition is genuine, and completing the templates whenever possible is helpful for us.

Face Masks Required at the Surgery

A reminder that face masks still need to be worn (unless you are exempt) when you visit the Surgery.

Other News:

Dementia Friendly Community Marden/Living Memories Group Update

Our newly awarded Dementia Friendly Community Marden/Living Memories Group organised a Virtual Dementia Tour in Marden in partnership with the Library on Saturday 14th May. This was no ordinary training session. The brave participants were asked to complete various tasks whilst wearing glasses that inhibit vision, earphones that inhibit hearing and in a dark space with someone interrupting and intimidating you. Afterwards they met in the library and listened to a talk which

expanded on this experience with some interesting information about dementia. 32 people from across the village completed this tour, thereby helping to raise awareness of the condition that so many are now living with.

We have been asked if we will book it again, but this is not yet on our agenda. If anyone is interested in doing it, please look at the www.training2care.com website for further information.

Many thanks to all those who took part and thank you to the Marden community for helping us to raise the funds to finance it. At the Marden Platinum Jubilee event on 4th June, we will be organising lots of fun activities for all ages around connecting with and understanding our loved ones with dementia. Please do come and join us.

Autumn 2022 Covid-19 Booster Campaign Interim Guidance

The Joint Committee on Vaccination & Immunisation (JCVI) has given interim advice that an autumn booster of the [COVID19](#) vaccine should be offered to people who are:

- aged 65 & over
- care home staff & residents
- frontline health & social care workers
- aged 16-64 in a clinical risk group

The Department of Health and Social Care will consider their final recommendations later this year and have asked [NHS England and NHS Improvement](#) to prepare for this programme. More: <https://www.gov.uk/.../jcv-provides-interim-advice-on-an...>

Marden Platinum Jubilee Event 4th June 2022, Southons Field

The PPG along with other village groups will be attending the Platinum Jubilee event at Southons Field from 2:00pm till 7:00pm. Please come and join us.

British Red Cross Mobility Aids Service - Maidstone

The British Red Cross Mobility Aids Service offers the following to Maidstone residents:

- short-term weekly hire of wheelchairs and toileting aids in Maidstone and surrounding areas
- Assistance Programme available to cover hire costs for service users receiving end-of-life palliative care or with genuine financial need (Assistance Programme referrals – call: **0300 004 0374**)
- pick up in store or delivery service available
- book over the phone (01622 758643 / 0300 456 1914) or online <https://www.redcross.org.uk/get-help/hire-a-wheelchair>
- second-hand items often available for purchase in store
- open Monday – Saturday (opening hours vary, please see website)

Need a wheelchair?



We can help.

We are now offering a **hire service** in your local area.

We offer **assistance** and **support** to those who may not be able to meet the **financial costs**.

To speak to us about this call **0300 456 1914**.

We accept **debit** and **credit cards**.

Visit us at the following location:

Hermitage Court, Maidstone, ME16 9NT

01622 758643

Please visit our website for opening hours

The British Red Cross is a registered charity (No. 244937) and a company limited by guarantee (No. 2028746). Registered office: 100, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF. Tel: 020 7462 0000. www.redcross.org.uk

To book redcross.org.uk/wheelchair

Call **0300 456 1914** or **scan the QR code**



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We operate on a not for profit basis. All proceeds will be used by the British Red Cross to deliver this service across the UK, helping people whoever and wherever they are.