

CROHN'S & COLITIS UK

FIGHTING
INFLAMMATORY
BOWEL DISEASE
TOGETHER

OXFORDSHIRE Newsletter

Issue 66

April 2025

Were Still Here - Just!

Just in case you thought we'd disappeared, no - we're still here working on your behalf.

How long are we going to be here? Well that's a different matter, we'll come to that later.

The last Newsletter we issued was unbelievably in February 2023, two years ago. I find that amazing and apologise for not being able to keep in touch with you more. If anyone can remember that last Newsletter, you may find this one is remarkably similar!

The last time we checked with Head Office a few weeks ago, they told us we have 660 members in Oxfordshire. 621 of you have registered an email address leaving just 39 of you that we can only reach via a hard copy posted to you.

The majority will be receiving this electronically. However it has come to you, we hope you are able to read it.

Two years ago we made an impassioned plea to the membership for help.

Unfortunately, it was met with virtually zero response. However, we did have one success and are very happy to welcome Katie to our team. Katie is very keen to get involved with some new ideas.

We understand that life is difficult for many these days. If you are not well, then you probably don't feel like getting involved.

Those of you who are in periods of remission may well lead very busy lives and have enough trouble coping with the difficult times we live in let alone taking on additional responsibilities.

The truth is though, that if we don't get new volunteers involved, CCUK in Oxfordshire may well disappear - and that's a fact.

Some of us have been doing this for nearly 40 years and, as much as we'd like to, we can't go

on forever.

So many charities and organisations are in a similar position and we realise modern life leaves little time for many to get involved.

Before covid hit some 5 years ago we had set up a presence at the Friday gastroenterology outpatients clinics. This was very useful for helping newly diagnosed patients who were maybe struggling with the news that had just been given to them.

Even though there is a greater awareness these days of the existence of Crohn's Disease and Colitis it can still be a shock to find out what the cause of all your pain, discomfort and sometimes embarrassment is due to.

We don't get huge numbers of people sending us emails but the majority we do receive ask about what we can offer in terms of social meetings.

People just want to have a chat with others who are going through similar experiences.

Sadly, we have found it almost impossible to arrange such functions even though we realise how welcome they would be to many. If you feel you might be able to host such a meeting, please get in touch.

On a positive note, we are involved with the Gastro team at the JR in organising another Open Meeting which will take place on 22 May.

Full details are enclosed and it promises to be just as successful as previous ones with a lot of interesting content. The event will be open to people visiting the JR (numbers are limited though). It will be videoed and available online at a later date.

Please try and read through the information inside and think about getting involved. We are lovely people and you'd be made very welcome!!

Dave

**If We Don't Get New
People Involved, CCUK in
Oxfordshire May Well
Disappear - and That's a
Fact!**

What Have We Been Up to?!

Even though we struggle to do as much as we used to we are still very grateful to those of you who have been able to help us in different ways. Whilst we always publish news on our Facebook page, we appreciate that not everyone is able to learn about what we doing by this medium.

So here are some details of what has been going on since we last issued a newsletter

Date	Donor	Amount	Comments
January 2023	Benson Carol Singers	175.00	They have supported us for many years in memory of a member we lost
Various 2023	John Paine	714.00	John does regular talks to many organisations and always donates his fee to us
April 2023	David & Yvonne Wright	540.00	David & Yvonne put on regular events in Witney and always let us run a raffle
May 2023	Easyfundraising	18.05	If you buy regularly on the internet, Easyfundraising will donate to our coffers part of your purchase price
May 2023	Funday	1119.34	Kelly Doherty organised a Fun-day on behalf of CCUK in honour of her son who is a sufferer at Blackbird Leys Community Centre.
September 2023	Chilton Stall	842.00	Judy and Norman Goodall run a stall for charity every month in Chilton. Once a year we are the nominated charity to benefit.
December 2023	Sarax Cox	20.00	Sarah donates to us instead of sending Christmas cards.
January 2024	Benson Carol Singers	200.00	As above.
January 2024	Banbury Freemasons	6500.00	We were the nominated charity for 2023 when Sean Abel was president.
Various 2024	John Paine	545.00	As above
April 2024	David & Yvonne Wright	405.00	As above
May 2024	Easyfundraising	19.21	As above
November 2024	G Harcourt	100.00	Geoffrey Harcourt sold one of his paintings and donated the proceeds to us.
September 2024	Chilton Stall	870.50	As above
December 2024	Sarax Cox	20.00	As above

As a result of the above we were able to donate £2500 to Head office in 2023 and £580.00 to local requests at the John Radcliffe.

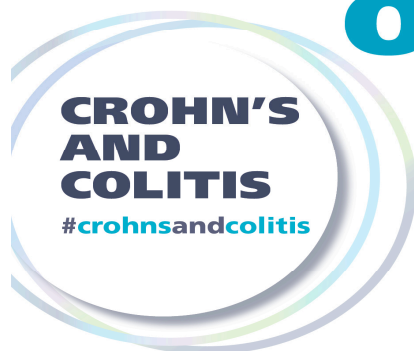
In 2024 we were able to donate £9000 to Head Office and £409.18 to local causes at the John Radcliffe.

Many thanks to everyone who has supported us and contributed to the above.

NIHR | Research Delivery Network



NHS
Oxford University Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust



OPEN EVENING IN PERSON ONLY

22 May 2025 5:30pm – 7:50pm

Lecture Theatre 2, Academic Centre,
John Radcliffe Hospital

Patients, the public and healthcare professionals are all **WELCOME**



What's new in inflammatory bowel disease?
PUBLIC INFORMATION EVENT

What's on...

- **What's new and what's coming in medicine & surgery?**
State of the art lecture (*Dr Alissa Walsh, Dr Oliver Brain & Mr Mark Bignell*)
- **Diet and IBD: Progress at last** (*Professor Kevin Whelan, London*)
- **Presentations on the latest research into the management of Crohn's disease and Ulcerative Colitis**
- **Growing up with IBD: State of the art lecture**
(*Dr Hannah Gordon and Professor Holm Uhlig*)
- **Panel Question & Answers Session**
- **Presentations from charities CCUK and CICRA**

The Oxford IBD Team contributors include:

Dr O. Brain | S. Cripps | Dr H. Gordon | Prof P. Klenerman | Prof H. Uhlig | Prof J. Satsangi | Dr A. Walsh | L. White

Registration required: book your **free place** to attend in person. Places are limited.
Please send any questions about the event to:
verity.davies@ndm.ox.ac.uk



www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/crohns-disease-and-ulcerative-colitis-public-information-event-tickets-1235853102899

In association with:

CROHN'S & COLITIS UK
OXFORDSHIRE

cicra
better lives for children with crohns and colitis

TRANSLATIONAL GASTROENTEROLOGY and LIVER UNIT



With kind support from:



The Open Evening

On page 3 you will see full details of an Open Evening due to take place at the John Radcliffe Hospital on Thursday, 22 May. The session will consist of a number of presentations followed by a Question and Answer session.

This will be the fifth such event in recent years and promises to be even better than the previous four. It will take place live in the hospital but will also be recorded and made available online at a later date. If you want to attend in person, it is essential that you register using the appropriate link on page 3.

The event will take place in Lecture Theatre 2 in the Academic Centre, again, as detailed on page 3.

However, be aware that places are limited so it's best to register as soon as you can.

We will be available, along with a number of other organisations, in the foyer of the venue prior to the start of the presentations. So come along and meet us, have a cup of tea, coffee or a glass of water. There may even be some biscuits (don't get your hopes up!).

It would be great to meet you. A few years ago we counted many of our members as friends as we often met them at different events. These days there are a lot more of you but so many that we haven't had the pleasure of meeting.

Hopefully you will agree that the evening looks very interesting and we look forward to welcoming as many people as possible to join in. It will start at 5.30 pm and will run until 7.30 pm. If you can't make it in person, don't forget that the intention is to record whole event and make it available at a later date to view on YouTube via a link on the CCUK Facebook page.

If you're worried about parking, we are hoping a permit will be available to everyone who registers so we hope you will be able to make it, in one form or another.

Facebook

Facebook is an ideal forum to post the latest news we have about our activities, it is such a useful medium for getting news out to members very quickly. As mentioned elsewhere, we have 660 registered members in Oxfordshire. It is somewhat disappointing therefore that we only seem to have 116 followers of our Facebook page.

It would be really good to know why this is. Is Facebook outdated, do you no longer subscribe to it, or never have? If not, what would be a better social media platform to reach you?

If you can let us know we would be really grateful. You can email us at

oxfordshire@networks.crohnsandcolitis.org.uk

or message us on our Facebook page which can be found at;

https://www.facebook.com/crohnsandcolitisoxfordshire

If you are into Facebook, please look at the page detailed above and "follow" us so that we can build up the audience and make sure that we can continue to communicate with as many people as possible.

Contacts

Telephone No; 0300 222 5700 - Email; oxfordshire@networks.crohnsandcolitis.org.uk

Facebook page; <https://www.facebook.com/crohnsandcolitisoxfordshire>

Website; <https://www.crohnsandcolitis.org.uk/get-involved/volunteering/local-network/south-east/oxfordshire>

The Oxfordshire Network has made every reasonable effort to ensure the content of this newsletter is accurate, but accepts no responsibility for any errors or omission

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Crohn's and Colitis UK

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