



Autumn 2009

The Patient

Doddington Patient Participation Group

In association with

Doddington Medical Centre

Serving patients in
Doddington
Wimblington
Benwick & Stonea

Committee Members

Chair & PRO: Tony Ostermeyer
Vice Chair: Alan Mayern
Secretary: Julie Best
Treasurer: Ruth Paul
Fundraising: Doreen Lenton

Grant Barlow
Tim Holloway
Pauline Mayern
Danny Morrissey
Angela Whittaker

Telephones:

Surgery: 01354 740311
PPG (Secy): 01354 741144

See *www* ...

doddingtonmedicalcentre.nhs.uk

lilyholtroad.co.uk

wimblington-stonea.org.uk

Future Dates:

Committee Meetings:
6.30 to 8.00 pm

- **Thursday 5 NOV**
- **Thursday 7 JAN**

AGM:
7.00 pm

- **Thursday 26 NOV**

Doddington Patient Participation Group
By Patients – For Patients

At Last! – Our own GP Surgery...

What we have been waiting for in Doddington is about to happen – our practice, Doddington Medical Centre, is about to be handed over to the GPs to run. An agreement has been reached between Cambridgeshire Primary Care Trust and Dr. Simon Hambling.

The deal is for Dr Hambling, together with Dr. Nagadev and Dr. Uzokwe, to run the practice to serve the patients of Doddington, Benwick, Wimblington and Stonea, and covering both surgeries in Doddington and Wimblington on a three-year contract, hopefully commencing before the end of 2009.

However, there remains an issue with some funding and we are still trying to negotiate an increase to allow for staffing levels to be increased and therefore improve patient services. The number of patients registered at the practice continues to rise and is now just under 3,500.

The Practice is currently trying to identify new premises in Wimblington so services can be extended and improved further for Wimblington patients in the future. Dr. Hambling will probably be able to update patients further at the AGM. The Practice will need the support of all patients in the days and years ahead.

PPG AGM...

Our Annual General Meeting will take place in the Doddington Church Rooms again on Thursday 26 November. With the above news, plus changes to the Constitution to be discussed, this will be a very important meeting for us all. Patients are urged to spread the word to attend. Starts 7.00 pm.

Surgery On-line...

Patients with a PC Internet link are invited to access the surgery via their home computer. This will enable booking appointments, asking medical questions, and ordering repeat prescriptions on line and so relieve pressure on the telephone at peak times. It will also relieve pressure on the surgery telephone to the benefit of those patients without a computer.

A website giving details of the Doddington Medical Centre already exists showing full details of personnel, opening times, and facilities. It is intended that the PPG would have its own link on the site but this has not yet been implemented for technical reasons. A person with web design experience is wanted to help update the present Surgery Website. Please contact surgery if you can help.

Flu Jab Day...

The annual Flu Jab Day, held at the Doddington Surgery on Saturday 17 October, was a great success with patients arriving throughout the session starting at 9.00 am and going right through until 2.00 pm. Doctors, nurses, and all admin staff, are congratulated on their hard work, and no doubt they will be evaluating the day's activities to see if any further improvements require to be made for next year. A date will be set for a catch up clinic for all those who were unable to attend on this day and letters will be going out to these patients.

Members of the PPG Committee were also in attendance to sell cakes and Christmas Draw Tickets in aid of PPG Funds. There was continuous activity selling the draw tickets with some patients buying as much as ten pounds worth for which we are very grateful as always. The cake stall was almost overflowing at the start and it wasn't long before they had all cleared. Further supplies brought in later in the morning went just as quickly.

Representatives from Breathe Easy Fenland, the local patient support group for anyone affected by a lung condition, were on hand to give out leaflets to make patients aware of the group.

A Representative from Fenland District Council was handing out free light bulbs after patients had received their jab.

The amount raised by the PPG was unknown at the time of writing; nevertheless the PPG wishes to thank everyone who supported them by purchasing Draw Tickets and Cakes, and reminding patients that the Draw Tickets will remain on sale up until the Draw is made in December. They will also be on sale at the AGM on Thursday 26 November at the Doddington Church Rooms when we hope to see you.

On the www...

Please check out the websites featured on p1. You will find links to the PPG on both Benwick (Lilyholt Road) and Wimblington-Stonea Village websites. Also the Doddington Medical Centre's own website has full details of the Centre and surgeries.

Patient Friend...

The surgery has set up a voluntary Patient's Friend Scheme, and is seeking patient volunteers to sign up.

The scheme aims to build up a list of patients that would be willing to talk to others who have been diagnosed with medical conditions similar to their own, either in the past or present.

A kindly word with understanding could be of great psychological benefit to others. Patients' details will be treated with the strictest confidentiality at all times.

Your help is needed and would be greatly appreciated.

Please speak to Mrs. Lib Welcher, Practice Manager, for further information in fullest confidentiality if you feel you could help in this way.



Mike Cornwell and Sandra Rylance of the **Cambridgeshire LINK** attended the last committee meeting held on 3 September and gave a talk on their work. LINK has been in existence for a year, and is well established as the focal point for patient, user, and carer, representation in health and social matters across the county. They are trying via addressing meetings to engage closer with communities to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to be listened to, thereby given a say in identifying areas where improvements to service provision can be sought.

Cambs LINK – Cambridgeshire Local Involvement Network – gives people the opportunity to influence local health and social care services. It has been set up to help make sure the people in Cambridgeshire get the health and social care services they need. Anyone can get involved, and people are welcome to volunteer to join the local group. You can visit their website for more information on www.cambridgeshirelink.org.uk