

## **IBD Nurse for King's Lynn**

I would like to introduce myself as the new IBD Specialist Nurse for the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, King's Lynn. My name is Fran Bredin and I started working part-time at the QEH in April this year. Prior to this I worked as an IBD Nurse at Addenbrooke's in Cambridge for 8 years – and before that I was working in Dundee, where I trained as a nurse.

NACC played a key role in my development as an IBD Nurse, with the Tayside group funding my first training course, allowing me to complete the IBD Nursing module at St Mark's, Harrow in 2001. I have been involved with the Cambs and W Suffolk local group as a committee member and remain very appreciative of all the excellent work done by CCUK and the support offered both to people in the UK with IBD and to those helping to care for them and research into new treatments and better understanding of the conditions. I still work part-time at Addenbrooke's in the IBD Research Unit, where we have benefitted from several grants from CCUK national office for our work into the genetics of IBD. I am also fortunate to be able to work with CCUK on their Fatigue Research programme funded by the Big Lottery Fund.

It is very exciting to come to the QEH and to set up a new service here. The main aims of the role as identified by the Gastroenterology team here are to provide a point of access for patients and to provide information, education and support – for patients, but also for staff. We are now working to get the basic framework set up – which will be a telephone advice line and a database. We want to work closely with local patients and GPs to set up a service which is appropriate to the needs of those in the NW Norfolk area. To that end, if anyone attending the QEH for their care would be interested in joining our Patient Panel, to advise on service developments, I would be very happy to hear from you.

Until we have our advice line up and running, if anyone with IBD in this area would like to contact me I can be reached via my secretary on 01553 613004.