



NewsWATCH

The Watlington & Chalgrove GP Practice Newsletter



Issue 009

Email us at: wat.chal@nhs.net

October 2013

PPG Members

Watlington

- Roger Beattie
- Josephine Carrington
- Jenny Tindale
- Doreen Hobbs
- Shirley Brown
- Beryl Parkinson
- Jacky Wagstaff
- Marian Davis

Chalgrove

- Neil Topping
- Evelyn Chakera
- David Lee
- Ann Reed
- Lesley McCourt
- Gill Walker
- Lynn Baker
- Peter Grout
- Helen Moss-Black
- Audrey Mainwaring

If you have any issue that you would like raised at a PPG Meeting, please contact any of the above or email us.

Special points of interest:

- Dr Neale's Role
- Flu Clinics
- What Do You Want?
- Important Strokes
- We Pass the Test!
- Major or Minor?!
- New Information

Contact Us By Email

wat.chal@nhs.net

Dr Neale - the Truth!!!

You may remember Dr Neale "retired" a few months ago after turning the big 60. In spite of this, visitors to Chalgrove surgery will know that he still sees patients on a Monday and Thursday.

So, how does he fill his days the rest of the week many of you may be wondering.

Well, at the last PPG meeting he took time out to tell us all for which we were very grateful. It may disappoint you to know that he's not into Angry Birds or Candy Crush (ask a young person if that means nothing to you!!).

No, it turns out that he has a number of influential roles and responsibility for a wide range of health issues that will probably concern and affect everyone reading this.

Indeed the phrase about balls in the air and how does he keep them all up at any one time springs to mind!

Dr Neale endeavoured to summarise the recent changes to the NHS and Primary Care provision, to outline the effect that these changes are having on the Practice and to explain his new role as GP advisor community services.

Six pages of barely legible, scribbled-down-as-he-talked-notes later it was clear that his role is very wide and very varied and not one that can be easily summarised here.

It includes:

- advisory work related to all community services with a great emphasis on trying to treat patients - especially the elderly - at home

- monitoring and improving out-of-hours services including 111
- standardising many systems, methods and procedures, e.g. GP referrals to a hospital consultant
- setting standards for the provision of services and the monitoring of these standards.

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For instance, the Department of Health now has responsibility for public health issues such as immunisation

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programmes, sexually transmitted diseases and outbreaks of infectious diseases such as Measles and Swine Flu.

However, GPs are now at the centre of the primary care of patients and responsible for the commissioning of services.

The whole system is in a process of change and the different bodies are still getting used to their new roles.

We are fortunate to have, in Dr Neale, someone well qualified to strive to secure the future of good healthcare for all of us.

A public meeting is planned for early in the New Year to explain further all the changes that are taking place and how they will affect all of us. If you care about the future of the NHS you should be there.

Watch out for details nearer the time - and get your questions ready!!!

Flu Clinics

It's that time of year again and all patients who are eligible for a Flu jab should have received a letter inviting them to attend one of the 2 Flu Clinics organised by our Practice again this year.

This year the dates are:

- **Tuesday 15th October in Chalgrove**
- **Wednesday 23rd October in Watlington**
9.00 a.m. to 3.00p.m. both days.

In addition, those of you who are **either 70 or 79 years** old will be offered the new Shingles vaccine when you attend for the Flu jab. Prevention is better than cure so, if this applies to you, make sure you take advantage of both these jabs this year.

The Flu vaccine programme has been extended this year to include children aged 2 or 3 years old.

If you have a child of this age then make an appointment with the surgery for the vaccine which is administered via a nasal spray.

Locality Forum

At the Locality Forum meeting held last month (see June's Newsletter for more information about Locality Forums) the commissioning of services was discussed.

If you would be interested in the provision of a particular service, e.g. Podiatry, in our area then let your PPG know.

You can contact us via the Practice website or e-mail wat.chal@nhs.net.

We need to tell the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group what we need if we want them to provide it; if you don't ask you don't get!

Dealing with Stroke

Have you had a stroke or do you care for someone who has? Do you know what help is available? Do you know where to go for advice? Check out the PPG page of the Practice website next month for some useful information and links to organisations that can help.

Care Quality Commission (CQC)

As of April 2013 all Doctors' surgeries have to register with the CQC. The CQC has produced a list of conditions with which every surgery must be compliant, e.g. quality of patient care and suitability of the buildings including the provision of disabled access.

The CQC has the power to:

- make routine inspections
- inspect a Practice following a complaint
- check that a Practice not yet compliant has suitable plans in place to address the issues
- close a Practice down if there are serious enough concerns

Patients will be pleased to note that our Practice has self declared that it meets all the CQC's conditions.

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Minor Incidents Unit (MIU)

Not sure where to go to get treatment for a minor injury - including deep cuts, broken bones and eye injuries? Then pick up a handy card from the surgery next time you are there. There are units at Abingdon and Henley which will treat minor injuries without an appointment and save you a trip to A&E.

Details of location and opening times are on the card - and on the Practice website.

New Patient Leaflet – get your copy today!

The Practice leaflet has been revised and updated and is now available at both surgeries. As this leaflet is printed in-house, information will be amended as and when necessary so please remember that the information it contains is correct at the time of printing but may change as personnel and facilities change.