



St Lawrence Surgery Newsletter 2017 No.1

Produced in partnership with the Surgery and the Patient Participation Group.

NHS IS UNDER EXTREME PRESSURES

In light of the extreme pressures on GP Practices, St Lawrence Surgery have joined with Lime Tree Surgery, Victoria Road Surgery, Phoenix Medical Centre, The Barn Surgery and Broadwater Medical Centre to see if we can work together to help each other and the hospital. Our new group of Practices is called the Worthing Health Alliance Local Community Network. To give you a real example of what we are going to do:

- 1) We have applied for part funding from NHS England to see if we can recruit two pharmacists across our practices. These pharmacists would have an important role in reviewing medication that is being prescribed, help patients with understanding their different medications, ensure safety procedures are in place etc.
- 2) We are planning on meeting with Marianne Griffiths, CEO of Western Sussex Hospitals to see how our new group can work directly with one another. An example could be a Consultant coming out to work with our GPs to do joint clinics.
- 3) We are regularly meeting with the Consultants from the mental health trust for educational updates and to further improve communications.
- 4) We will be planning to meet with the community nursing team (Sussex Community Foundation Trust) to see how we can work more effectively together.

PATIENT EVENTS

Wednesday 15th February at 2.00pm.
Signs and Symptoms of Dementia and how to cope

Monday 6th March at 6.30pm.
Managing back pain with John Coppins (Physiotherapist)

PPG AGM

Thursday 18th May at 7.00pm
As well as the usual agenda, we will have a guest speaker and refreshments.

SHINGLES CLINIC

If you are between 70-73 or 78 years old then we are holding Shingles Clinics on Tuesday 7th February and Tuesday 7th March in the afternoon. Please book your appointment at reception.

SHORTLISTED FOR A PATIENT EXPERIENCE AWARD

The St Lawrence Surgery children with additional needs group submitted an award application in partnership with the Surgery and the Clinical Commissioning Group about all the fantastic joint working, for example the medical passport, support meetings, new diagnosis packs etc and we are delighted to have been informed that we have been shortlisted as finalists which is brilliant news.

PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

All registered patients are automatically members of this group – yes, all 15000. The group is headed by Officers and Committee Members and we support the surgery and benefit all patients in a whole variety of ways although you might not be directly aware of this. Our work and involvement was highly praised during our recent CQC inspection and was recognised as being an integral part of the “Outstanding” accolade. We are always looking for patients to assist with our many events during the year. If you are interested in being on the committee or helping at events then please contact the Editor, (Alan Hardwick alan.hardwick@stlawrencesurgery.com)

ST LAWRENCE STROLLERS

We are aware of the benefits of regular exercise - so why not extend your experience by joining our weekly walking group. We meet in the Education room just before 10.00am every Tuesday and undertake a short walk (about 35 minutes) or a longer walk (about 60 minutes). We return to the surgery for coffee and an opportunity to solve the world's problems! Eric and his team of trained walk leaders would be delighted to see you. In addition to these local walks we undertake longer off-site walks often in conjunction with other walking groups. We look forward to seeing you.

CHRISTMAS LOTTERY

We extend grateful thanks to all the patients and staff who supported our recent lottery. Thank you also to the volunteers who helped to sell numbers. We sold 416 tickets and the fortunate winner was presented with a cheque for £208.00. Consolation prizes were also awarded to numbers 378 and 296. The profit from this draw will be used to purchase books, toys and resources for younger patients including those with additional needs.

SCHOOL ARTWORK

We are grateful to Thomas-A-Becket Junior School for their continued support in providing children's artwork for display. This term Thomas-A-Becket Infant School will be exhibiting their work and we look forward to admiring their talent

DOCTOR NEWS

Dr Alison Corney has returned from maternity leave and will be starting her family planning clinics soon.

Dr Jenny Hathaway will be retiring at the end of March.

MOBILE PHONES and EMAIL ADDRESSES

Have we got your latest mobile number and/or email address so we can get in touch with appointment reminders, surgery news etc. The number of missed appointments in December was 141 which equates to employing a doctor for one week and not seeing any patients. What a waste of money which could be put to better use seeing patients who need an appointment. So please make sure we have your mobile number and email address so that we can keep in touch more easily.

We hope you enjoy reading our newsletter but if you have any comments about its contents or other things you would like included then please contact Jo Wadey (Practice Manager) at jowadey@nhs.net or Alan Hardwick (Editor) at alan.hardwick@stlawrencesurgery.com

If you would like this in a larger font, then please contact the Editor.

If you are a patient, then find us at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/StLawrenceSurgery/>