



LINK – UP Spring 2008 edition no 9

Pulborough Patient Link
your patient participation group

Website - www.pmgdoctors.co.uk for information on PPL, Pulborough Medical Group, appointments, prescriptions, services and useful links to other websites

PPL EVENTS - The forthcoming PPL events are planned for 2008:

GETTING OLDER & “WISER” EXHIBITION

Friday, 18th April, 2.00-6.00pm
Pulborough Village Hall

This event will not just be about health issues, although they will be a major part, but also about Well-being, and the Care and Support and activities available in our area for those of us feeling we are getting older but want to remain fit and active.

PLEASE COME AND JOIN US - OVER 25 STANDS WILL BE EXHIBITING
EVERYBODY WELCOME
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Virtual Wards

Wednesday 4th June 2008 -- 7-9pm
Pulborough Village Hall

doors opening at 6.30pm. Refreshments provided.

TALK by Lucy Botting (Associate Director of Provider Modernisation & Professional Development, WS PCT) on VIRTUAL WARDS

Virtual Wards mean an integrated approach to caring for patients at home. Patients will have one access point manned 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Nurses with varying levels of training, will receive further training to enhance their skills so that each nurse can perform more tasks than currently and ward team could have a mix of community matron, district nurses, community nurse, intensive care at home nursing team and health care assistants with the most appropriate person going into care for the patient.

Come along and hear about these exciting new initiatives in healthcare.

SPOTLIGHT ON PULBOROUGH MEDICAL GROUP (PMG)

Dr Jonathan Serjeant joined Pulborough Medical Group as their new partner, starting on Monday 18th February 2008. Dr Serjeant qualified as a doctor from Guys and St Thomas hospital in 1996. He gained his MRCGP and Diploma in Family Planning in 2002.

Dr Serjeant has extensive experience in health service redesign and service implementation. He works with a number of PCTs providing consultancy in Primary Care Health models. He hopes to use this experience to continue to develop PMG to benefit the community for the future.

Jonathan has young family of two boys. He plays tennis at the Weald and Downland Tennis Club in Hurstpierpoint and enjoys golf and cycling.

He has a keen interest in music and plays the keyboard and guitar, and has been known to do the occasional live performance.

Other new members of staff:-

Practice Nurse - Karen Jones joined PMG on 3rd December 2007 as a treatment room nurse undertaking a variety of nursing procedures including wound management, measuring blood pressure, routine injections as prescribed, immunisations, ECG's, ear syringing, assisting with minor operations/procedures, and health promotion.

Computer Clerk - Jonathan Barron joined PMG on 7th January 2008 and his work includes dealing with all post, scanning information onto patients' records, assisting computer manager with IT and computer issues.

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A MEDICAL STUDENT AT PULBOROUGH MEDICAL GROUP Feb 2008

Hello, I am Alice Murray, a visiting final year medical student from University College, London. I live in London, but chose to come to Pulborough to get an experience of a rural GP near my sister (who owns the East Beach Café in Littlehampton. Have you been? I must recommend it!).

On the day that I arrived for my month at PMG I was extremely pleased to have been heralded as a 'senior' medical student in the practice notices. We are generally considered the lowest in the pecking order in hospitals, so I immediately knew I would love my time in Pulborough.

A day in my life attached to a hospital is pretty brutal; ward rounds with tough consultants, nurses who are irritated by your very existence and hectic A&E visits where you are collared to run off and collect urine samples, sputum pots and blood results.

At PMG my day starts with a cup of coffee and a chance to sit in with charming and welcoming GPs. As patients are telephoned or called in for consultations, I am there soaking up the wisdom of experienced professionals.

Consultations varied enormously and every patient seemed to bring an interesting complaint. I was always grateful that so many patients were willing to have me sit in, listen to and learn about their problems.

As my time went on I was allowed to see patients myself and use the vast amount of knowledge I am supposed to have acquired to form a diagnosis and relevant management plan. I hope I got a few right!

I tried to vary my experiences at PMG, using the four weeks to see as much of what the practice had to offer as possible. I sat in on surgeries with almost every doctor (a privileged position as I get to compare all their styles!) I saw the excellent nurses at work, got my back clicked into place, took the 'Beat the Blues' computer course, gave injections and watched minor surgery.

In addition, I completed a review of all the patients taking methotrexate (a medication used for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis and Crohn's disease) and the frequency of their blood tests, to check that the GPs were requesting regular tests for them; you'll be pleased to know that they were!.

I have been amazed at the efficiency of the practice, the professionalism of the staff, the enormous range of skills they have and above all their kindness.

Thank you to the patients who helped me to understand a little bit about their health issues.

Rother Valley Croquet Club

How can you combine:
Gentle, healthy exercise
With
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And
The challenge of mastering a new skill
And
Good company with all ages and both sexes?
It's easy: simply join a croquet club

The Rother Valley Croquet Club is probably the nearest such club for readers of this newsletter. Based at Duncton, 2 miles south of Petworth, its members come from Midhurst, Petworth, Pulborough, Storrington and all the surrounding villages. At Duncton we have two full size lawns and a smaller practice lawn, all maintained to a high standard, as well as our own club house with facilities all in the most glorious surroundings. We welcome new members, beginnings as well as experienced players and in 2007 we had some 70 members. Further information and membership details from the undermentioned. Play begins in April, so to get the most benefit anyone interested is urged to apply as soon as possible.

Peter Cole 01798 873238

Presentation to PMG by PPL



The PPL have made a donation to PMG to cover the cost of the two new TV screens which display health messaging and are sited in the ground floor entrance and first floor waiting room. Partners and Staff at PMG were delighted with the new screens, which can keep patients up-to-date with health promotions, new services and other relevant information.

Art-room Exhibiting at PMG

Art-room promotes local professional artists with the help of local businesses. As well as being able to view the Artist's work on the art-room website – www.art-room.net, you can see the artwork at various sites including Pulborough Primary Care Centre. All of the artists work is for sale, either as original paintings or prints and can only be ordered through the Art-room.

IMPORTANT PATIENT NOTICE

Currently PMG and Tesco Supermarket are jointly working on improving parking and access to the Primary Care Centre and we look forward to updating patients in due course.

Parking in the rear car park of Pulborough Primary Care Centre is for doctors, staff and tenants who work in the building and display a parking permit.

The only patient parking in the rear car park is for our disabled patients who can use the 2 designated disabled patient parking spaces displaying a permit.

WE SHARE THE TESCO CAR PARK SO ALL PATIENTS SHOULD PARK IN TESCO'S

PARKING IS FREE BUT FOR A MAXIMUM PERIOD OF 2 HOURS WITH NO RETURN IN THE FOLLOWING 2 HOUR PERIOD

PPL COMMITTEE

Chairman	Vacancy – Hilary Willoughby acting Chair
Vice-Chairman	Hilary Willoughby
Hon Secretary	Mavis Cooper
Hon Treasurer	Warwick Dean Taylor
Membership Secretary	Jane Aylott
Social Secretary	Valerie Beswick
PMG Liaison Officer	Liz Coulthard
Newsletter editor	Vacancy – Liz Coulthard acting news letter editor
Committee Members:	Ray Thomas, Patricia Newcombe and Colin Newton
Associate member:	P&DCCA Representative - awaiting new associate member

Joint Working Groups with Doctors and Manager

Practice Based Commissioning Colin Newton and Hilary Willoughby

Chris Preece has recently stood down as Chair of the PPL and we would like to thank him for his support and hard work with the Committee, this results in a vacancy for Chair.

COMMUNITY TRANSPORT SCHEME

Gill Boys was the P&DCCA representative in her role as Community Transport Coordinator for PMG. Gill retired from running this very successful transport scheme in January 2008 and we would like to thank her for all her hard work and commitment. Her successor is Mike Clenshaw.

PPL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN US PLEASE COMPLETE THIS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM:

NAME

ADDRESS

.....

POST CODE

TEL NUMBER EMAIL

I WOULD BE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A COMMITTEE MEMBER – YES/NO

I WOULD BE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CORE HELPER – YES/NO

MEMBERSHIP FEE PER HOUSEHOLD IS £3.00. CHEQUES SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO PULBOROUGH PATIENT LINK, OR CASH CAN BE PAID TO RECEPTION AT THE SURGERY. PLEASE COMPLETE FORM AND EITHER LEAVE AT SURGERY OR POST TO MRS J AYLOTT, PPL MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY, SWIFT COTTAGE, BARN HOUSE LANE, PULBOROUGH RH20 2BS.

BEING A COMMITTEE MEMBER (WHAT IT MEANS) The PPL Committee help coordinate and develop a working partnership the patients and the medical staff.; they promote the PPL group and try to attract new members; they work closely with the doctors and Pulborough Medical Group to develop new services; they work jointly with PMG to set up health events; they are involved with the results of the annual patient survey and help to formulate priorities for the future. Meetings are held at PMG around 4-5 times per year, from approximately 6-8pm. The Honorary Secretary prepares the Agenda and Minutes; the Honorary Treasurer prepares a financial report and the Membership Secretary updates the committee on the membership lists. The Committee work together to produce the Newsletters and produce articles for the PPL website and various other means to improve good communication between the surgery and patients. The Committee are currently looking to recruit new committee members who would be enthusiastic and proactive to help them with the range of work to boost membership; deal with fundraising and promoting health education events.

CORE HELPER – (WHAT IT MEANS) If you are interested in helping PPL with their events either by selling raffle tickets at the surgery or serving teas at events, if you would like to join a friendly group and learn more about your health services, then please complete the application form above and return as directed, indicating that you would be interested in joining a ‘Core Helpers’

To find out more about what we do, don't forget to look on the PMG website (www.pmgdoctors.co.uk) and follow the link to PPL

SPOTLIGHT SERVICES HELD AT PULBOROUGH MEDICAL GROUP

NHS Physiotherapy

PMG offer a variety of services from health professionals in specialist clinics, these are sometimes referred to as "Outreach Clinics which means that patients can have access to a range of clinics within their surgery to prevent travelling to an out patient clinic in a hospital. The NHS term this as "Care Closer To Home". One of these services is Physiotherapy. We have an NHS Physiotherapist who sees patients in Pulborough on Mondays and Wednesdays. We also have an Extended Scope Physiotherapist who visits on Tuesday mornings to deal with more complicated cases.

THANK YOU TO WFM BUILDERS LTD FOR SPONSORING THE SPRING EDITION OF THE PPL NEWSLETTER

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