



## NEWS FOR FEBRUARY & MARCH 2013

### Galletly Patient's Participation Group (GPPG)

We would like to thank all those who took part in the Midsummer and Christmas raffles - we raised over £1000; many thanks to you all. The book sales made a grand total of £600 throughout the year so please keep them coming along with any complete jigsaw puzzles.



With the money raised we hope to contribute to new equipment for the patients use and we are planning to take some patients to Waterside in the early spring for a look around, a talk on gardening and afternoon tea, so the money will be well used. If anyone would like to be considered for the trip to Waterside, please mention this to the staff at Reception and they will give you a contact telephone number. We would be pleased to hear from you.

### New Services

We are pleased to be able to advise our patients of some exciting new services which we have been able to bring into the Practice. These are Ultra Sound Diagnostics, Primary Care Surgery and Podiatry. We will be providing more details in next month's newsletter about these exciting developments which we hope are the start of many new things to come.

### Administration Department Update

Amanda Etherington will be re-joining the Galletly Practice to fulfil the second post of Scanning and Data Entry Clerk. Some of you may already know Amanda as she was previously a member of the Reception Team.



### 'Movember'

The final total raised by our four gallant GPs for "Movember" is **£1310.00!!** Well done and many thanks to everyone.

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**Fax: 01778 562207**  
**www.galletly.co.uk**

**Enquiries:**  
**01778 562200**

**Appointments/  
Cancellations:**  
**01778 562202**

**Repeat Prescriptions:**  
**01778 562203**

**Emergency Care Centre**  
**0845 045 0281**

**NHS Direct 24 hour  
Helpline:**  
**0845 46 47**

**The new 111 service**

## **DR BETTINA BRIGGS TALKS ABOUT HER FORTH-COMING RETIREMENT**

I have decided to retire in early April. It has been a difficult decision as I have very much enjoyed working here and caring for my patients. I have worked as a General Practitioner in Bourne for 21 years, the last 18 as a partner with the Galletly Practice.



I have seen many changes over the years. When I first started we had a handful of backroom staff and one nurse. Now we employ almost 50 people including 9 Practice Nurses and work closely with many others including the District Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors. Computers had just arrived in General Practice. We are now “paperless”, using computers for all our work which has been made much safer and more efficient as a result. Dispensing arrived shortly after I did and we now have a thriving dispensary serving our patients who live outside town. We still looked after patients in St Peter’s and Bourne Hospitals which were then shut and demolished in the 1990s.

We worked in the old Health Centre, sharing premises with the Hereward Practice. In 1996 we were able to move to our current site. This was Dr Galletly’s old home and surgery and we use his house for our office staff and have built a modern clinical area on the back, which was further enlarged in 2010.

Patient care has changed enormously. Advances in treatment and, in particular, preventative medicine, mean people are regularly living into their 80s, 90s or even to over 100. We care for over 100 patients in nursing homes in the town. The boundaries between being a GP and being a Manager have changed too as we are drawn more and more into business management and contracting. The workload on GPs has as a result increased. Gone are the days of long lunch breaks (or even one at all) and 12 hour days are the norm now. I shall look forward to a rest!

We became a Training Practice in 2009 and our young GP Registrars have provided a breath of fresh air and given us oldies a good incentive to keep up to date. We are actively involved in training them up to be independent GPs and it has been lovely to see them flourish and develop during their stay with us. We have been very lucky that Dr. Rebecca Mitchell joined us in September and she is going to take over my caseload. We are a group practice and so people may see the General Practitioner of their choice but I have no hesitation in recommending Dr Mitchell, who is a very bright and caring doctor.

I shall miss our terrific staff and the doctors who have all become a family over many years of close working, and I shall very much miss all you patients when I retire. It has been a pleasure to work here and to be part of the community and your lives. I have seen families grow up and change over the years.

I shall look forward to spending more time with my husband, Andy, who has already been retired for four years as well as having time to see my family and pursue my many hobbies. I shall still be living in Bourne and if you see me in town or whizzing around on my bicycle do say hello. It has been a privilege to work in such an excellent practice with such lovely patients and if I had my time again, I wouldn’t change a thing. Thank you.

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**Please note the surgery will be closed on Friday 29 March and Monday 1 April 2013 (Easter Bank Holidays)**



*COMMENTS/FEEDBACK: If you have any comments/feedback/articles/etc., you would like to be considered for inclusion, please forward to Dawn at the Surgery.*