



DEVON LOCAL OPTICAL COMMITTEE

GATEKEEPERS OF EYE CARE



Chairman's Introduction

The Association of British Dispensing Opticians have announced a new regional structure starting 1st January 2017. ABDO is making every effort to ensure dispensing opticians are properly represented in an ever changing political landscape.

I am delighted to have been appointed to 1 of 6 of the new Regional Lead roles for ABDO. 10 sub-regional leads have also been appointed to support this new structure.

Barry Duncan, ABDO head of policy and development, said: *"These appointments represent an exciting time for ABDO and its members. The experience, passion and commitment demonstrated by these individuals were overwhelming. Clearly, we have people who want to see dispensing opticians progress in the eye care environment. Moving forward it is important that we support all of the people involved particularly when local meetings to discuss policy and politics arise"*

I also continue as Chairman of the Devon Local Optical Committee and continue to work hard on your behalf promoting eye care locally and pushing for the commissioning of community eye care services in Devon.

Max Halford, Chairman

Peter Heaton-Jones, MP for North Devon visits Eyewear Creations in Barnstaple



Pictured: Jane Williams (Optometrist and Practice Owner) and Peter Heaton-Jones (MP for North Devon)

Peter Heaton-Jones visited Eyewear Creations in Barnstaple on 31st August 2016 to hear more about the importance of regular sight testing and how Opticians Practices are an integral part of Primary Care and how practices can take pressure off the local hospital.

We showed Peter around the practice and demonstrated the innovative and up to date equipment available to patients in community practices. We discussed the what can be provided in practice beyond regular sight testing.



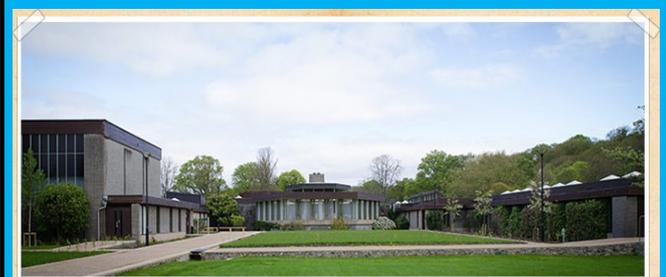
Devon LOC CET Study Day 2016

The Devon LOC Study Day will take place on Friday 18th November 2016 including 7 CET points (4 lectures and 3 points for Peer Review).

More details will be issued next week including the booking form and payment instructions.

Lectures include:

- The Impact of Vascular Health on the Ageing Eye
- A(REDs) to Z(inc) - explaining the relevance of nutrition to ocular health
- Managing Patients with Keratoconus



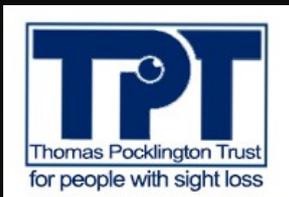
Optical Confederation reacts to 'unhelpful' Which? Advice

Consumer buying advice given in Which? Magazine's Best and worst optician shops for 2016 article has been branded 'unhelpful' by the Optical Confederation (OC).

Speaking on behalf of the Confederation, professional adviser at the Association of Optometrists Geoff Roberson, said: 'Many patients understandably view their prescription as being either 'right' or 'wrong' but there are many factors involved in the prescribing and dispensing of tailored visual correction wear. The lenses and the fit of the glasses work together towards a good or bad result.

For more information click [here](#)

Assistive and Inclusive Home Technology Guide Launched for People with Sight Loss



A NEW Guide on Assistive and Inclusive Home Technology claims that recent technological advances are creating solutions to everyday challenges for people with sight loss.

Launched by Thomas Pocklington Trust, the cutting-edge Guide covers a broad range of high- and low-tech products used for a variety of activities around the home, from online shopping and reading to health and fitness.

See the Guide here: [Assistive and Inclusive Home Technology Guide](#)

Devon Success Regime

The Success Regime Programme has continued to work at pace to address the issues identified in the [Case for Change](#) so the local NHS can improve care through more integrated and locally tailored services, and tackle the projected £100 million a year being spent over and above the money allocated.

The Success Regime produce a regular newsletter—click [here](#) to view the latest copy

Local Optical Committee Support Unit Newsletter

Our Support Unit in London produces a regular newsletter about national and regional developments in optics. The August edition includes an article on our recent MP visit in Plymouth and information on the new Parliamentary Secretary for Community Health and Care



To see the July/ August Newsletter click [here](#)

Devon Local Optical Committee: Representing, supporting and communicating with local contractors and performers to ensure, as gatekeepers of eyecare, effective delivery of Ophthalmic Services across the whole of Devon.

Devon Local Optical Committee

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Scan to view
Website (QR)



Claiming your CET allowance

The allowance for CET undertaken in 2015 in England has increased to £540.

The window for submitting claims is 1 July 2016—31 October 2016.

The address to send completed forms is Ophthalmic Payments Services, Primary Care Support England, PO Box 350, Darlington, DL1 9QN

The address of the area team is NHS England, South Region – South West, Peninsula House, Kingsmill Road, Tamar View Industrial Estate, Saltash, PL12 6LE

To download the claim form click [here](#)



FREE ONLINE CET WITH WOPEC

Devon LOC have **FREE** activation codes for online courses with WOPEC. These include Cataract, Glaucoma, Low vision, PEARS and Learning Disabilities.

If you would like to undertake any of these short online courses and would like more information please contact Jonathan Drew (jdrew@devonloc.co.uk)

National Eye Health Week 2016

The National Eye Health Week this year will take place from 19th—25th September 2016

Vision really matters. Sight is the sense people fear losing the most, yet many of us don't know the best way to look after our eyes. National Eye Health Week aims to change all that

The My Vision Matters website contains information and resources which can be used in your practice including A3 and A4 posters which can be displayed. For more information click [here](#)



Do you have a Twitter account?

For both local and national updates on optics follow the Devon LOC Twitter account (@Devonloc1)

Click [here](#) to see Devon LOC on Twitter

Committee Members:

Chair: Max Halford (max@devonloc.co.uk)
Vice Chair: Charles Bill (charles@devonloc.co.uk)
Secretary: Fiona Hiscox (secretary@devonloc.co.uk)
Treasurer: Nicky Burke (treasurer@devonloc.co.uk)

Business Manager: Jonathan Drew (jdrew@devonloc.co.uk)