

ONE YEAR ON WE CELEBRATE YOUR PDA REPS NETWORK IN BOOTS

The PDA reps network are trained to support union members with the majority already also trained as Health & Safety reps and they work tirelessly to represent the interests of PDA members and the wider pharmacist population who work in Boots.



John Lester, PDA Divisional Rep

“I’m proud of the impact of the Reps network and the benefits to members we’ve secured during our first year working through the Joint consultation and negotiating structures, including better pay for the bargaining unit. Some of our other work is supporting members who find themselves in very difficult situations personally and professionally, we are there to support them every step of the way, for example during re-organisation or a store closure.”

Individuals may want different outcomes based on their personal circumstances and our role is to listen and try to help them reach a way forward that suits their objectives.



Anne Davies, Regional Rep (Wales)

Anne has found personal development within the role.

“I’ve learned new IT skills along the way, and I am extremely proud to represent pharmacists through regular meetings with Boots managers. We are building relationships to resolve issues together, locally and earlier which can benefit both members and the company.”



Nav Bhogal, Regional Rep (South East)

“One of the most important skills to learn as a rep is to listen to your pharmacist colleagues. They know the issues and challenges and quite often they are the ones who can contribute to the solutions too, we have much to learn by listening.”

Nav has worked as a pharmacist at Boots for almost 20 years and has represented many members in his role as a PDA Union Rep. “Pharmacists working in Boots should know that you are not alone, as PDA Union members, you have the support of your reps and the PDA behind you.”



Ian Welford, Regional Rep (York & Lincs)

“There are many positives about being a PDA Union Rep, not least the friendship, networking and fantastic support offered by other network reps and the central PDA team.” shares Ian.

Ian has a keen interest in Health & Safety and has supported many pharmacists in his area including on issues of patient and staff safety.



Daniela Rusalim, Regional Rep (East of England)

Daniela has recently also been elected as the Vice President of the NAWP network (National Association of Women Pharmacists) within the PDA and has a keen interest in equalities.

“I’m looking forward to working together with my colleagues within Boots on issues which are important to women pharmacists, wherever they work. I’m also pleased with the positive working relationship I’ve formed with the Boots Regional Team and we work together to resolve issues before they escalate.”



Richard Evans, Rep (Northern Ireland)

“The training for reps offered via the GFTU (General Federation of Trade Unions) was informative and enlightening. It gave us the confidence and skills to be able to answer member queries and represent them where necessary. I would definitely recommend this to other PDA Union Reps.”



Gordon Finlayson, Divisional Rep (Scotland and NI)

PDAU Reps are based all over the UK. “I’m always proud to be able to help a pharmacist colleague and member, whether individually or collectively through our work within Boots or at Regional Level as part of The PDA Union Committee in Scotland.”



Jayesh Ladva, Regional Rep (North West & West Yorkshire)

Jayesh Ladva has so much enthusiasm for his role. “I have loved every minute of meeting new people, building friendships with other reps, and representing those pharmacists who sometimes feel vulnerable. Quite often trade union reps are the voice of the voiceless. That can be true for any pharmacist or pre-reg who joins the PDA, we welcome more members and part of the rep role is letting potential members know about the benefits of membership.”



Hala Jawad, PDA Divisional Rep (London)

One of the proudest moments of being a PDA Divisional Rep for London say Hala Jawad was working with colleagues to support members during TUPE transfers. “TUPE is a very complex matter when the employer is transferring part of the business to another employer, such as some hospital outpatient pharmacies. It’s essential that our pharmacist members are supported and represented during such a time of change.”



Nicola Rees, Regional Rep (Midlands) & Divisional Rep (North)

“It’s been a really busy year for all the reps and a real learning curve. We are pastoral support and care for pharmacists too, alongside some of the more serious member casework that does arise from time to time, whether defending accusations in a disciplinary or raising a grievance. We can help managers resolve problems early, to do the right things in the right way for Boots pharmacists, for example, to support those who work for the company and who have disabilities.”



Tom Graves, Regional Rep (Merseyside and the Midlands)

“It’s really important for those new to the profession to be able to join the PDA Union and get the support that the union can offer early in their career. I’ve shared guidance with many pre-reg pharmacists who are glad to have that independent support in their first few months, after all we are pharmacists too.”



Mithul Shah, Regional Rep (Central & Greater London)

Mithul has been a community pharmacist for over 14 years. “I’ve helped pre-regs to ensure they are paid appropriately for their Sunday working, when you first enter an organisation, you don’t always know what you are entitled too. The reps can help those new to the company find their way, we are all pharmacists, and the reps are very approachable.”



Sukh Jandu, Regional Rep (Greater London South)

“I’ve learned so much as a rep, I’ve supported many members formally and informally, as reps we know who to speak to in the company to get such issues resolved promptly. Reps are there to ensure pharmacists are treated fairly, to hold the company to account if needed, to contribute positively to company developments too. We are a safety net for members.”



Paul Flynn, Regional Rep (West Scotland)

“As a network of reps, we have had such a positive year. Reps and the whole PDA team are here for pharmacists in good times, providing training and education to support members and in the tough times too when members need someone in their corner. We are all human and everyone can make a mistake, the PDA Union are only for pharmacists. we ensure that your reputation is defended, and you are supported.”