
ABBHEY NOTES

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Fund-raiser for the air ambulance

STAFF and patients at the Abbey Medical Centre are proud each year to arrange a fund-raising event and this year's recipients will be the Lincs and Notts Air Ambulance.

This life-saving operation is a charity and this year it will cost £2.5m to keep the recently unveiled new state-of-the-art helicopter, the AgustaWestland 169, in the air serving the people of Lincolnshire and Notts.

The iconic yellow helicopter, which can sometimes be seen on the playing field at the Beeston end of University Boulevard, is dispatched to some of the most serious life-



threatening 999 calls within the two counties, undertaking an average of 3 missions every day, 365 days a year.

Out of all of the incidents the crews have attended so far during 2017, this is how they break down: 40% road traffic collisions, 34% medical e.g. cardiac, 3% agricultural and industrial, 9% sports and leisure, including horse riding, 7% falls and 7% training and public relations..

The air ambulance relies on the people, organisations and businesses of Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire to keep operating.

So here it is... merry music event

A GOLDEN Years Christmas Party will be held at the Abbey Medical Centre on Thursday, December 14.

The event is held in the waiting room from 1.30pm to 3.30pm while the surgery is closed to the public.

There will be seasonal music from Jack and Bobby, a duo we

have welcomed before, and music on a Christmas theme to sing along to.

The event is for elderly and isolated people in the community and for people with dementia and their carers.

It is open to all, not just Abbey medical centre patients, and is a free event.

There will be refreshments and fun and games.

More details can be obtained from the receptionists and it would be good to know how many people might come along to help with catering.

Call reception on 0115 9255323 to put your name down.

Take advantage of this life-saving screening

THERE are a number of health screening programmes offered to patients when you reach a certain age. You will be written to by the hospital inviting you to attend an appointment.

- All patients, male and female, age 60 to 75 will be invited for Bowel Screening. Bowel cancer is the fourth most common cancer in the UK. 55 year olds will be invited to attend for a flexible sigmoidoscopy.
- Women age 25 – 64 will be invited for Cervical Screening and from age 50 – 70 will be invited for Breast Screening.

- **Aortic Aneurysm Screening** is for men aged over 65 years of age who are at the highest risk of this. This is to look for swelling in the main artery from the heart – the aorta – which if left undiagnosed can rupture.

These screening programmes are in place to discover cancer at an early stage, before symptoms have a chance to develop. It is so important that you attend these. Even if you decide not to at the time you are invited, you can change your mind and attend once you have re-considered your decision.

The Abbey Medical Centre has leaflets on some of these

programmes, just ask a receptionist and they will give you one.

Useful contact numbers for more information on all these screening programmes are listed below.

- Bowel Screening 0800 707 6060
- Cervical Screening – call the practice on 0115 925 5323
- Breast Screening 0115 962 3226
- **Aortic Aneurysm Screening** 0115 924 9924 ext. 62394/62378

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU ATTEND THESE SCREENING CHECKS.

A&E is not a casual walk-in centre

IT may be because our surgery is relatively close to the Queen’s Medical Centre that too many of our patients go there for treatment for conditions which cannot be classed as either emergencies or accidents.

The practice is sent regular reports on who attends, if they wait to be seen, what time they attend and if any treatment is given. We are finding that

increasingly, patients do not wait to be seen or they attend in practice opening hours when the problem they present to A&E could be dealt with by a GP.

We are asking all our patients to think first about other options before going to A&E. Ask at reception for a leaflet giving details of numbers you can call for advice on health issues.