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## Annual Conference



The OcuMel UK conference takes place annually in September, and involves experts in all aspects of ocular melanoma. The day is aimed at patients and caregivers, but medical professionals often find the event useful and are very welcome to take part. We build in plenty of time for socialising and networking, including morning and afternoon coffee breaks, and an hour for lunch.

We know many of our members are looking forward to meeting up with friends they have met online, perhaps for the first time, and to meet new contacts. This is a great opportunity to celebrate how far OcuMel UK has come, and to set the tone for future years.

We are awaiting confirmation for speakers in medical oncology, research and patient participation. We will also be holding our popular patient panel, where patients tell their treatment stories. We will update the speaker information as they are confirmed.

Attendance at the event, including refreshments, is completely free. In addition, OcuMel UK has funding to cover travel for those who would otherwise be unable to afford to attend, and for travel and accommodation for those coming a distance who would otherwise be unable to attend. Please call Jo Gumbs to discuss your requirements on 0300 790 0512 or email her via [Jo@ocumeluk.org](mailto:Jo@ocumeluk.org).

To book your ticket please click [here](#)

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## London Marathon 2018



OcuMel UK have been lucky enough to win a place in the 2018 London Marathon.

Would you or someone you know like to run for OcuMel UK in 2018?

As we know this is a popular event, and deciding who this place goes to would be a tough call, we would like you to send us a short video (less than 2 mins) telling us about yourself and why you want to take part.

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## London Marathon 2018 - cont.



We want to know what OcuMel UK means to you and why you want to raise funds and awareness.

Send your videos to [supporter.care@ocumeluk.org](mailto:supporter.care@ocumeluk.org) by Friday 28th July. We will post all entries onto our Facebook page, and the one with the most likes will win!

Please note: Runners need to raise more than our entrance fee of £330 plus VAT.

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## Eye Smart Campaign



Earlier this year Sudbury optician, Wardale Williams, contacted us regarding an awareness campaign they wanted to launch following their branch had detected two customers with serious conditions, one of whom was our member Ralph McMurray.

Ralph was diagnosed and treated in 2016 by Moorfields in London, and since then he has been instrumental at speaking with his optometrist about raising awareness of this condition.

The Eye Smart Campaign has been rolled out across Wardale Williams and Observatory Opticians branches, and has so far raised just over £800 split equally between OcuMel UK and CLIC Sargent.

You can read an article from their local paper [here](#)

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## Patient Representatives



We have a fantastic network of dedicated volunteers fulfilling the roles of Patient Representative, offering a listening ear and helping you make contact with others affected by ocular melanoma.

Quite often when people are first diagnosed speaking with a Patient Representative can be a lifeline. Training is available and so if you feel this is something you would be interested in doing please do not hesitate to contact us, we would love to hear from you .

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## Text Donate



If you are happy to make a contribution to our work or are happy to encourage others to do, text donate can be a quick easy way for many. To do so, text OMUK20 space and the amount you'd like to donate to 70070.

For example, if you wanted to donate £5, you would write OMUK20 £5 and send this by text to 70070. Thank you.

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We would like to take a moment to remember those we have sadly lost. Each loss is heartbreaking for their family and friends, but also felt by the wider OM community.

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This journey is difficult at times and so it can take strength to reach out for help. If you need support, please talk to someone.

<b><u>OcuMel UK Helpline</u></b>	(Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri - 11am-1pm)	<b>0300 790 0512</b>
<b><u>Samaritans</u></b>	(24 hours a day, 365 days a year)	<b>116 123</b> Freephone
<b><u>MacMillan</u></b>	(Monday to Friday 9-8pm)	<b>0808 808 00 00</b>
<b><u>Cruse Bereavement</u></b>	(Mon & Fri 9.30-5pm, Tues, Weds & Thurs 9.30-8pm)	<b>0808 808 1677</b>
<b><u>MIND</u></b>	(Monday to Friday 9-6pm)	<b>0300 123 3393</b>

 **0300 790 0512**

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