



WILLOW GREEN SURGERY



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NEWSLETTER

February 2008

PATIENT LINK

Patient Link organised a successful **Christmas Raffle** at the surgery during December. A total of £449.00 was raised for their funds. Thank you to all those who contributed prizes and the many patients who bought raffle tickets.



The Patient Link Committee regretfully accepted Stanley Warner's resignation from the committee at the beginning of this year. Stanley has worked tirelessly as the Transport and Events Organiser for many years. Willow Green Surgery and the committee would like to thank Stanley for his dedication to the surgery.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

AGM in the Conservative Hall, East Preston, on Wednesday 9th April 2008 at 7.30pm. The meeting will be followed by Cheese and Wine. Further dates for your diary:

Patient Link Spring Fayre – Saturday 19th April from 10 to 12 in the Village Hall Complex.

Festival Market – Thursday 12th June 10 to 12. Patient Link will have a stall there.

East Preston Carnival Float Saturday 14th June

Patient Link Garden Party – Saturday 14th July 2pm Millstone, Sea Lane Close, East Preston.

If any patient would be interested in helping as a driver, committee member, or coordinator with Patient Link please telephone, in the first instance, 01903 776159 for further details.

FOND FAREWELL

Our GP Registrar Dr Sunitha Jinka left the practice on Tuesday 5th February. During her time with the practice we have watched her evolve into a caring, diligent doctor. Sunitha and her family have moved to the Isle of Wight where she has secured a full time placement as a GP. We will all miss her and wish her the very best of luck in her new home and practice.

CHECK YOUR MEDICATION

Would you feel embarrassed if we looked inside your

medicine cupboard? Most of us have out-of-date medication that we keep 'just in case' but sometimes medication *not required* is ordered on repeat prescriptions. This costs the NHS and, indirectly you, millions of £s every year. Help us reduce waste.

STOP! THINK!
Do you really need it?



OUR NHS OUR FUTURE

You are being asked to join in to help shape the future of the National Health Service. The Governments 'Our NHS, our future' review is looking at how care, quality and access can be improved throughout the NHS. Tell them what you think of this vision and why. Visit the website

<http://www.ournhs.uk/> or
send e-mail to
ourNHS@dh.gsi.gov.uk

Have your say! 😊

OUT OF HOURS SERVICE

From April 2008 patients across West Sussex will be looked after by one Out of Hours Service instead of three, following the award of the contract to Harmoni.

LADIES KEEP SAFE

Did you know that if you key 112 into any mobile phone you will be connected to the police? Furthermore did you know that if you are a woman alone in a car you do not have to pull over for an unmarked police car? The police have to respect your right to keep going to a 'safe' place. You obviously need to make some signal that you acknowledge them or if you have hands free dial 112.

ZACHARY MERTON MINOR INJURIES UNIT

Zachary Merton Minor Injuries Unit is open Monday to Friday 9a.m. to -5p.m. They can deal with grazes, simple dressings, stings, advice on wounds, cuts (but not stitches), minor burns, scalds, insect bites, splinters, black eyes and foreign bodies in eyes.

PROTECT

The surgery will be closed from 12.30pm on the following days for Protect Training Sessions.
Tuesday 22nd April 2008
Tuesday 17th June 2008
We take the opportunity to close for protected time for

GPs and staff to learn new skills and update their knowledge.

HELP US TO HELP YOU

It is not necessary to put prescription requests in envelopes. Just fold the paper over and place it in the Prescription Box which is situated in the porch area on the left as you enter the building. This will save time and trees!

To protect your confidentiality always phone in after 2pm to ask for results rather than asking at Reception.

Please do not phone in to see if prescriptions are ready unless you are incapacitated and need a taxi to bring you down for collection. This frees up the telephone lines and the receptionist's time – they can then get on with the prescription requests!

PATIENT QUESTIONNAIRE and COMMENT BOOK

Thank you to all those who completed the questionnaires or have written suggestions and comments in the book kept in the waiting room. If possible, we do try to make the improvements you suggest. As a result of your comments from 7th March 2008 the immunisation clinic will start at 1.30 instead of 2pm so that mothers and carers are able to make school pick up times.

Two messages in the waiting room comments book were about prescription length a subject that there has been much debate about. There is considerable evidence that

28 days supply produces much less wastage. Over 85% of patients **do not pay** prescription charges. We do endeavour to provide post dated prescriptions wherever possible. However we do recognise in some circumstances longer supplies of medication are warranted. Particularly when patients are paying a prescription charge. If you feel you fall into this group please write a request to your doctor who will consider this matter.

PCT COMMITTED TO LITTLEHAMPTON HOSPITAL

West Sussex PCT has agreed to invest £12 million in health and wellbeing services in Littlehampton. Arun Community Hospital will be based on the old site of Littlehampton Hospital. It is hoped that it will include a wide range of community services such as physiotherapy, occupational therapy, sexual health services, Minor Injuries Unit, mobile MRI and CT diagnostics and a number of inpatient beds. This new facility should be available for 2010.

Happy 60th Birthday to the NHS



Visit our website

www.willowgreensurgery.co.uk

To order your repeat prescriptions and find out more about the services we offer.