

# Huthwaite Health Centre Winter Newsletter 2011



## Welcome...

Dear All,

Firstly we would like to wish you a very Happy Christmas and 2012. There is lots to look forward to next year with the new building construction hopefully starting before Easter and of course the Olympics which is a real opportunity for everyone to get motivated to get fitter. We would also like to welcome 3 male doctors back to the practice, finally ending our female GP domination!! Dr Arshad has done several locum sessions with us and will be replacing Dr Dodd whilst she is away on maternity leave. He will work Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, and I'm sure everyone will enjoy getting to know him. We also welcome back 2 final year GP registrars Dr Abdul Mohammed and Dr Gavin Lunn. They will also be with us until August 2012. Also we would like to send lots of love to Dr Dodd who's first child is due any day now. She would also like to thank all the patients who sent her cards and gifts before she left on maternity leave.

Lastly as a personal plea:-I have been writing the newsletter for the last few years now and it would be really helpful for any feedback or requests for articles on certain conditions etc that you may like. Please contact Lorraine Walton (Assistant Practice Manager) with any ideas!

Merry Christmas

**Dr Lucy Genillard**

### **HIP Group**

The surgery would like to thank the group for all its support this year. The recent health promotion event was a really good afternoon with lots of different stalls to look at. The weather wasn't great and unfortunately there wasn't a brilliant turn out but we hope those who made it down had a good time. The HIP group undertook a recent survey both in the surgery and on the website, results of this are being collated and will be published in the new year.

### HIP Newsletter

The HIP group have had a successful year with new members joining during 2011 we would like to see some new faces at our meetings in 2012 so come along don't be shy. Also we need to encourage patients to give their views about how the practice is doing. You don't have to come along to the meetings you just need to be willing to carry out 1 maybe 2 surveys per year, all anonymous so don't worry about what you might say we just want to know the truth.

We really need a Patient Representative Group i.e. a group of people who most represent the makeup of the practice's patients. This could include, old age pensioners, working mothers, housewives, children, ethnic minorities, in fact anyone who feels that they have an opinion and would like it listened to.

The HIP group would like to be able to ask the views of as many patients as possible and so are asking if people would like to provide their email addresses/ telephone numbers so that the group can contact you every now and again to ask you a question or two. All surveys are completely anonymous and any views given will be treated with the strictest confidence. We aim to do some surveys in 2012, which you can take part in at the surgery or 'on line'.

### **Are you interested in giving your contact details?**

Can you spare a couple of hours per month and would like to get involved in shaping the future of your practice, acting as a representative of the local patient population, please contact Lorraine on 01623 513147 for time and date of next meeting. Please note this groups function is only to help with patient/practice running and relationships on a general basis and cannot help resolve individual issues which should be taken up directly by calling to see the Practice Manager.

R Allen

### **Dr Genillard's Half Marathon**

I would like to say a big thank you to all the patients and staff who sponsored me on my first half marathon. I raised £525 pounds for prostate action which I was really pleased with. My time wasn't great (2 1/2 hours) but I did it despite the hills!! I can't say I plan to repeat it anytime soon but you never know! Thank you again.

## Snow and Christmas Hours.

Last year we saw some particularly challenging weather conditions and we remain hopeful that the same will not be repeated this year. We were open everyday during the worst of the weather last year although for safety reasons did request only emergency appointments on the worse days. The same will be true if the worst happens again. We do request that in extreme weather conditions you do not ask for a home visit unless absolutely necessary. This will give us the extra time required in those conditions to visit the more frail and ..... acutely ill. Although last year what we did see was that some of our most elderly and frail patients did not request visits and therefore they were not seen as early as they should have been. If you are unable to get someone to bring you to the surgery and are unwell then we will of course visit you-please do not leave it too late. Our Christmas opening hours are:-

### Please note:

we are closed for three week days over Christmas and New Year. We are asking people to order their prescriptions in plenty of time, if your prescriptions are due between Christmas and the New Year you are able to order one week earlier to ensure you get your medication.



## Christmas opening times



Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2011	8.30am – 6.30pm
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December 2011	8.30am – 6.30pm
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> December 2011	Closed
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> December 2011	Closed
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> December 2011	8.30am – 6.30pm
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> December 2011	8.30am – 6.30pm
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> December 2011	8.30am – 6.30pm
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January 2012	Closed



The Warm Home Discount Scheme provides £120 rebate on electricity bills in Winter 2011/2012

### **Pension Credit Customers are automatically considered for the Warm Home Discount of £120**

You may qualify for this energy rebate if all the following apply:

- You got only the Guarantee Credit element of Pension Credit on the qualifying date (11/09/11)
- Your energy provider is participating in this scheme - see 'Energy Suppliers participating in this scheme' please ask at reception
- Your name, or your partner's name is on the electricity bill.

You will **not** qualify automatically if you get the Savings Credit element of Pension Credit.

### **Can other people get a Warm Home Discount?**

- Energy Suppliers **may** also give a £120 rebate to some other customers in vulnerable groups. Please contact your supplier for more details and to enquire about the eligibility criteria.

For more information on when you will get your Warm Home Discount, How the Scheme works and Energy suppliers participating in the scheme please see reception desk.