

NKF In Touch

Information from The National Kidney Federation – supporting kidney patients, their friends & family

Date: November 2015 Issue: Eighteen

Welcome to the NKF In Touch newsletter for November 2015. Please forward any articles etc that you would like sharing via the next newsletter to Stephanie Scott stephanie@kidney.org.uk by 10th December.



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Who NKF seeks to influence:

NHS England

NHSBT

Department of Health

Government Ministers

Welsh Government

Northern Ireland

Assembly

Scottish Government

All Party Parliamentary



Action Point

Request from the All Party Parliamentary Kidney Group

In order to encourage greater interest in the work of the All Party Parliamentary Kidney Group (APPKG) by MP's in the House of Commons, the NKF gave an undertaking to the APPKG at its last meeting on 20th October 2015, to contact all KPA's and ask them to use every opportunity to explain the work of the group to MP's within their catchment area and encourage the MP's to participate in group objectives and attend group meetings. Whether KPA's make contact by letter, email, phone or visits to MP's surgery's – the message is the same – Please get involved in the work of the group and attend their meetings in the House of Commons (about four a year). The group has been, and still is, remarkably successful in championing the needs of Kidney patients and undoing wrongs that threaten kidney patients. 106 MP's completed a questionnaire during the 2015 General Election promising to join the APPKG if elected – but joining is not enough – we want and need their active support.

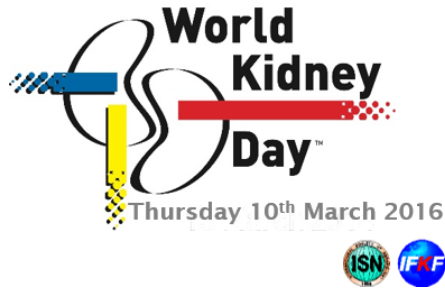
Before every meeting email notice of the meeting is sent to all 106 MP members – every other Member of Parliament (544) is able to read notice of the meeting in the "Whips Notices" they all carry.

There is one more bonus – if a KPA is able to persuade one of their MP's to attend a particular APPKG meeting then I am able to arrange two places in that meeting within the House of Commons for KPA observers – quite a grand experience !

Timothy F Statham OBE

Chief Executive NKF and secretariat of the APPKG

SAVE THE DATE



On **Thursday 10th March 2016**, World Kidney Day will be celebrated worldwide, bringing together millions of people in over 150 countries and uniting them to produce a powerful voice for kidney health, awareness of kidney disease and highlight the urgent need for action to prevent and treat this serious health condition.

The UK initiative is led by **Kidney Charities Together** comprising five kidney charities including the National Kidney Federation and we are encouraging everyone - individuals and patient groups, hospitals and renal/transplant units, to get behind the campaign and try to organise an activity or event to draw public attention to the need for kidney health - what can be done to protect kidneys before disease strikes, and to assist patients who already have chronic kidney disease. This year there is also a particular focus on kidney disease in children.

Further information will be sent out to each KPA in the New Year.

Website

Further details will be available through the UK website: www.worldkidneyday.co.uk where there is support, advice, ideas for activities and downloadable resources to help with your event.

Keep in touch through our UK Facebook page (www.facebook.com/worldkidneydayuk) or emailing info@worldkidneyday.co.uk. If you use Twitter, you can follow [@kidneydayUK](https://twitter.com/kidneydayUK) and use #worldkidneyday.

To find out more about what is going on around the world, visit the international website - www.worldkidneyday.org.

We very much hope you will be happy to join in with this exciting annual campaign.



The official launch of a new KPA for Dorset is coming up on the evening of 28th November at The Lark Rise, Wimborne Road, BOURNEMOUTH. There will be a Meet Loaf tribute to help proceedings along, with raffle, information leaflets, and the chance to meet other patients and families living with renal illness. Free entry



North East Essex Clinical Commissioning Group

New single Patient Transport Service for people in Colchester and Tendring

The NHS North East Essex Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has today announced that the East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust has been awarded one of the region's largest Non-Emergency Patient Transport Services (NEPTS) contracts. Commissioned in partnership with Colchester Hospital University Foundation Trust (CHUFT), the new service sees 18 transport contracts integrated into a single service. The new five-year contract (start date 1 April 2016) ensures that transport for patients will be improved by involving patients in the design of the service.

The new service, which will run 365 days a year and 24 hours a day, will offer transport to eligible patients for planned and routine journeys to and from any hospital or clinic in the country. The NEPTS service will also provide transport tailored for particular patient groups, such as renal (kidney dialysis) or critical care patients. It also integrates the Healthcare Travel Cost Scheme making it easier for patients to use. CCG staff interviewed patients who use current services and then used their views to inform a multi-expert panel who evaluated the bids received by providers.

Sam Hepplewhite, Acting Chief Officer at the CCG said: "We work to commission the highest standards of patient care, which includes reliable and effective transport for those who are entitled to it. The contract is designed to encourage continual improvements through the *NEPTS Outcomes Framework* which sets the service provider a number of areas for development. For the first time we will also have a *Transport Charter* which patients can use to ensure that standards are met."

James Rowe, Associate Director for Commissioning at the Colchester Hospital University Foundation Trust, said: "The Trust is pleased this process has come to a successful conclusion and has seen great benefit in entering a joint procurement with the CCG. This joint approach has been innovative and we hope to utilise this model more in the future wherever possible. We look forward to working with the CCG and the awarded bidder to maximise the benefits of this arrangement for our patients."

Liz McEwan, Head of Non-emergency Services at the East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust said: "We are delighted to have been chosen to provide this vital service for local patients. The ambulance service is very experienced at caring for, and transporting, patients. This is a huge boost for our staff and reflects on their commitment and dedication to patient care. We look forward to working alongside our partners to develop the service for both patients and carers."



Advocacy Services

The hospitals in the West Midlands have come together to improve access to kidney transplantation. Led by Dr Kerry Tomlinson, the Renal Clinical Lead at University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust, and Helen Spooner, Advanced Nurse Practitioner at Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust, this is a region-wide endeavour supported by the West Midlands Strategic Clinical Network (NHS England).

The aim is to ensure that patients with kidney disease are added to the list of those waiting for a kidney transplant earlier, thereby increasing the chances of people receiving a transplant before they need dialysis. Reports produced by NHS Blood and Transplant and the UK Renal Registry demonstrate the potential for improvement in the West Midlands around pre-emptive listing and transplantation. Patients and clinicians are working together to review and develop hospital processes, criteria and information to facilitate this improvement.

Mark Davis (West Midlands Advocacy Officer for the NKF/BKPA) is on the project steering group as the patient representative for this important piece of work. Mark was fortunate to receive a kidney transplant in January 2012 after several years of being on haemodialysis.

If you live in the West Midlands and are waiting for a kidney transplant or have recently received or donated a kidney and would like to get involved, please contact us. Further information regarding the project can be found at www.wmscnsenate.nhs.uk or by contacting Cecily Hollingworth at cecily.hollingworth@nhs.net.



The second Annual Conference of the South West Strategic Clinical Networks is taking place on 27th November from 10.00am-4.00pm in Exeter. The speakers include regional directors of NHS England – South, and the director of Commissioning Operations for the South West. This will be a most interesting event. Full details can be found at <http://www.events.england.nhs.uk/all/750>. (The closing date for applications was 12th November but there might be the opportunity for late entries).



Helpline – 0845 601 02 09



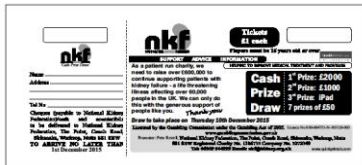
HOLIDAY INFORMATION 2016

Here on the helpline we are busy revamping and updating the holiday information ready for 2016. The new brochure will be available by contacting the Helpline number **0845 601 02 09**. The new updated information will be available on the NKF website early next year.



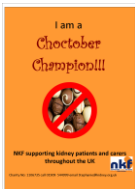
NKF Fundraising

Draw Tickets



Hurry! There is still time to take part in NKF Christmas prize draw (you must be 18 years or over) You could win £2000! Thanks & Good Luck to everyone who has returned draw tickets so far! Be quick you have less than 3 Weeks to return your stubs & payment!

Choctober



Thank you to everyone that took part in Choctober and gave up chocolate for the month of October, we have raised over £4,000 with more money still coming in.

Christmas Cards



Christmas is just weeks away and here in the NKF office we are surrounded by Christmas cards and frantically sending out Christmas card orders – some stocks of cards are already getting low or even sold out.

Please visit the NKF Christmas shop at <http://store.kidney.org.uk/> and see what all the fuss is about, you won't be disappointed with cards for all the family including one pack for children to use in school, we also have gift wrap and money wallets.

Christmas Star



Four years ago the Gold Christmas star was introduced and since then due to its popularity it has become a regular feature. It is a way to remember a loved one... at Christmas.

If you would like to take part please print the Gold Christmas Star from our web site <http://www.kidney.org.uk/fundraising/donate-to-the-nkf/sponsored-events/christmas-star/>, write your special message on it, then cut it out and send it back to us, every star we receive with or without a donation will be hung on the NKF Christmas tree in our head office for all to see.

Should you wish to donate please make cheques payable to NKF

Christmas gift idea or treat yourself



Here at the NKF we offer a great selection of NKF branded clothing but by far the most popular range has to be our gave and received t shirts that you can proudly wear and show off to the world that you have received the gift of life or given the gift of life – for more details please visit

<http://www.sportsclubshops.com/nkf/>

What are you doing in 2016?

2016											
January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
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3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
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The NKF offers a vast array of events to take part in, from running, walking and even riding a motor bike across India, next year we would love you or someone you know to fundraise for our charity so we can continue our vital work supporting kidney patients. Please have a look at our events at www.kidney.org.uk/fundraising/ or organise your own event large or small and if you need help or advice please contact Pete on 01263 722287 or email pete.revell@kidneynkf.com

www.kidney.org.uk

The NKF - the largest Kidney Patient charity in the UK
A federation of more than fifty patient charities, supporting kidney patients & carers

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Charity No 1106735 Company No 5272349 Reg. in England & Wales Give as you earn contributions No CAFGY511

