



# Newsletter

## Dr Caroline Dickinson is retiring, March 2024.

Dear Patients,

After 38 very happy years of working at the Caversham I have decided that the time is right to retire. I feel very sad but at the same time know that I can't go on forever.

I am happy to know that I leave you in the capable hands of my Partners, Salaried Doctors, Nurses, and administrators here.

It has been a privilege and a pleasure to share your ups and downs with me over the years and I will not forget you - and hope to bump into some of you on Kentish Town Road in future!

Please join me for a farewell tea on Saturday 23 March 2pm-4pm

Dr Caroline Dickinson



### What's going on @ The Cav?

**Kentish Town Cycle Buddies** - ourselves and Camden Cycling Campaign are collaborating to help people in NW5 get going on bikes. Come for a gentle ride first Saturday of every month 10am-12pm we meet and return to the Caversham Practice, Peckwater Road entrance. Sign up by clicking [HERE](#) or scanning this QR code.



**Story Telling Event 18<sup>th</sup> March 5pm - 7pm** So many of our patients have a special memory or a story to share about The Caversham or the local area we thought it would be fun to host a story telling and art event on the evening of the 18<sup>th</sup> March starting at 5pm till 7pm. If you'd like to share a story or listen to a story, make some art or view some art, come and join us. If you would like to help us organise the event, then please contact Jackie Tumelty on [caversham.practice@nhs.net](mailto:caversham.practice@nhs.net)



### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Every Wednesday 10.30am-12.30pm**  
**Helping Hands** coffee morning

**Saturday 2nd March** - 10am Kentish Town Cycle Buddies Ride

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March** - Story Telling Event

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March** – 11am to 12:30 – Save The Peckwater Demonstration

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March** 2pm–4pm Dr Dickinson's Retirement Afternoon Tea

## Save The Peckwater Centre For Community Healthcare

The Peckwater Centre a dedicated primary care space, is under threat of closure to make way for secondary care services currently housed at the St Pancras hospital site.

The Centre, which played a vital role in vaccine rollout during the pandemic, currently boasts a purpose-built gym and community garden. It hosts physiotherapy clinics, child vaccination teams, mental health services for the elderly and people in crisis, and the Camden wheelchair service. Existing plans to enhance the site by expanding services offered to Kentish Town residents have been shelved in favour of a money-saving move by the St Pancras Redevelopment Programme, which is struggling to rehouse clinical teams currently based on NHS land sold off to developers and has laid claim to this valuable community resource. Local residents are working together to oppose the plan and save The Peckwater Centre.



**A blow for the health of Kentish Town** - NHS England's gold standard for primary care, health and social care teams based together in the heart of local communities, will be denied to the people of Kentish Town by the decision to close The Peckwater Centre. Doctors, residents, and local councillors are challenging the plan to give away the only purpose-built health centre with capacity to host new integrated teams, planned to include social care, respiratory and diabetes clinics, community groups and Childrens' services.

**No consultation despite local impact** - The public consultation for the St Pancras Redevelopment Programme promised local people that existing clinics based at the hospital site would remain there in a new state-of-the-art building. Instead, the programme wants to repurpose The Peckwater Centre to save money, but at the expense of residents who may lose existing services and will no longer benefit from plans to expand community health and social care in Kentish Town.

**While the new proposals will see The Caversham Group Practice remain on the Peckwater site**, GPs across Kentish Town have united to oppose the move which they see as putting local residents' future health at risk in order to meet the short-term demands of the struggling St Pancras programme.

**Better options exist** - that would preserve The Peckwater Centre for local people, but more suitable sites for the St Pancras clinics have been ruled out because the programme is unwilling to make funding available.

**Help us stop the closure** - Sign our petition opposing the closure of The Peckwater Centre - scan the QR code or click [Here](#)



- Join the Patient Participation Group demonstration to support the campaign in the garden on **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March between 11-12.30**. Any contribution to the event is very welcome or if you would like to join the PPG send us an e-mail [caversham.practice@nhs.net](mailto:caversham.practice@nhs.net)
- Consultation for the St Pancras programme has closed but you can still email your views to [SPHConsultation@londoncommunications.co.uk](mailto:SPHConsultation@londoncommunications.co.uk)