



March 2017

Update to Haslingden PPGs

We are happy to tell you that following the Supper Share & Tell at Haslingden Community Link (HCL), we now have funding to do more of the same. We will be covering different conditions and matters members feel important all in the companionable and sociable ways we do these things. The funding will also provide for Trainer Training for PPG members in the Practice and out in the community for the Practice.

Following the visit of Michelle Pilling – (Lay Advisor Quality and Patient Involvement - Deputy Chair NHS East Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group) to the PPGs we can report positively. Subsequent to our representations to her we have a commitment from the CCG to put their community group funding directly into our community rather than second hand via CVS. We will be looking to all our members and the local groups to put together projects old and new for this money. Michelle met us and was supportive of all this is going on locally. The outcome of this is that REAL will be seeking your input to formalise the More than Medicine model so that it can be replicated in other places. The working brief is [More than Medicine](#) - A Social Movement delivering Social Prescribing while contemporaneously blowing the lid off Loneliness, Isolation and Dementia. We look to you in and of the community to bring to the table your ideas that will make a little go a long way to make our future happen.

REAL has also been charged to deliver the Rossendale Borough Council (Haslingden) Loneliness and Isolation project. This requires working with groups and individuals in Haslingden old and new to develop and support the creation of a neighbour network – designed through co-production with local people which will be: - REACHING – lonely and isolated - SUPPORTING – local activities and services. Andree Pomfret will lead on this. Those of us old enough to remember the Haslingden Challenge Fund Single Regeneration Budget will recall she was a community project officer. She had much to do with HCL, Mary Hindle Centre, St Peter's and other lasting legacies of the fund.

REAL has been commissioned to replicate the Connecting our Community Directory in Hyndburn. We hope Hyndburn will recognise More than Medicine as going hand in hand with using the directory and welcome any approaches from them to visit any of the local initiatives.

We are delighted that HCL has appointed Rob Carder to the post of Enterprise and Contracts Manager. Rob is also well known locally and has led some excellent developments such as Valley at Work, PEER Support, Pennine Arts and the Rossendale Business Awards. We appreciate his skill will be available to all of us, as at HCL he leads the way in making good the gaps widened due to diminishing services in health and social care.

Reminder of who REAL is and what REAL does.

REAL (Rossendale Enterprise Anchor Limited) exists to work with and for the communities of the Rossendale Valley. Its role is to support and increase the capacity of the Voluntary, Community and Faith sectors (VCFS) within the local area, further develop partnerships within public and private sectors and help make Rossendale a better place to live, work and visit.

The Trustees are voluntary social entrepreneurs who are passionate about the area and have long worked to make it a better place to live and work.