

Proposed 'Bee Friendly' Garden at the Surgery

The Patient Participation Group (PPG) has proposed the establishment of a bee friendly garden in the grounds of the new Surgery. The idea is that a small patch of land will be cultivated by an expert landscape gardener and planted with shrubs and plants of a type and variety which will attract bees and other wildlife. If the proposal, which is supported by the Surgery, goes ahead it is hoped that the garden will be maintained by volunteer patients who may, for example no longer have their own garden and yet may still wish to enjoy limited gardening opportunities. Obviously, maintenance of the garden will require management and supervision.

Plans are in the early stages, but if all goes well it is hoped that work will start in the spring of 2026. If it is a successful project both patients and staff will be able to enjoy the health and well-being benefits of a small but valuable asset. The project will be funded by the PPG.

Patient Feedback via NHS Friends and Family Test

Thank you to all our patients who send in your feedback following an appointment. These are all read and circulated to relevant staff. Here is a selection of feedback from the last two months:

"My appointment with the nurse was on time and the blood test was done with care. Excellent treatment and the nurse was friendly and helpful answering my questions"

"Friendly, warm and efficient, the level of care is above and beyond"

"She listened, asked questions, examined and then set up a plan of action. V positive and came away feeling at last someone is listening to me"

"Able to book appointment online with preferred Dr, didn't have to wait long, Dr was responsive and interested"

"Excellent service from reception to nurse. Punctual and attentive advice from lovely nurse. Many thanks!"

"Never fail to be impressed by the nursing staff at Minchinhampton. All highly professional, welcoming, attentive and good-humoured. I feel extremely lucky to have Minchinhampton as my local practice.

Car Park

We would like to apologise for any inconvenience caused by some recent excavation work in the car park. This has now been fully resolved.

Minchinhampton Surgery

November 2025 Newsletter



Here With You

GP Partners: Dr Simpson, Dr Cain, Dr Xerri, Dr Cooper, Dr Beard, Dr Walker, Dr Martyn

Registrars: Dr Sivapragasam, , Dr Maha

Clinical Manager: Ros Duncan

Practice Manager: Kerry Thompson

Telephone: 01453 883793

Website: www.minchsurgery.nhs.uk

Staff News

This autumn we are pleased to welcome Dr Chloe Martyn as our new GP partner, a Student Nurse Rosalyn Sykes, and a new receptionist Phoebe to our Team. We have sadly said goodbye to our receptionist Julia who is starting a new chapter in sunny Sussex.

An Introduction from our new GP Partner – Dr Chloe

Martyn

Hello! I am delighted to have joined Minchinhampton Surgery as a GP Practice Partner in October. Some of you may already know me, as I spent the last year and a half of my GP Training here. On my very first day I learned what it meant to “leave extra time in case of cows” — I ended up being stuck behind a whole herd on my way into the village! Since then, I’ve made sure to allow a little extra time for the commute!

What makes Minchinhampton so special to me is the sense of community — both among patients and within the fantastic surgery team. I feel incredibly lucky to be able to continue working here permanently.

I have a particular interest in women’s health, Urology and in caring for older patients, and I’m looking forward to developing these areas further within the practice. Outside of medicine, I love trying new sports, running, and exploring the beautiful countryside we have on our doorstep. I’m really looking forward to getting to know more of you and continuing to be part of this wonderful community.

Medical Students

Dr Beard and Dr Walker are currently involved in the teaching four 3rd year medical students. They are with Bristol University Medical School (but mostly based at Gloucester Hospital at present) They will be with us until the end of January.

Dr Beard and Dr Walker are teaching them every other Tuesday so you may see them around the building.

If you have a consultation booked for one of these occasions you will be advised of the presence of the students in advance and be given the option to see the GP alone if you prefer.



We are also planning to welcome some 5th year (final year) students in the New Year.

Hear Hear!

Some of our nursing team, reception and office staff enjoyed some Deaf Awareness Training recently. This was provided by Gloucestershire Deaf Association via a profoundly deaf presenter supported by two sign language interpreters. This was hugely insightful and rewarding.

We now have a Hearing Loop Facility installed across the Surgery Reception desk area. Please switch your hearing aid to the T-position to benefit from this.



Stroud Area Alzheimer’s Café

A welcoming café is being held monthly on the last Wednesday of every month (except 17/12/25) at Longfield Community Hospice in Burleigh Lane, Minchinhampton. This is open to all who have concerns about memory problems and any form of dementia, together with their partners, family, friends & caregivers. The purpose is to enjoy being out together & to meet other people in the same boat, to share and discuss issues in a relaxed & safe environment.

The café will serve refreshments, with live musical entertainment & song in a dementia friendly atmosphere. There will also be guest presentations & discussions, & opportunities to share feelings, & give & receive support & information. There is plenty of free parking available.

For enquiries contact Richard Burt via Stroud Area Alzheimer Café’s Facebook page

Poems in The Porch Room

Meeting on the second Monday of the month from 10.30 – 12.00 in The Porch Room, adjacent to Minchinhampton Parish Church; this is another welcoming group for all, but especially those with memory problems. They enjoy reading poems, sharing ideas & reminiscences. Contact Jo Smith on 01453 834714

Non-Attendance at Appointments

During the first 4 weeks of September a total of 86 appointments were recorded as missed by patients. This equated to just under 20 hours lost. If you cannot make your booked appointment, please call us so we can give this to someone else who needs it