

Chairman's Annual Report - July 2018

Welcome to the New Wokingham Road PPG's Annual General Meeting.

As in previous years, we helped to staff the the two flu clinics, which enables the practice to get through around 350 patients at each session. We also help to organise, and attend, the annual Mince Pie and Sherry Christmas Party. The guests are generally elderly and don't perhaps get out and about much and need a change of scenery and a few friendly faces. The feedback from this is always very positive.

On 27th September, together, with Heath Hill Road Surgery, we are planning our third health event. It will be held again at the Morgan Centre, and this time the focus will be on Emotional Wellbeing and You. Plans are well in hand for 3 speakers and around 7 or 8 stands, and we are proposing to offer free refreshments.

Brian, my vice-chair, and I still attend the PPG Forum meetings and report back. It is still proving very difficult to find people willing to stand as officers. We are awaiting the decision of Tony Lloyd, the current chair, to see if he is prepared to stand again, if not the future of the Forum is in doubt. Attending the Forum allows us to get the current thinking of the CCG and NHS England, and to exchange ideas with other PPGs. This year all 4 CCGs have merged to create a single CCG for Berkshire West. Running 4 separate CCGs resulted in a lot of duplication and inefficiency. The 4 localities will ensure that commissioning will remain locally sensitive and maintain close working relationships with GP practices, local authorities, Healthwatch and other stakeholders. The CCGs will now focus clinical and managerial leadership on developing new primary care organisations that bring groups of GP practices together and develop an Accountable Care System with other health partners.

The surgery has recently put in place a Community Navigator, and I am hoping to arrange for them to attend one of our meetings to explain fully what this entails.

Something we regularly do, is discuss the feedback from the Friends and Family Test. This way our patients' views are always taken into account, and where necessary acted upon. If at any time you have something that you feel we should discuss, then please get in touch. Our aim is to try to help make the patient experience as good as it can be. Over the last 12 months, an average of 85% of our patients would recommend us to friends and family, the only unfortunate thing is we do not know why the others wouldn't. Perhaps we should consider a supplementary question.

Although our main purpose is not raising money for charity, this year we have continued to support My Cancer My Choices. It offers complementary therapies to those undergoing cancer treatment, which we believe is a very worthwhile locally based charity. I'm sure that Judy, our Treasurer will give us actual figures on how much we have donated so far, but I believe it to be in excess of £1200!

The money is mostly raised by the sale of second hand books, for which I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Judy and Brian for looking after the bookshelves for us so well.

We also raise monies from our Social Walks for Health, as our regular walkers, at present standing at 25 members, are very generous with their donations. This year's Christmas lunch was held at the Bird in Hand which was very enjoyable and it looks likely we will revisit this year. As announced last year, we have added Trilakes to our list of walks, and added in an extra walk to see the bluebells at Fernygrove Farm.

In addition to this, one of our members, Sue Honey, raised an amazing £70 doing in excess of 10,000 steps each day during Motivational March, so well done and a big thank you.

I would also like to say a personal big thank you to Brenda for taking on the secretarial role, which she has done so well, particularly with all the other commitments I know she has. Can I also thank every member of this committee, all of you have devoted a lot of time and effort over the past year, and nothing would have been achieved without you.

So that's it! Thank you all once again for all that you've done!

