

## Newbury Street Practice Newsletter Number 30

### **Team Changes**

Dr Twomey will be leaving us at the end of July after a very successful year with us. In the short term she will be returning to live in Ireland.

We look forward to welcoming Dr Lee from the beginning of August. Dr Lee is a registrar (like Dr Twomey) who has finished his medical training and will be here for a year to hone his G.P. skills.

We will also be welcoming Dr Carrie Ladd as a long term locum to provide maternity cover until Dr Law returns to us. Dr Ladd presently works in Lambourne and lives locally.

### **Dr Law**

Dr Law had her second baby in late April. She is called Harriet and Mother and baby are doing fine.

### **Extended Hours**

Due to funding cuts by the NHS we have had to amend the extended hours that we offer.

From 1<sup>st</sup> June we will have the following cover at all extended hours clinics.

2 Doctors and a Practice Nurse. We will offer BOOKED appointments between 9 a.m. and 12 noon on the first Saturday of the month except in August and January and between 6.30 and 8 p.m. on alternate Wednesdays and Thursdays except when we worked on a Saturday! By adopting this pattern we are still able to ensure that we offer one extended hours session per week within the funding available and re-instate the popular nursing presence that we had to withdraw in March.

P.T.O.

## **Pneumococcal Pneumonia**

If you are over 60 or have one of a range of medical conditions you may be eligible for a one off vaccination against pneumococcal pneumonia. Please ask your clinician if you would like to be vaccinated, we believe that funding for this service is to be withdrawn soon.

## **G.P. Commissioning**

There has been a lot of comment in the press about G.P. Commissioning. The position for Newbury Street Practice so far is that we have joined the South West Oxfordshire Consortium which has 14 practices and 136,000 patients. This consortium in turn is part of the Oxfordshire G.P. Consortium which is made up of 83 practices with 635,000 patients. We are taking an active part in the group with Drs Robinson and Partner showing particular interest. It is expected that the shape and duties of the group will be worked out over the next few months and that from April 2012 the Oxfordshire Consortium will be able to shadow the present organising body (The Oxfordshire P.C.T.) before taking full control in April 2013.

## **Constructive Ideas**

We are always trying to improve the service that we offer our patients. If you have any constructive ideas as to how we can do things better please contact Bob Lewis Practice Manager Newbury Street Practice.

## **Appointment Reminders**

This is a new service that we have just launched for our patients. When you next make an appointment you will be asked if you would like us to send a text reminder to your mobile phone. If you “opt in” you will receive confirmation of your appointment (and all subsequent ones) and also a reminder of your next appointment three hours before it is due. We believe that this will be useful to patients and are also hoping that it will reduce the number of lost appointments through patients not coming to booked appointments.