

Season's greetings!

# healthwatch Wiltshire

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December 2018

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It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas...



What better way to celebrate International Volunteers Day on 5 December than with a Christmas party for the wonderful people who give so much of their time to supporting us. Not only that but we were joined by a special guest - none other than Help and Care CEO Mark Sharman!

The party, which was hosted at the Independent Living Centre in Semington, gave our volunteers a chance to catch up over a coffee and a mince pie, while Mark mingled with the guests to say hello and answer questions. Presents in the shape of locally produced Christmas chutneys and marmalades were given out and the party

culminated in a group photo around the Christmas tree. We're all feeling very festive now!

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## Campervan tour reveals highs and lows of services



Last summer's Campervan and Comments Tour saw us travel 400 miles around Wiltshire to gather the views and experiences of people of all ages on health and care services.

Taking to the roads in a classic 1969 VW campervan, we parked up at a variety of locations around the county, collecting 2,077 comments during the two-week tour.

Find out what people told us in our report, which is now available on our [website](#). Thanks to everyone who shared their experiences with us.

[Read more](#)

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## Have your say on Healthwatch



There is still time to let us know what you think about our work and give us your thoughts on what you would like us to focus on in 2019. We would love to hear your feedback on how we can shape and improve what we do. Do you know about the services we offer? How can we engage with you and your local community better? And which health and care services in your area could be improved? Our short survey closes on **Friday 21 December**.

[Take the survey](#)

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**We're recruiting!**



Fancy a new challenge? We're looking for a friendly, enthusiastic and organised person to manage our fantastic team of volunteers. If this sounds like you, then we'd love to hear from you! You will need to be quick though as applications must be in by **Monday 10 December!**

Apply now

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## Your views sought on maternity transformation



Make sure you have your say on plans to transform maternity services across BANES, Swindon and Wiltshire. All the information about the proposals and how to make your comments is available on Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group's [website](#).

Find out more

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## More weekend and evening GP appointments



More appointments with a GP, nurse or other healthcare professional are now available in the evenings and weekends, either at your local practice or another nearby NHS service. The initiative is part of a range of measures to help people stay well over the winter months.

Find out more

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## Are you eligible for a free flu jab?



Getting the flu jab is one way you can help keep yourself and your family healthy this winter. If you're over 65, pregnant or have a long term condition, it's really important you get the vaccine and the sooner, the better. If you're someone's main carer, or live in a residential care home you can also get a free jab, while children can get a free nasal spray.

[Find out more](#)

## Dates for your diary



### Friday 7 December

Parkinson's UK event, St Margaret's Hall, Bradford on Avon, 11.30am-1.30pm

Come and say hello at our information stand.

### Thursday 13 December

Christmas coffee morning, Heathwood, Fountain Way, Salisbury, 10am-12pm

Share your experiences of mental health services with us.



A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all of us!



Website Instagram

