

October, 2018



North Ridge Medical Practice PPG Newsletter

In this Newsletter

- Newsletter no. 5
- Flu Season: Clinic dates 2018
- Practice People
- General Practice Premises: an Update
- Health Event 25th October
- Ann Woods/new GP

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 fifth 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 5

Flu Season 2018-2019

“Vaccination is the most effective way to prevent infection and severe outcomes caused by influenza viruses” – World Health Organisation.

“It is of the utmost importance for our eligible patients to take up the offer to be vaccinated against the influenza virus. Remember the virus can cause death in the ill and frail. Flu-related illness is a major problem for the older patients and can lead to complications and hospitalisation. Each year around 10,000 people in the UK die from the consequences of flu. If you have an underlying health condition such as chronic heart disease, kidney, liver or respiratory disease, flu may make your condition worse. As flu virus change every year it is important that you get vaccinated every winter” – Seqirus (vaccine supplier)

Children and pregnant women are highly susceptible and also need to be vaccinated. Most school age children will receive vaccinations in school, but children aged between 2 and 3 (check dates of birth eligibility with Reception) will be vaccinated in the surgery.

Please book your appointment for our flu clinics with our Reception staff.



Flu Clinic Dates:

19 September	26 October
26 September	7 November
17 October	

Practice People

Christine Coleman

We were so sad to learn of the death of Health Care Assistant Christine Coleman on 11th August after a brave battle with cancer. Mother to Ben and Dan, partner to John, valued and respected friend and colleague, trusted professional and patient advocate, she worked hard and set high standards for herself and others. She will be missed immeasurably.

Reception Staff update

We welcome new staff members Teresa Swinney and Irene Parle to Reception. Tracey Parnell has moved from Reception into an HCA (health care assistant) position.

Administrator Diana Cole joined the Practice on 17th September.

General Practice Premises Plans: an Update

Both North Ridge Medical Practice and Wish Valley Surgery are continuing to work together on plans for new premises.

As part of the Tunbridge Wells Borough local plan preparation process officers from the West Kent Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) have been continuing to work closely with officers of Tunbridge Wells Borough Council in order to understand emerging strategies and potential areas for growth and to assess the impact on infrastructure with general practices. Through these and our previous discussions TWBC are aware of the need for a new site to house both general practices and this will be recognised in the Local Plan and the accompanying Infrastructure Delivery Plan.

Through this process the CCG has, with the agreement of TWBC, shared with the practices confidential information regarding potential development sites that are being assessed for suitability as part of their ongoing site assessment work. The emerging information is being shared in order to allow the practices to plan and has not been shared more widely. Whilst the Local Plan process may take longer it will provide the better route for pursuing options and certainty for sites coming forward including a possible allocation for a new GP practice.

This does not however prevent us submitting plans for any other site outside of the Local Plan process and any such applications would be judged on their individual merits at that time.

Officers of TWBC arranged a meeting to take place in July between the healthcare surveyor working on behalf of our practices, Hawkhurst Parish Council/ Neighbourhood Development Plan group and TWBC officers to have a round table discussion regarding the sites that are being assessed, locations, priorities and timescales.

General Practitioners, as independent contractors, are responsible for the premises that we deliver primary medical services from. This includes any refurbishment, extension or proposed new premises development. We are working with a healthcare surveyor in relation to the premises development project for both practices and at the appropriate time, once we have clarity around sites, will submit a business case to the CCG.

Alison Burchell

Programme Director – Local Care, West Kent Clinical Commissioning Group
on behalf of GP Partners from North Ridge Medical Practice and Wish Valley Surgery

July 2018



Dr Ann Wood's retirement

For the past 30 years, **Dr Ann Wood** has been part of the heart and fabric of North Ridge Medical Practice. It is with regret we announce her retirement at the end of September 2018. Many of those who became her patients when she started as GP at North Ridge Medical Practice are still her patients now. She built great relationships with them during her career as general practitioner and she will greatly be missed by all! She has really appreciated the opportunity of caring for generations of village families.

We wish Dr Wood all the best for the new phase of her life she is embarking on. She will be spending a lot of time pursuing her interests of gardening and crafting. She enjoys crocheting and knitting and as she has her first grandchild on the way. This will surely keep her quite busy creating beautiful baby items and of course, once baby has arrived, she will be very involved being a grandma! She has recently added to her household a new puppy Taffy, and this lovely bouncy sprocker-spaniel will be keeping her busy for the foreseeable future. Dr Wood, we hope you enjoy your retirement and all that comes with it!

New partner at North Ridge medical practice: Dr Sara Butler-Gallie

Please join us in welcoming Dr Sara Butler-Gallie as a new partner at North Ridge Medical Practice. Dr Butler-Gallie will come on board from 1st October, 2018. Dr Butler-Gallie has been partner at Cobtree Surgery for the past 4 years and we are very fortunate to have her join our team here at North Ridge Medical Practice.

PPG Health Event: Healthy Hearts. ALL WELCOME!

Our next **Health Event** will be at Bowles Lodge: 7 p.m. on 25th October. The speaker will be Dr Vinay Bhatia, Consultant Cardiologist. There will be a defibrillator demonstration and an update on the planned new practice premises.

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

Find us on

