

June, 2018



North Ridge Medical Practice PPG Newsletter

In this Newsletter

- Newsletter no. 4
- Report from our Health Event 10th April 2018
- Practice People: Jo Hollis, Dispensary assistant
- News from the Dispensary
- Hawkhurst Village Festival
- Advance Notice

PPG: the Committee for 2018

Helena Waters
(Chair)
Gary Barker (Deputy
Chair)
Sandra Cupit
(Treasurer)
Ros Cory (Secretary)
Mike Appelbe
Pam Barker
Rosie Broadbent
Jeremy Carr
Andrew Davis
(Newsletter)
Liz King
Shirley Lovell
Dawn Wilkinson

Welcome to our fourth Newsletter

The PPG (Patient Participation Group) Newsletter is distributed from North Ridge Medical Practice, the library, the pharmacy, the Green Shop and other local outlets. The PPG Committee meets every month or so and notes from the meetings are posted on the PPG noticeboard in the waiting room of the practice.

Issue 4

Health Event held at Bowles Lodge on 10th April

A successful and enjoyable evening was held on Tuesday 10th April at Bowles Lodge.

The evening began with the AGM, with the existing members being re-elected and Shirley Lovell joining the committee for the coming year.

Professor John Pickup gave an interesting and informative talk about the causes, treatment and research into Diabetes. He stressed the importance of good diet, taking exercise, not smoking and reducing alcohol intake. After the talk the audience asked Professor Pickup a wide range of questions.

Sally Allen from West Kent Commissioning Group informed the audience about the consultation on Stroke care within Kent. At present the outcomes for stroke patients in the area are some of the poorest in the country. Other areas have improved outcomes by having stroke specialist units. It is proposed to introduce three specialist sites in the Kent area. The nearest to North Ridge Surgery will be either Tunbridge Wells or Maidstone Hospitals.

PPG Chair Helena Waters gave an update on the possible merger of North Ridge and Wish Valley practices jointly moving to a new site. Work has been taking place on finding a suitable site within the village. There has been some progress on this but at present details remain confidential.

Helena thanked everyone for attending and the staff at Bowles Lodge for providing the refreshments and the use of the dining room.

Practice People: Dispensary assistant Jo Hollis



Hello; my name is Jo and I am the newest member of the Dispensary team. I recently moved to the area and have enjoyed meeting new people. My job involves processing prescriptions and dispensing medication to our patients. In my spare time I enjoy walking in the countryside with my two dogs.

Reception Staff update

Christine Mencner will be leaving us on the 8th of June after three years of service to the surgery and we wish her well in her future endeavours. We have successfully recruited her replacement and we welcome Teresa Swinney to the team.

News From The Dispensary

To help with NHS costs, we are trying to do our bit in reducing prescription medicine wastage in the surgery. It would be helpful if you would therefore only order the medicines that you require each month. Returned unused items cannot be re-shelved and need to be destroyed.

Unused prescription medicines cost the NHS in the UK an estimated £300 million every year. This could pay for ...

- 11,778 MORE community nurses or
- 80,906 MORE hip replacements or
- 19,799 MORE drug treatment courses for breast cancer or
- 300,000 MORE drug treatment courses for Alzheimer's or
- 312,175 MORE cataract operations

Wasted medicine is everyone's responsibility and there are small changes you can make to help reduce the amount of medicine being wasted. These savings could be reinvested into more front line care and services for the benefit of all.

Prescription drop off and collection timetable

In order to comply with legislation and increased volume of prescriptions we now need three clear working days for processing repeat prescriptions.

Therefore, to help with your planning of re-ordering, we hope the following may be of help:

ITEMS REQUESTED ON:	CAN BE COLLECTED ON:
Monday	Friday
Tuesday	Monday
Wednesday	Tuesday
Thursday	Wednesday
Friday	Thursday

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

The Dispensary Team

Hawkhurst Village Festival Saturday, 16th May



Come and visit us at our stand on the Moor. Find out what your PPG (Patient Participation Group) does.

Representatives of the Stroke Association (www.stroke.org.uk) will be with us offering a free blood pressure test.

Advance Notice

Our next **Health Event** will be in early October. Details yet to be fixed but these successful, interesting evenings consist of an invited guest speaker expert in a particular topic area; a talk is followed by a question and answer question.

E-mail: northridge.ppg@nhs.net [Please note this is the PPG e-mail and not for any confidential patient matters]

Find us on

