

Nuffield Practice Patient Participation Group

Spotlight

The Nuffield Practice Patient Participation Group (PPG) works with the practice to ensure that through excellent communication, practice decision-making is informed by the best possible understanding of patients' needs and concerns

September 2021

From Heather Pike, Chair of our PPG

Welcome to this first edition of *Spotlight* - our Nuffield Health Centre Patient Participation Group bulletin for patients and by patients at the Practice.

- *Spotlight* will be a quarterly bulletin provided through the PPG by and for patients: we shall welcome all feedback and input for future issues.
- Whilst thanking everyone for supporting the PPG we would particularly like to thank Graham Shelton for chairing the group for over eight years as he has been stalwart in his support. We are grateful for his ongoing support in his membership administration support short term as we seek to recruit someone to help with this key role. Please let us know if you could help with this ! And, on the subject of thanks, especial thanks are due to all volunteers from the Practice: your help has been invaluable, thank you!
- It was with sadness that we bade farewell to **Catherine Siminoni** as she moved to Herefordshire . We wish her well for the future, and warmly welcome her replacement.

Kim Holloway is our new Practice Manager.

Kim writes: I have lived in Thame for the past five years and most recently have been working in a Health Centre in Abingdon. Following on from my early nursing career I worked in the Pharmaceutical Industry before returning to NHS/Private healthcare working with several Trusts including Bucks & Oxfordshire. My management experience has been gained in a variety of healthcare settings and spans in excess of 20 years. I have a son and daughter in their late twenties, and am a dog lover with a labrador awaiting a next placement in 'Pets As Therapy'. I am very much looking forward to joining the Nuffield Practice and working with the Patient Participation Group

Nuffield PPG completes patient survey

Graham Shelton writes: Our latest survey of patients at the Nuffield Practice is now complete. All the data are in from 276 people who were recruited to complete a short questionnaire in the Waiting Room. The results of this survey will be presented in a future issue of this newsletter.

Update on General Practice Data for Planning and Research. Although the government announced that patient data from GP practices would be collected unless individuals elected to opt out by 1 September, there was widespread public concern about this timescale and about the inherent risks in these proposals. PPG members at our Practice attended workshops, conferences and met with our local MP Robert Courts to register local concerns.

Due to the strength of the national reaction to these proposals, the Under Secretary of State sent a letter to all GPs on 19 July advising that it was apparent that there needed to be more consultation and transparency and that consultation about the plans would be **extended for twelve months**. *We will supply an update on this important issue in the next edition of Spotlight.*

PPG member Sally Rumsey reports on two initiatives combining healthy activity with enjoyment.

Nuffield Practice Gardening Group: If you have walked along Welch Way recently you may have noticed changes to one of the grassy areas outside the Practice. Thanks to the efforts of the PPG Gardening Group and Dr Anna Morrish, this area is being made into a "bee friendly" garden for the enjoyment of all. Dr Morrish has secured a grant from Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment (TOE) that will go towards plants. The plot is being prepared by turning the turf and smothering further growth, whilst retaining some grassy paths. Planting is anticipated in the Autumn. For more information or to join the Gardening Group contact the [PPG](#).

Walking for health. Two walking groups are offered to patients at the Nuffield Practice. 1) *Walking for Physical Fitness* - meets Tuesdays at 14.00 (meet at 13.50). Contact the Practice for more information. 2) A second group, *Walking for Mental Health* is expected to start in the Autumn. Watch out for details. Plus: The Practice is participating in the trial *Street Tag* initiative. Street Tag is a fun, free, smartphone app that turns physical activity into a game. Details at the [Practice website](#).

Watch this space!

Seasonal flu vaccinations. It is anticipated these will be from mid September, delivery schedule to be confirmed.

At the time of writing we await official news with regard to any Covid 'booster' programme. Please check the [Practice website](#) for the latest announcements.

Patients are reminded of the need to keep their personal contact details updated, including mobile number.

To contact the Patient Participation Group, and find out more about its activities, consult the website or email the practice at nuffield.practice@nhs.net

