

Powerful patient stories help promote homeopathy to a wider audience

Homeopathy UK's charitable clinics provide homeopathy at no or low cost to those in need and are an excellent example of effective collaboration with Faculty of Homeopathy members. Norwich Homeopathy patient Jane is one of the growing numbers of patients seen at the clinics and she shares her story below.

Three years ago, Jane began to experience pain in her pelvis which was diagnosed by a hospital doctor as a benign pain condition. The treatment options were physiotherapy and painkillers.

As time went on, the pain became more frequent until Jane was suffering with it every day which had a negative effect on her, emotionally as well as physically. She knew it would take a long time to see an NHS physiotherapist and as she had always believed in taking an integrated approach to health, she decided to explore some alternatives. She did searches online. These searches included homeopathy where she found the Homeopathy UK charitable clinics.

Jane says: *"I made an appointment at Norwich Homeopathy and found the doctor to be extremely knowledgeable and caring. He was good at evaluating where I was, asking questions that explored who I am as a person and building up a picture of what's important in my life. He often recalled things I'd said in previous appointments and explored them a bit further.*

"I hadn't expected to find a homeopath who was also medically trained, but it adds to the integrity and professionalism of what Homeopathy UK is offering. I felt I was seeing a highly skilled, knowledgeable person which made me feel very safe.

"I'd initially consulted the doctor about pain management and initially his approach was focused on that, but over time I talked a lot about mental health and emotional resilience. It was quite important to me to work on that side of things because having a long-term condition does have an impact on you

emotionally. I believe the two are connected – if emotionally you're feeling stronger, it helps you to cope with the physical – so we explored that a lot.

"The care was exceptional care and the whole experience had a very positive impact on me which I still feel the benefits of today. I'd go back to a homeopath without hesitation and would definitely recommend it to others."

Sam Westcott

Marketing & Communications Manager
Homeopathy UK
sam@homeopathy-uk.org

Jane's willingness to share her experience is the most powerful way to promote homeopathy to others – experiences from real people are far more convincing than any evidence or government position. You may assume that Homeopathy UK has 1000s of first-hand patient stories to share, but sadly that is not the case. We badly need more to promote on our website, in our magazine and on our social media channels, so if you have any patients who have had a successful outcome and would be willing to talk about their experience, please contact: sam@homeopathy-uk.org.

We just need some basic information about the patient and their contact details, then the H-UK will take it from there. And remember – as well as telling patients' stories, it's a good chance to promote individual practices and clinicians.

APPOINTMENT

Sarah Mawhinney MRPharmS DFHom (Pharm) was appointed Vice Chair of the Advisory Board on the Registration of Homeopathic Products (ABRHP) at the MHRA last year. The Board acts as a multidisciplinary Advisory body to the UK Regulatory Authority. Sarah is a Community Pharmacist in Northern Ireland. We wish her well in this important post that ensures the continuation of the long-standing relationship with the Faculty. Gary Smyth has served on the Board for 12 years, and past Faculty members include Steven Kayne (who served for 14 years) and the late Francis Hunter (8 years).

Our next edition will celebrate the Platinum anniversary of the Accession of HM The Queen. If you have any 'Royal stories' you would like to share with us, we should be delighted to receive them by the 1st of May.