

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 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. Fittings take place every wednesday morning and Thursdays.

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 our workshop at the 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	£36.00
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

There is restricted free parking along The Broadway for one hour. Alternatively, the nearest public car park is The Globe, or patients can try the car parks near Waitrose.



GATHERCOLE & WARD OPTICIANS

**13 The Broadway
St.Ives
Huntingdon
Cambridgeshire
PE27 5BX**

Tel: 01480 462433

Fax: 01480 465225

**Website: www.gathercoleandward.co.uk
e-mail: accounts@gathercoleandward.co.uk**

Mrs L Hodgson BSc (Hons) FCOptom

Mr M Esmail BSc (Hons) MCOptom

Also at

*36 High Street,
Huntingdon
01480 453208*

*102 High Street
Ramsey
01487 812358*

Opening Hours:	Monday
	9am to 12:30pm
Tuesday	9am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm
Wednesday	9am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm
Thursday	9am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm
Friday	9am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm
Saturday	9:00am to 12:30pm

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 462433

Mrs Hodgson is available **Wednesday** mornings. Mr Esmail is available **Thursdays**. 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 at our St.Ives practice. Because our frame room is upstairs at our St.Ives and Huntingdon branch, our Dispenser will be happy to bring a selection of frames downstairs to try on.

Glaucoma Changes scheme (available at the Huntingdon practice only for Changes 1 & 2, available at Ramsey practice for Changes 1 appointments only).

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 (available at the Huntingdon practice only).

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

All initial contact lens fits to be booked with our Huntingdon Branch. 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, Gucci, Elle, Superdry, Radley** and many more offering the latest designs and fashion. With our largest selection at our Huntingdon branch. Alternatively, get a spare pair of glasses or sunglasses from only £30.00 when you pick a frame from our selected range. That's two complete single vision pairs for as little as £100!