

Practice Manager

Mrs Tessa Bangs

Opticians

The Opticians' are fully qualified and experienced and attend regular courses and seminars to gain further knowledge and qualification and to remain on the Optical Council Register.

Dispensing Opticians

Our qualified Dispensers will help you to choose the right frame and lenses for your prescription and administer fittings and repairs.

Technician

We are fortunate to have a highly experienced Technician who can cut your new lenses into new frames and existing frames on site and in many cases **while you wait**. Repairs and tinting are conducted using wide facilities available in the workshop at our Huntingdon branch.

Administrative Team

Our fully trained personnel offer a helpful and friendly service and will arrange all appointments, referrals, field of vision testing and retinal photography.

Consultation Fees:

Private sight examination	£35.00
Retinal Photography	£10.00
HRT3 Scan optic nerve head	£40.00
HRT3 Scan macula	£25.00
Annual contact lens examination	£37.00
Fitting Fee for single vision contact lenses	£65.00
Fitting Fee for multi focal/bifocal contact lenses	£110.00

(Subject to change)

Comments and complaints

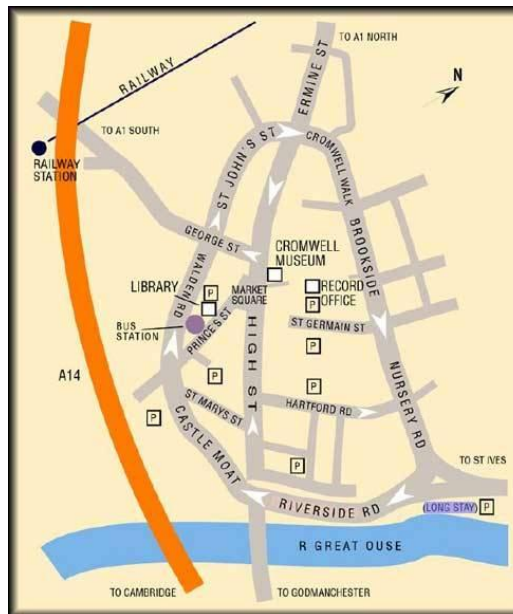
Gathercole and Ward will at all times endeavour to provide a good service and we are always pleased to receive comments and suggestions from patients. These may be made personally or in a letter to the Practice Manager.

Primary Care Trust

We fall under the umbrella of the Cambridgeshire Primary Care Trust. The Priory, Priory Road, St.Ives, PE27 5BB.

Parking

Gathercole & Ward Opticians in Huntingdon have a car park that can be accessed via Malthouse close, by Waitrose car park. Patients are welcome to use our car park if there are any spaces, especially the elderly who can access our premises through our back door. But please remember our opening hours, if there are no spaces there are council car parks at the rear.



GATHERCOLE & WARD OPTICIANS

**36 High Street
Huntingdon
Cambridgeshire
PE29 3AQ**

Tel: 01480 453208/458079

Fax: 01480 412777

Website: www.gathercoleandward.co.uk

E-mail: opticians@gathercoleandward.co.uk

Mr M J Ward FBOA, FSMC,
BSc (Hons)

Mrs S Bushby BSc (Hons),
MCOptom

Dr K Latham PhD, BSc (Hons),
MCOptom

Mrs S Urquhart BSc (Hons) MCOptom

Mrs T Bangs FBDO

Also at

13 The Broadway,
St.Ives
01480 462433

102 High St.
Ramsey
01487 812358

Consultation Hours:

Monday – Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm

Saturday 9:00am to 4:00pm

Gathercole & Ward Optometrists is an independent practice. We have been providing high quality eye-care for over 50 years. As independent opticians we are committed to providing you with a friendly and personal service as well as the highest standards of eye care. Our qualified optometrists and dispensing opticians provide a professional service for patients of all ages, from the initial eye examination to the choice and fitting of the frames and lenses.

Appointments:**01480 453208/458079**

Consultations are arranged by appointment, however, urgent cases will be seen on the same day when possible, otherwise you will be offered the first available time. We will, if at all possible, give you an appointment with the Optician of your choice.

If you cannot keep your appointment, please let us know and we will be happy to re-arrange your appointment.

Home Visits: 01480 462433

We conduct home visits via our St.Ives practice. Visits can be arranged if you are over sixty, housebound and on benefits. If you are unable to attend any of our practices please contact us and we will be happy to arrange a visit with Mrs Hodgson. Home visits usually take place once or twice a month, local to Huntingdon, St.Ives and Ramsey. Mrs Hodgson will bring a selection of frames to choose when required and arrange fittings when possible. Private home visits may also be arranged please call for details.

Disabled Patients

The consulting rooms are entirely at ground level. We have a removable ramp, which can be used at the front or rear of the practice. Because our frame room is upstairs at our St.Ives and Huntingdon branch, our Dispensers' will be happy to bring a selection of frames downstairs to try on. Alternatively, patients can park on the High Street before 10am and after 4pm.

Glaucoma Changes scheme (Changes 1 & 2 available at the Huntingdon practice. Changes 1 available at the Ramsey practice).

Gathercole & Ward participates in the CHANGES (Community and Hinchingsbrooke Allied Network Glaucoma Evaluation) Scheme. Patients who are suspected of having glaucoma are evaluated in the practice by our Optometrists with a Special Interest (OSI) in Glaucoma before either seeing a Consultant Ophthalmologist at Hinchingsbrooke Hospital or being discharged to their own Optometrist. In future, our OSIs will be seeing patients with stable glaucoma in the practice, reducing the need for these patients to visit the hospital. The CHANGES scheme was the runner-up in the 2007 'Allergan Glaucoma Achievement Award'.

Diabetic Screening

The practice has two optometrists (*Sheila Urquhart and Sally Bushby*) who have been accredited by Hinchingsbrooke Hospital to carry out diabetic retinopathy screening. People who suffer from diabetes, either insulin dependent or diet controlled, are at risk of developing complications that can affect their sight and the health of their eyes. Screening for signs of diabetic eye disease should be carried out on a yearly basis, or more frequently where appropriate. The screening involves using eye drops to widen the pupils and then taking a photograph of the back of the eyes. The optometrist is then able to examine the photograph and decide if there are any changes or complications that need further investigation. Traditionally this has been carried out in the hospital eye department, however with the appropriate equipment and accreditation this can now be carried out within our Huntingdon practice.

Direct Cataract Referrals/Emergencies

Our Opticians will refer patients needing their cataract removed directly to Hinchingsbrooke Hospital and will notify patient GP'S. All emergencies will be treated as promptly as possible and referred to the hospital when required.

The Heidelberg HRT3 (available at the Huntingdon practice only)

The Heidelberg HRT3 is one of the most advanced tests available for the early detection and monitoring of Glaucoma and Macula Degeneration. Speak to your optician and protect your most treasured sense from the risk of damage.

Contact Lens Specialists

Our Opticians will be able to ascertain suitability for CL wear. Measurements will establish an initial choice of contact lens fit and discussions between patient and practitioner will help to decide on best contact lens type. We offer a wide bank of trial lenses and teach insertion removal and care of contact lenses. **Free trials are available for soft disposable lenses.**

Retinal Photography (available at the Huntingdon & Ramsey practice only)

This state of the art digital retinal camera takes an instant photograph of the back of the eye. The pictures are stored on the computer, which allows us to look for changes from one visit to the next. It also displays a better and more detailed inspection of the most important central area of the retina.

Frame Room

We hold an extensive range of Designer Frames such as **Lindberg, Prada, Ted Baker, Gucci, Christian Dior, Elle, Face a Face Miu Miu** and many more offering the latest designs and fashion. Alternatively, get a spare pair of glasses or sunglasses from only £30.00 when you pick two frames from our selected range. That's two complete single vision pairs for as little as £100!

We have a Zero Tolerance policy for violent or abusive behaviour July 2007