

August 2025

Lifestyle and Wellbeing

Personalised Care newsletter from the Fern Centre

The Fern Centre, and services for people living with and beyond cancer in North Devon, continue to be supported through the generosity of local people, the Royal Devon Hospitals Charity and the tireless efforts of our team of superhero volunteers.

For those who may find it more difficult to visit the centre, we now hold outreach hubs each month at Holsworthy (second Thursday) and Ilfracombe (first Tuesday). Full details, including the venues, can be found on page 2 of this newsletter.

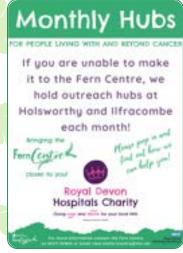
We are looking forward to returning to The Cedars Inn on Thursday 25th September for another exciting and informative Lifestyle and Wellbeing Fair.

The Fern Centre is open from 9.00am until 4.30pm, Monday to Friday. At the centre you will be greeted by one of our lovely volunteers and be offered a hot drink which can be enjoyed in our comfortable open plan seating area.

Best wishes.









Monthly Hubs

FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH AND BEYOND CANCER

If you are unable to make it to the Fern Centre, we hold outreach hubs at Holsworthy and Ilfracombe each month!

Bringing the

Fern entre

closer to you!

Royal Devon Hospitals Charity

Going over and above for your local NHS

Please pop in and find out how we can help you!

For more information contact the Fern Centre on 01271 311855 or email rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net University Healthcan

Holsworthy Monthly Hub

FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH AND BEYOND CANCER

2.00pm - 4.00pm

Thursday 14th August 2025

Manor Suite, Holsworthy Memorial Hall North Road, Holsworthy, EX22 6HF

"support"coffee*help*tea*advice*cake*chat*company"















Next Hub: Thursday 11th September 2025 find and how we

For more information

Ilfracombe Monthly Hub

FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH AND BEYOND CANCER

10.00am - 12.00pm

Tuesday 5th August 2025

Lantern Centre, 44 High Street Ilfracombe, EX34 90B

'support'coffee'help'tea'advice'cake'chat'company'











closer to you! Next Hub: Tuesday 2nd September 2025

Please pop in and find out how we can help you!

For more information contact the Fern Centre on 01271 311855 or email rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net





What's on

August 2025

Date	Time	Activity
Friday 1 st August	9.00am - 12.00pm	Macmillan/CAB Financial Advice. Drop-in.
Friday 1 st August	10.30am - 11.30pm	Chakra Dancing with Jackie. Booking required.
Monday 4th August	1.30pm and 2.45pm	Face to face Yoga Sessions. Booking required. £3 per session.
Tuesday 5 th August	10.00am - 12.00pm	Monthly Ilfracombe Drop-in Hub at the Lantern Centre, Ilfracombe, EX34 9QB.
Thursday 7 th August	ТВА	Bra Fitting Clinic with Nicola Jane. Booking required.
Thursday 7 th August	10.00am - 2.00pm	361 Energy Advice Hub. Drop-in.
Monday 11 th August	1.30pm and 2.45pm	Face to face Yoga Sessions. Booking required. £3 per session.
Tuesday 12 th August	ТВА	Hospital Chaplaincy at the Fern Centre. Revd. Jonathan Daniel for 1:1 appontments.
Wednesday 13 th August	2.00pm - 3.00pm	Healthy Eating with Emily Watts. Drop-in.
Thursday 14 th August	ТВА	Wig Fitting Clinic with Natural Image. Booking required.
Thursday 14 th August	9.00am - 12.00pm	Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund Financial Advice with Peter Mitchell. Drop-in.
Thursday 14 th August	10.00am - 12.00pm	Monthly Holsworthy Drop-in Hub in the Manor Suite, Holsworthy Memorial Hall, EX22 6HF.
Thursday 14 th August	10.00am meet	Fern Centre Walk This Way with SWCP. Contact Huw Davies on 07482 452046.
Thursday 14 th August	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Strummin' and Hummin' afternoon with lan Gracie and Russell Bave. Drop-in.
Friday 15 th August	10.00am - 11.30am	Men's Support Group. Drop-in.
Monday 18 th August	1.30pm and 2.45pm	Face to face Yoga Sessions. Booking required. £3 per session.
Thursday 28 th August	ТВА	Wig Fitting Clinic with Natural Image. Booking required.
Thursday 21 st August	10.00am - 2.00pm	361 Energy Advice Hub. Drop-in.
Thursday 21 st August	10.00am - 12.00pm	Macrame Workshop with Richard. Booking required.





Date	Time	Activity
Monday 25 th August	BANK HOLIDAY	CENTRE CLOSED
Tuesday 26 th August	10.30am - 12.30pm	Mindfulness for Life's Challenges with Paul Beard. Booking required.
Thursday 28 th August	9.00am - 12.00pm	Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund Financial Advice with Peter Mitchell. Drop-in.
Thursday 28 th August	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Strummin' and Hummin' afternoon with lan Gracie and Russell Bave. Drop-in.
Friday 29 th August	10.30am - 12.00pm	Secondary Breast Support Group. Drop-in.
Monday 1 st September	1.30pm and 2.45pm	Face to face Yoga Sessions. Booking required. £3 per session.
Tuesday 2 nd September	10.00am - 12.00pm	Monthly Ilfracombe Drop-in Hub at the Lantern Centre, Ilfracombe, EX34 9QB.
Wednesday 3 rd September	10.30am - 12.30pm	Energy for Wellbeing with Karen Thomas. Booking required.
Thursday 4 th September	ТВА	Bra Fitting Clinic with Nicola Jane. Booking required.
Thursday 4 th September	10.00am - 2.00pm	361 Energy Advice Hub. Drop-in.
Thursday 4 th September	10.30am - 12.30pm	Qi Gong with Ali. Booking required.
Friday 5 th September	9.00am - 12.00pm	Macmillan/CAB Financial Advice. Drop-in.
Friday 5 th September	2.00pm - 3.00pm	Chakra Dancing with Jackie. Booking required.
Monday 8 th September	1.30pm and 2.45pm	Face to face Yoga Sessions. Booking required. £3 per session.
Tuesday 9 th September	ТВА	Hospital Chaplaincy at the Fern Centre. Revd. Jonathan Daniel for 1:1 appontments.
Wednesday 10 th September	10.00am - 11.30am	Gynae Support Group. Drop-in.
Thursday 11 th September	ТВА	Wig Fitting Clinic with Natural Image. Booking required.
Thursday 11 th September	9.00am - 12.00pm	Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund Financial Advice with Peter Mitchell. Drop-in.
Thursday 11 th September	10.00am meet	Fern Centre Walk This Way with SWCP. Contact Huw Davies on 07482 452046.
Thursday 11 th September	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Monthly Holsworthy Drop-in Hub in the Manor Suite, Holsworthy Memorial Hall, EX22 6HF.
Thursday 11 th September	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Strummin' and Hummin' afternoon with lan Gracie and Russell Bave. Drop-in.

















We had great fun joining the charity fundraising team at the Pilton Green Man Day - it was lovely to catch up with so many of you there.





Thank you to everyone who supported our Bingo Night at the Royal North Devon Golf Club - the total raised was an amazing £1685.65! We have already started preparing to return on Friday 7th November for a Quiz Night.



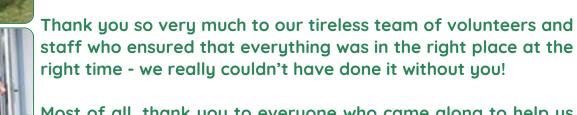
Where can we begin with our 5th Anniversary Garden Party other than to say a massive THANK YOU to everyone!



Special thanks to Ulitimate Buble, the Ilfracombe Red Petticoats and the Fern Centre's very own Strummin' and Hummin' group for keeping us all entertained.



Each person who donated books, crafts, goodies for the cake sale and tombola prizes played a valuable part in making the day very special.





Most of all, thank you to everyone who came along to help us make the celebrations memorable and we look forward to ensuring that the Fern Centre continues to support people in North Devon who are living with and beyond cancer for many years to come. The total raised was ... £1305.43!!



















Support for all affected by

Head & Neck Cancer



Grosvenor Community Church, Old Station Road, Barnstaple, EX32 8PB 2nd Thursday of every month 6.30pm - 8.30pm Just drop in and ask for Jim Turner

Patients, carers and family members all welcome www.theswallows.org.uk or call 01253 428 940





JustGiving



2pm - 4pm

Saturday 8th February

Dit, Conveter & Medicare Plus coming

Saturday 10th May

se for Cultural & Kapitalore saming

Saturday 9th August

Saturday 8th November

At the Boniface Centre, Crediton, EX17 2AH

the most of their services to meet to be been as trade

SOCIAL EVENT + STOMA COMPANIES + STOMA NURSE + LIGHT REFRESHMENTS + RAFFLE

For more details please contact Janice at

janice234ford@gmail.com or tel 07923975051

MINDFULNESS FOR LIFE'S CHALLENGES

WITH PAUL BEARD



10.30am - 12.30pm Tuesday 26th August 2025

Regular mindfulness practice has been proven to be a powerful way to manage challenging, stressful experiences, strengthen resilience and manage emotions. In this popular one-off session, Paul will focus on the use of mindfulness specifically in the midst of difficult experiences and more generally during a stressful period in your life. We will look at the use of mindfulness with real life cancer-related examples, such as the time of diagnosis, physical illness, treatment side effects, pain, averthinking and associated intense emotional states.

Contact the Fern Centre on 01271 311855 or rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net to book your place!







Lifestyle and Wellbeing Fair

For people living with and beyond cancer

10.00am - 2.30pm

Thursday 25th September 2025

at the Cedars Inn, Bickington Road, Barnstaple, EX31 2HE



TALKS IN THE ORANGERY

10.15am - 11.00am Seated Yoga



12.30pm - 1.15pm Keeping Active

1.30pm - 2.15pm Eating Well









MACMILLAN.

CANCER SUPPORT













THE KAY KENDALL LEUKAEMIA FUND

The Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund (KKLF) project offers person-centred support around the following areas:

- · Benefits eligibility checks and help with applications, including Personal Independence Payment (PIP),
- Attendance Allowance (AA) and Disability Living Allowance (DLA)
- Debt Advice
- Charitable grant applications
- Travel and transport schemes e.g. Blue Badge applications/bus pass applications/discount travel schemes/NHS Low Income Scheme
- Housing issues
- Employment advice
- Consumer issues
- Health e.g. access to services/complaints
- · Referrals and signposting to other support organisations

DROP-IN SESSIONS AT THE FERN CENTRE

Thursday 14th August 2025 - 9am-12pm Thursday 28th August 2025 - 9am-12pm Thursday 11th September 2025 - 9am-12pm

KKLF@citizensadviceplymouth.org.uk 01752 507711





MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT



Citizens Advice Torridge, North, Mid & West Devon

at the



9.00am - 12.00pm Friday 1st August 2025 Friday 5th September 2025

Macmillan and Citizens Advice are providing a specialist welfare benefit service to anyone diagnosed with cancer or their carers. There will be a drop-in outreach service at the Fern Centre for patients having treatment at North Devon District Hospital.



Thursday 7th August 2025 • Thursday 21th August 2025 Thursday 4th September 2025

10am - 2pm

Income Max - 361 Energy can check you are receiving all the benefits you are eligible for including Pension Credit, Personal Independence Payment, Disability Living Allowance, Council Tax Reduction, Housing Benefit, Carers and Attendance Allowance. Energy Comparison - 361 Energy can check you are on the cheapest energy tariff, speak to your energy provider to ensure you are in receipt of all the help they offer to vulnerable customers, check your meter is working correctly and your energy bills are accurate

Referrals - 361 Energy can check you are on a Social Water and Social Broadband tariff, apply for Household Support Fund, Warm Home Discount, Blue Badge.

Access - 361 Energy can source energy top up vouchers, food bank vouchers, replacement white goods, portable heaters, heated throws

We don't sell anything – we are a 100% not-for-profit, working to help our North Devon and Torridge community.

> Call us on 01271 599361 or email: info@361energy.org











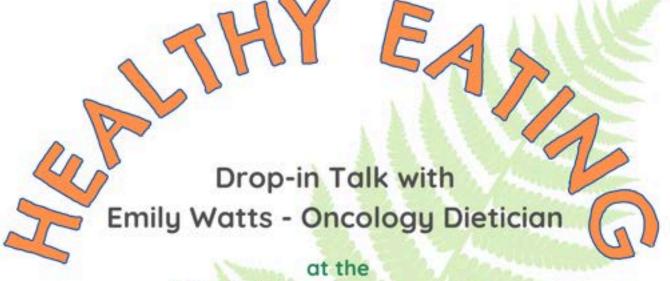














Cancer Wellbeing Centre

opposite the Ladywell Unit, North Devon District Hospital

2.00pm - 3.00pm

Wednesday 13th August 2025

Please contact the Fern Centre on 01271 311855 or rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net for more information.







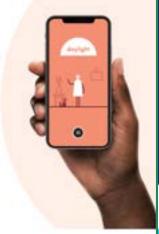
Welcome to Daylight!

Hearing the words "you have cancer" affects more than just your physical health. A cancer diagnosis may also impact your mental health and lead to heightened anxiety,

Daylight is your expert guide through worry and anxiety, whenever and wherever you need it.

Engaging and easy-to-use, Daylight teaches proven exercises to help you manage your worry, day or night, at home or in hospital.

MACMILLAN



MACMILLAN

Sleeplo

Don't let cancer

stop you sleeping

Hearingthe words "youhave cancer" affects

Macmillan has partnered with Big Health to offer free access to Sleepio, a sleep improvement programme to help you overcome

sleepless nights brought on by increased worry.

more than just your physical health, it can affect your ability to sleep as well as usual

sleepio.com/macmillan

min does Sleepin work?

I know what to do on the nights when I wake and can't get back to deep, I on







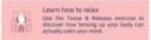
For instant access, visit: sleepio.com/macmillan



on hand to help you every step of the way. Just arreal be able to help, whether it's with your sleep

What you'll learn

Daylight was designed by experts to help you control your worry with four proven exercises:







Begin your journey to worrying less:



Have guestions for us? We've on hand to help you every step of the way. Just email

Need help and support with cancer?

The Macmillan Buddy Service

Get support that is right for you

Our free Hacmillan Buddy service will match you to a volunteer buddy who understands what you're going through. They'll be a listening ear, and your support needs, or anything else you'd like to talk about. They can also point you to other support. available in the local community.

Or, if needed, they might be able to help with some tasks around the home, like potting the washing away or a little cleaning. Support is usually ready to talk about how you're feeling. for up to 12 weeks and can sometimes be extended. We'll review how it's going and signpost you on to other suitable support as and when needed.

The Buddy service showed me that Macmillan has got time for me as a person. It made me feel like a person again and not like I am a hassle to others.

Karen, in Essen

Sign up at macmillan.org.uk/buddies at any time or call 0808 808 00 00 (7 days a week, 8am-8pm).



ALKWOR

DEVON'S NHS TALKING THERAPIES SERVICE

FREE Wellbeing Workshops from the NHS

Improving Sleep

•Thursday 7th August - 10:00

•Wednesday 13th August - 09:30

•Tuesday 19th August - 17:30

You can find more information on the website at www.talkworks.dpt.nhs.uk or by calling 0300 555 3344 to speak to a member of the team.





Man Down UK is a non-profit Community Interest Company, dedicated to supporting men with mental health challenges.

Informal, peer-led talking groups across the UK, providing a safe, judgment-free space for men to share their struggles and connect with others who understand.

Free to attend – nothing to book – just turn up.

Confidential and non-judgmental peer support.

Share or just listen – it's up to you.

No pressure, no obligation.

support@mandown.org

MEN'S SUPPORT GROUP

10.00am - 11.30am Friday 15th August 2025

at the



Contact the Fern Centre on 01271 311855 or rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net for more information.

North Devon Prostate Cancer Support Group



What we do:

- 2 Separate activities
- (1) We go for manageable walks over flattish terrain every other Thursday morning starting at 10:00 am. We normally manage to find somewhere we can get a coffee, cake or even a bacon butty if you wish. We aim to find a location with WC facilities. People friendly dogs on leads welcome.
- (2) Also we like to meet up once a month in Barnstaple for a coffee and a general chat on a Friday morning

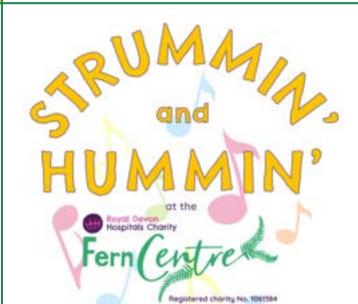
Who can join us:

Any past, present or even new prostate cancer sufferer and or their wives, partners, carers, etc.

Join us on our Facebook page to find more details.

WE ARE NOT AN ALTERNATIVE TO ANY MEDICLE ADVICE

Important Note: All walks are done at the walkers owns risk. The weather cannot be guaranteed.



2pm - 4pm

Thursday 14th August 2025 Thursday 28th August 2025 Thursday 11th September 2025

Contact the Fern Centre on 01271 311855 or rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net for more information.







Monday 4th August - 1.30pm and 2.45pm

Monday 11th August - 1.30pm and 2.45pm

Monday 18th August - 1.30pm and 2.45pm

Monday 25th August - BANK HOLIDAY

Monday 1st September - 1.30pm and 2.45pm

Contact the Fern Centre on 01271 311855 or rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net to book your placel



2pm - 3pm

No session in August

Thursday 4th September 2025

Qi gong is a system of coordinated body-pasture and movement, breathing, and meditation said to be useful for the purposes of health, spirituality, and martial arts training. With roots in Chinese medicine, philosophy, and martial arts, qi gong is traditionally viewed by the Chinese and throughout Asia as a practice to cultivate and balance the mythical life-force qi.

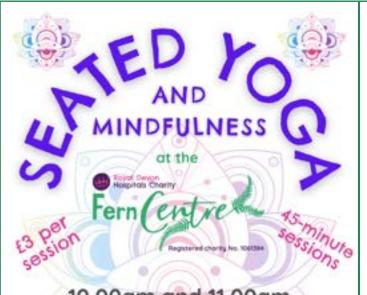
Contact the Fern Centre on 0/271 31855 or rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net to book your placel











10.00am and 11.00am Wednesday 17th September 2025

Using simple, profound healing art practices of mindful chair yoga, bioenergetic movement and breath-work, sessions are carefully crafted to enhance mind-body wellness and quality of life in a safe, compassionate space.

Contact the Fern Centre on 01271 311855 or rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net to book your place!

CHAKRA DANCING

Royal Devan Hospitals Charity

Registered charity No. 1061384

10.30am - 11.30am

Friday 1st August 2025 Friday 5th September 2025

It is recommended that you bring your own water bottle for this activity!

Contact the Fern Centre on 01271 311855 or rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net to book your place!



BRA FITTING SERVICES AVAILABLE AT THE



ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH

Thursday 7th August 2025

Thursday 6th November 2025

Thursday 4" September 2025

Thursday 4th December 2025

Thursday 2rd October 2025

CONTACT THE FERN CENTRE ON 01271 31855 / rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net

OR YOUR CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST FOR MORE INFORMATION





Clinics to be held on the following dates:

Thursday 14th August 2025

Thursday 21" August 2025

Thursday 11" September 2025

Thursday 18th September 2025

Thursday 9th October 2025

Thursday 16th October 2025

Thursday 20th November 2025

Thursday 27th November 2025

Thursday 11th December 2025

Contact the Fern Centre on 01271 311855 or rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net for more information or to book your appointment.







Cancer wellbeing for everyone

Penny Brohn UK is the cancer health and wellbeing charity. We support any adult with any type of cancer, anywhere in the UK.

Whether you are newly diagnosed, going through cancer treatment, adjusting to life after treatment or living with a terminal diagnosis, we can give you the tools and support you need to live better with cancer and feel more in control of your life.

www.pennybrohn.org.uk

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE PART OF A NEW SMALL PEER SUPPORT GROUP?

DO YOU HAVE CHORODIAL MELONOMA (EYE CANCER) AND/OR OTHER EYE CANCERS?

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SPEAK TO PEOPLE IN A SIMILAR SITUATION?



A local resident is trying to meet people going through similar health conditions and start a small peer support group.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED CONTACT: CONNECT@LIVEWELLINBRAUNTON.CO.UK



Cancer Care Map

Cancer Care Map is an online resource to help people living with cancer find care and support services in their local area, anywhere in the UK. The website is run by cancer charity, The Richard Dimbleby Cancer Fund.

For more information, scan the QR code or visit

cancercaremap.org











ENERGY FOR WELLBEING WITH KAREN THOMAS



2.00pm - 4.00pm Wednesday 3rd September

This fun and informal workshop will show you different ways that will reset your energy for the day. The techniques shown will help rebalance your body and mind and enhance your resilience to stress.

Contact the Fern Centre on 01271 311855 or rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net to book your place!









Royal Devon
University Healthcare

TOPLESS SWIM

@tunnelsbeaches

UNNelspedeliss

OF YOUR LOCAL NHS!

REGISTER ONLINE

£25

TUNNELS BEACHES, ILFRACOMBE

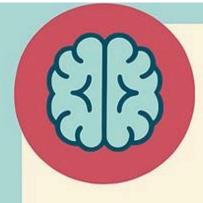
SUNDAY 19TH OCTOBER, 2025











COGNITIVE BEHAVIOURAL THERAPY WORKSHOP

FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF HOT FLUSHES,
NIGHT SWEATS, SLEEP & STRESS
FOLLOWING THE TREATMENT OF BREAST
CANCER



15TH, 22ND, 29TH SEPTEMBER & 6TH, 13TH 20TH OCTOBER (ALL SESSIONS NEED TO BE ATTENDED)



10AM - 12PM

(Drinks provided – feel free to bring your own food)



THE FERN CENTRE, NORTH DEVON DISTRICT HOSPITAL, EX314JB

SPACES ARE LIMITED

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION OR BOOK A PLACE PLEASE CONTACT

Breast Care Team: 01271 349115 rduh.breastcare@nhs.net









SUMMER BBQ

AT QUEEN ANNE'S CAFE
BARNSTAPLE

AUGUST 16TH FROM 6.30PM LICENSE BAR, LIVE MUSIC

£15_{per person} FAMILY & FRIENDS WELCOME
CONTACT GRAHAM KINGSBURY 01271 370672
TO BOOK YOUR TABLE
£10 DEPOSITE BY AUGUST 2ND
£5 BALANCE PAYABLE ON NIGHT



On the second Thursday of each month, the South West Coast Path Association provides a walk exclusively for Fern Centre Walkers to enjoy the local countryside.

10.00am
Thursday 14th August 2025
Brownsham to Blackchurch Rock

Please contact Huw Davies on 07482 452046 for further details.

Visit the South West Coast Path Association website at southwestcoastpath.org.uk



Find out more and book your place at seachangeretreats.org



Friday 7th November 2025

Doors open: 6.30pm Start: 7.00pm

Contact the Fern Centre on 01271 311855 or rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net for more details or to book.









LET'S ALL MOVE AGAINST CANCER 5k Your Way

5k Your Way is a support group for anyone living with and beyond cancer, their families and friends, and those working in cancer services. We're passionate about community, friendship and fun.

We meet up at designated parkruns on the last Saturday of every month. Everyone is welcome! You can walk, jog or run. Try 1k, 2k or 5k. Volunteer, cheer or come for coffee afterwards. Do it YOUR way.

The best project you'll ever work on is you.

8.40am meet for 9.00am start

Saturday 30th August 2025

Rock Park, Barnstaple, EX32 9AQ

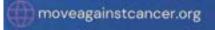
barnstaplegroup@5kyourway.org

Register here: www.moveagainstcancer.org/5kyw-registration/

5K YOUR WAY IS PROVIDED BY:











@5KYourWayMoveAgainstCancer











We're here to support you

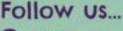
Thank you for reading the Fern Centre monthly
Lifestyle and Wellbeing newsletter. If you would like to
find out more about the Fern Centre and the support
available to patients in North Devon, you can get in
touch using the contact details below.

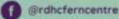
Alternatively, if you're at North Devon District Hospital, please pop in for a cuppa and a chat. The centre is open Monday to Friday from 9am-4.30pm and you'll find us opposite the maternity unit.

The Fern Centre is only here thanks to the incredible fundraising efforts of the local community and the centre continues to be funded by Royal Devon Hospitals Charity (formerly known as Over and Above). If you would like to make a donation to support our work, please scan the QR code. Thank you.













01271 311855



rduh.theferncentre@nhs.net



www.royaldevoncharity.org.uk/fern-centre



