

NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN/WINTER 2016



September 2016

FAREWELL TO DR FRANCIS

Dr Graham Francis retired on 1 August this year after 30 years as our Senior Partner. We celebrated with him and his family at his home along with previous GP Partners and ex-members of staff. He was presented with an outside pizza oven and coffee machine to keep him fed and watered in his retirement! He was also very grateful for the many gifts and warm wishes received from his patients. He will be very much missed and we wish him a long and happy retirement.

DR MARK LAW and DR LISA HAYWARD

We would like to welcome Dr Mark Law as our newest GP. He joined us in August and is responsible for our Care Home patients and for Dr Ling's patients on a Thursday and Friday.

Dr Lisa Hayward is our new GP Registrar who will be with us until next August. She is a qualified doctor in her final year specialising as a GP.

FLU VACCINATIONS

If you are aged 65 or over or suffer from a chronic condition such as asthma, diabetes, kidney disease or coronary heart disease you are strongly advised to have a flu vaccination.

CHILDHOOD FLU VACCINATIONS

Children aged 2, 3 and 4 years on the 1 September 2016 are invited to have a flu vaccine. The vaccine will be administered by nasal spray.

SHINGLES VACCINATION

If you were aged 70-73 and 78-79 on 1 September, you may be eligible to receive a shingles vaccination. We normally administer this at the same time as your flu vaccination but it can be given at any time and is a one-off vaccine. Other age groups will be introduced in the future to ensure all people aged 70-79 are offered the vaccine. We are not permitted to vaccinate patients outside the current cohort due to limited supply of the vaccine.

If you are eligible for a flu or shingles vaccination, please make an appointment with reception.

REMINDER SERVICE AND MOBILE PHONES

We have recently introduced an appointment reminder service. This will send a text to your mobile phone to remind you of future booked appointments and we will contact you when it is time to make an appointment eg for your flu vaccination.

To enable us to offer this service we need to have your mobile phone number.

We also need to be informed when your mobile number changes.

Please see a receptionist to give us your details or to check that the number we currently hold is correct.

MILITARY VETERANS

Have you ever served in the armed forces? If you have, you are entitled to priority access to NHS care for any condition related to your service.

Please let us know so that we can update your medical record.

CARER'S CREAM TEA

A very successful carer's event was held during Carer's week on 7 June run by our Carer's Lead, Gill and Ellis Ford from Wayfinders. Along with useful information, the carers were treated to Gill's homemade scones, a treat not to be missed! If you care for someone but have not informed us, please see Gill on reception to register and for further information about help and support.



TEAM EVENTS

The GPs and staff have formed a running and cycling club in an effort to keep fit. We have also entered various events to motivate us!

Tough Mudder

The surgery entered a team of 9 including 2 of our GPs, our Practice Manager and District Nurses for the Tough Mudder event in August. We survived 11 miles and 22 obstacles involving mud, ice and electrocution!

Dorchester Half Marathon

The surgery have entered a team into the first Dorchester half marathon due to be held in May 2017.

We encourage our patients to keep fit and healthy. Why not join an activity club? And it doesn't have to involve mud and obstacles, it can be as simple as stretching exercises.



CQC REPORT

We received a CQC inspection visit in June this year and were very pleased to receive a rating of Good. The rating system awards Outstanding, Good, Needs Improvement or Inadequate. Outstanding is only given to a handful of practices. Our full report can be accessed on our website.

MATERNITY LABOUR LINE

0300 369 0388

The above phone number has been introduced across Dorset for all maternity patients. Women and their partners will have access to an experienced midwife 24/7 who will discuss their birth plan, provide support and make all the necessary arrangements for a home or hospital birth.

MEDICAL RECORD SERVICE

A new service has recently taken over the responsibility for the transfer of patient records. Unfortunately, it has been unable to manage the demand and there have been unacceptable delays in the transfer of records between practices when patient's move. We apologise if we do not have all your information due to these delays, but this situation is out of our control.