

KEEP THE HORTON GENERAL



PRESS RELEASE KTHG on national television show

KTHG Chairman, Keith Strangwood, was a contributor to Victoria Derbyshire's debate on maternity services today. He was interviewed live from the BBC's Oxford studio. Other participants were Shadow Health Secretary, Jonathan Ashworth, and recently retired midwife Peggy Woodward. Alice Watkins, a newly delivered young mum, was interviewed via Skype from her home in Banbury.

Mr Strangwood cited incidents of mothers delivering in their cars en route to the John Radcliffe in Oxford. He told viewers that he knows of a baby that is now suffering life changing disabilities because a consultant was not immediately accessible.

Alice Watkins was asked about the personal impact of not having consultant led services at the Horton. Following her discharge from Warwick Hospital, where she required an emergency caesarean, she became very poorly. Her husband took her to HGH A&E where she was diagnosed with sepsis. She needed a procedure which necessitated her return to Warwick in an ambulance with her six day old baby. She said the lack of a consultant led service in Banbury had a 'massive impact on us. If I could have gone to our local unit – before it was downgraded – it would have made a huge difference'.

Today's interview is the second time in two weeks that a KTHG spokesperson has taken part in a BBC production. Retired consultant Peter Fisher was interviewed on 17 August for 'Rolling back the years' due for transmission this Autumn.

Ends

28 August 2018

For more details contact our Chairman, Keith Strangwood:

Tel: 07740 599736
www.keepthehortongeneral.org



Email: nkarnia@aol.com
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