





# Tuesday September 7<sup>th</sup> 2021 11am – 1pm





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### **Open Information/ Coffee Morning at Petersham Hall!**

Many of you have been asking for months, when our support group meetings will be back. I'm really pleased to tell you now that we are planning to go back on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September. We are really looking forward to seeing you all, old and new members. Although the government have lifted restrictions. It is everyone's responsibility to keep everyone safe. Below are a few changes and guidelines that will help improve our service and keep everyone safe. Please read carefully....

#### Membership updates

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September will be an open information/coffee morning for anyone interested in joining us. There will be a few changes when we return. We will give a short presentation to inform everyone about our new online membership area, where all members old and new will be asked to sign up, and before you panic, we will help you if you are not confident in filling in electronic forms.

#### **Payment Plan**

As part of keeping a covid safe environment will not be offering a drop-in service. We will also be keeping the monthly payment plan. There will be an option of PAYG. However, you will still need to book in advance if places are available.

#### **Keeping a Covid Safe Environment**

- We will be asking anyone attending group meetings to take a Lateral Flow Test prior to attending the meetings. These tests are free and can be ordered from the government website. All adults are being encouraged to take them regularly. If you test positive you must go and have a Covid Test. YOU MUST NOT ATTEND GROUP MEETINGS OR TAI CHI CLASSES.
- On arrival, we will ask you to anti-bac on entry and sign in on the NHS App. We also have a thermometer to take your temperature.
- We will ask you to wear face masks (**no face visors** as they have been proven to not provide protection) to enter the hall and while you are moving around. You may take them off while you take part in tai chi or sitting at a table.
- The windows will be kept open for ventilation so you will need to dress appropriately in case it gets cold.
- We will be doing everything we can to make the meetings covid safe. However, if you are anxious about doing any of the above, we suggest you join us by zoom for the time being.

Web address – https://fibroactive.co.uk









## Falls Prevention Programme Open to anyone aged 18+ in the community

We are really excited to be able to offer a wider range of classes starting in September 2021 until July 2022. These courses will run in term time throughout the year and will be live on zoom if there is demand. Taster sessions can be booked for any of the courses. Please see our Tai Chi pages at **fibroactive.co.uk** for more information.

#### **Small Steps to Health Class**



Our unique Small Steps to Health class offers a combination of Otago strength and balance exercises and tai chi movement. These mindful movements will help strengthen your core and increase your confidence. These classes are ideal for

everyone. They help you progress from seated to standing and they are ideal if you want to progress to tai chi, giving you a good grounding in leg movements.



# Dr Lam Tai Chi for Arthritis Sun style part 1 & 2 including: Principle and Falls Prevention components.

These classes are open to all abilities and are especially beneficial for beginners and people who are unable to exercise conventionally. It's a great introduction to Tai Chi and each person can go at their own pace. We specialise in supporting

people with Fibromyalgia, CFS/ME, Arthritis and limited abilities. Sun style is contained with smaller steps, it can also be done seated. We use the step wise progressive teaching method to aid your learning.



#### Traditional Yang Style Tai Chi (Class Full)

For those of you who are ready for a bit more of a challenge, our yang class offers 8. 16 and 24 step. The 24 step is the most popular and practiced form in the world. 'The 24 Step Taijiguan routine retains the inner essence and finesse of this great

traditional art and yet it is easy for beginners to learn.' A typical class consists of an energetic warm up, qigong routine and consolidating and learning new postures. Yang style is flowing and graceful and will help improve your balance to the next level.



#### **British Health Qigong**

Are you wanting to improve your flexibility and strength? Our British Health Qigong Association routines will be perfect for you. These routines need very little space to practice and are the perfect a compliment to your health and wellness routine. The

moves make up routines that are slow and graceful and using controlled breathing techniques, we close the class with a short relaxation to leave you relaxed and energised.

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#### Our story in a nut shell

Jane and I started out Tai Chi journey 5 years ago. When we started, I spent weeks wishing time away, wondering why I was there, because I was so fatigued, I couldn't remember the moves and my hands felt like bricks. If it wasn't for Jane who has become the most dependable training buddy in the world. I would have probably given up.



For Jane, it helped her anxiety and from the start of the first class,

she didn't think of anything else for a whole hour. We invested in our health and persisted. I started to walk again from being dependent on a mobility scooter and Jane practiced daily to help focus and stay grounded. It has reduced my pain levels and made them manageable by improving the strength and flexibility in my muscles. It is not a cure for our illness's but they would be a damn site worse if I didn't practice. We found the tai chi so beneficial that we became instructors ourselves so we could originally sustain our group classes. However, we soon realised we could



support anyone in the community too.

Fast forward and today we have been instructors with Dr Lam's Tai Chi for Health Institute for 3 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> years. If it wasn't for the Tai Chi for Arthritis programme, I would not have been able to manage Yang Style.

This year we have taken advantage of lockdown and zoom and we successfully trained at Otago and Falls Prevention Instructors.

We also qualified as Level 1 Deyin Institute Instructors.

And British Health Qigong Association Instructors.

I won't lie, it has been challenging physically, emotionally and chronic 'illnessy' but nothing is worth it without the challenge. I am able to live my life with Fibro and I'm hoping that we can inspire you too to start this amazing gentle exercise with all it's magical properties of Chi.



Our classes are run in a safe and fun environment. There is no competition and no race, as learning tai chi is infinite. Everyone learns at their own pace and there's nothing to be ashamed about. Every practice you learn something new about yourself.

All we ask is that you invest in your health. After learning your chosen routine, you will have a skill for life and you can practice anywhere. Practice is key! On your worst day you can walk away feeling energised and uplifted.

The income from our classes helps to sustain the support group sessions.

We look forward to welcoming you))



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### **Positive Fibro Active**

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