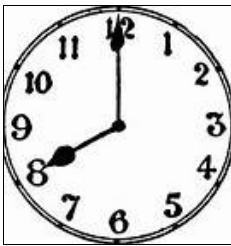


Dr Astbury & Partners

St Luke's Primary Care Centre

Newsletter Autumn 2013

**DON'T FORGET OUR LATE
EVENING SURGERY TILL
8pm ALTERNATE TUESDAYS
AND WEDNESDAYS**



OPENING HOURS (phones
and reception)

Mondays: 7.00am—6.30pm
Tuesdays: 7.00am—6.30pm
AND alternate weeks till 8.00pm
Wednesdays: 7.00am—6.30pm
AND alternate weeks till 8.00pm
Thursdays: 7.00am—6.30pm
Fridays: 7.00am—6.30pm

CONTACT US

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01604 751832
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Website:
www.drastburyandpartners.co.uk
Online prescriptions & telephone
consultation bookings:
<https://systmonline.tpp-uk.com>

Recent Changes

Welcome to the Autumn 2013 edition of the practice newsletter.

We have seen a number of significant changes over the last few months.

Patients visiting us since September will have noticed that the Co-op Pharmacy is now situated alongside the practice premises.

We hope that this will continue to allow us to offer our patients an outstanding service. Other local pharmacists are also available, and information about these is displayed in reception.

In July, we were successful in obtaining the status of Training Practice.

This means that we are privileged to have registrars working with us for periods of 6-12 months.

The practice plays a vital part in their clinical training, and the practice and its patients benefit from the skills the registrars have to offer.

We hope you feel the benefit of having the registrars as part of the team.



Lastly we would like to welcome Dr Annika Wells to the practice. Dr Wells joined as a Partner in July. She has worked in Northampton for a number of years, and we are delighted to welcome her to the team.

Dr Wells has replaced Dr Coombs who decided to retire earlier this year. We wish Dr Coombs well in his retirement.

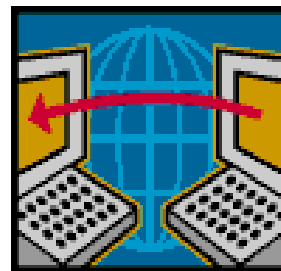
Clinical System Change

We would like to extend our thanks to our patients, local pharmacies and care homes during our recent clinical system change. This took place in July after several months careful planning with the implementation team and various representatives from the practice and PPG (Patient Participation Group).

Although the changeover presented us with some challenges we are delighted at how smoothly the transition went.

The transition in clinical system was something that

had been on the horizon for a number of years and was required by the IT contract that the government set out. The new system offers bet-



ter interoperability with other local services, such as out of hours, and has greater functionality for both patients and staff alike.

As we grow more experienced in the new system we hope to roll out some of this functionality. Some of our plans currently include making bookings for telephone consultations with the doctors, available on line, and enabling automatic sharing of records at patients consent.

Please look out for more updates via the newsletters and our practice website.

Care.data Programme

Care.data is a modern information system that is being developed, which will make increased use of information from medical records with the intention of improving health services.

It is important that the NHS can use this information to get a complete picture of what is happening across health and social care and to plan services according to what works best.

The new system will provide joined-up information about the care received from all of the different parts of the health service, including hospitals and GP practices.



The new system will also provide information that will enable the public to hold the NHS to account and ensure that any unacceptable standards of care are identified as quickly as possible. Information will help to:

- find more effective ways of preventing, treating and managing illnesses
 - guide local decisions about changes that are needed to respond to the needs of local patients
 - support public health by anticipating risks of particular diseases and conditions, and help us to take action to prevent problems

- improve the public's understanding of the outcomes of care, giving them confidence in health and care services
- guide decisions about how to manage NHS resources so that they can best support the treatment and management of illness for the benefit of patients.

NHS England has announced that throughout January 2014, all 22 million households in England will receive a leaflet explaining how the new system will work and the benefits it will bring.

PPG—Patient Participation Group

The practice is proud to have a thriving PPG which has been running now since 2006. The PPG is involved in working with the practice to be a voice for the patients. They are instrumental in ensuring that we are providing our patients with what they need and helping us in understanding how we need to develop the practice. The practice is tasked with maintaining a PPG that is representative of its patients in demographics, age, gender and ethnicity.

Recently the PPG has helped during the launch of the new clinical system, in fund raising for equipment and has also run a skin awareness week to advise patients of the dangers of skin cancer. If you think that this is something that you would like to be involved with please leave your contact details at reception and we will be in touch.

Telephones

The practice is aware that some patients have had difficulty in getting through to reception via the phone.

We would like to apologise for any inconvenience this has caused and assure you that we are thoroughly investigating the cause of this with our phone system supplier.



Vaccination Campaigns

Don't forget it's flu season. If you are over 65 or in one of the clinical at risk groups (pregnant women, children and adults with an underlying health condition, particularly long-term heart or respiratory disease, children and adults with weakened immune systems), speak to reception to ensure you get booked in for a vaccination. This year we are also offering a nasal flu vaccination to healthy children aged between 2-3 (date of birth 2.9.09—

1.9.11). It is expected that this target group will be increased in future years.



2013 sees the start of the shingles vaccination campaign. The target group for this is patients aged 70 (date of birth 2.9.1942—1.9.1943) with a one off catch up group of those aged 79 (date of birth 2.9.1933—1.9.1934). Again, it is expected that this target group will be increased in future years. The government updates practices each year of the target groups.