

Corridor nursing, Bad, but what next!!

Today I read news about an advertisement for a “corridor nurse”.

Reported by a well-known health correspondent and certainly worthy of bringing up, what he hadn't done, and what most of us don't do, is offer an alternative solution to the problem!!

So many issues are brought into the public domain about how our country and our people, society overall, are suffering during these increasingly difficult times. Food poverty, child safety and malnutrition, homelessness, a safe warm environment for our elderly, difficulty in obtaining healthcare from the NHS, a general shortage of trained medical and nursing staff, and so many more, huge problems.

Nowhere though do I read positive and constructive suggestions and broader long term solutions. We, the public, and our correspondents often criticise, without offering a helpful alternative.

The present government was elected six months ago before which we had another party's government in power for 14 years. Perhaps some of those involved in the previous government made obscene amounts of money out of national emergencies involving COVID etc. But that is human nature and perhaps its sadder side. However, it's all water beneath the bridge!

So what is the present government doing, and what can we, as a people do to help. Firstly, we have the issue of difficult finances, most of which

has been a legacy left behind by the previous government and COVID, which really shook the world. I do not wish to get involved in theories about what and who to blame, but the fact remains that we are in a difficult situation financially.

As a nation we lack of natural resources and we have tended to depend on other countries for supplying us with commodities that require input of human labour. This is because human labour here is expensive, which makes exports expensive. Apart from management, hospitality, oil and gas, education, science and technology and tourism, we do not have much else to barter with the wider world.

Effective healthcare has been all but destroyed over the last decade where there were a lot of medical and scientific advances but staffing issues and corporate efficiency have not been addressed effectively. It is important that we do something about this problem. Reassuring the “worried well” who often end up clogging the healthcare system may be the single biggest thing that may help the NHS. Physician Associates need to be renamed as Physician Assistants and we need clarity and honesty in dealing with this issue. We as a nation will definitely not be able to offer the nation enough doctors and nurses but we need to use Physician Assistants wisely and more importantly safely so that patient care is not compromised and the safety of physician assistants also is maintained. I would expect a lot of noise on social media regarding this but we need to find a safe and effective alternative to address staffing shortages.

So what can we do and I believe that each of us needs to do our bit. Firstly we need to support the present government who have inherited this sorry situation. It's our government that we elected but there is massive amounts of extraneous "noise" where we do not seem to support the policies that this government is trying to enact. I don't believe we have a choice other than increased taxes, decreasing financial waste and cutting costs.

All our national union leaders are asking for higher salaries for the public sector which is perfectly understandable because the cost of living has risen over the last decade without any similar rise in salaries. But "Rome wasn't built in a day" and this problem can also not be solved within a short time so firstly we need to give this government some time. Six months is not enough and they need a full parliamentary term and be allowed to focus on the things that matter. There is so much time and effort wasted in trying to fight those speaking up against! Social Media is not helping!!

Taxing large companies and rich corporations and super rich isn't going to work either because we are a capitalist country and over the last few years we've seen capitalism at its worst, most irresponsible, and greediest. Complete socialism and communism is of course not the answer but offering this government some time would be good, so that they have the chance, the opportunity, undisturbed, to set matters right in making the world a fairer place.

As the public, I believe that we can stop asking for everything to be sorted out instantly, we can stop blowing our own trumpet and we can stop pushing our personal demands. We must ask not what we can get from the country but what we can offer, to the country, and to society and to important global issues. Salary raises need to be offered over a period of time, and we need to ask for the opportunity to serve society and offer work pro bono, if that's something that can be financially manageable. Our super rich need to come out and offer financial help to the nation.

To those that are working hard to set our national situation right, we, the public need to demonstrate them kindness. Our penchant for selfish self-gratification makes us behave that way everywhere, even on the road, with bad driving and road rage. The same attitude spills into all aspects of society. We must modify our behaviours and practice more patience and kindness.

There is a lot of foreign intervention within countries due to globalisation, the Internet, and popular and populist social media channels. That needs effective self-regulation and while some of it involves the effect on freedom of speech, we know that with great power comes great responsibility and social media companies need to address it as soon as possible.

The process of offering constructive ideas is to be encouraged, because noise leads to good ideas getting drowned and lost in noisy environments.

Finally the issue of confounding and delaying “red tape” needs to be addressed. The system at present is superb at addressing how something cannot be done, and I have seen this in the health service. We need to change our attitude to see how we can obtain results, how we can get things done safely. We need people who have a “can do” attitude to these issues, a positive attitude.

While the fight for diversity equality inclusivity is apparently dying a death, I believe that now it's time for that noise to be dumbled down because diversity and fairness should be ingrained into our souls and it should be part of an everyday routine for all of us.

Unless each of us plays our part, faithfully and loyally, and unless Capitalists and the rich moderate their greed, unless we put our generosity into action and unless we want a better world for those to follow, I am afraid our nation is in trouble. Let us offer this government some time, and meanwhile, think of each of us across the country as our neighbour, the one we look after, and care for.

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12th January 2025