



Practice Newsletter Summer 2003

This newsletter's profile is from Sister French

I was born in Pembury in Tunbridge Wells Kent and grew up on a rural Kentish farm. When I left school I went on to train as a nurse in the same hospital where I was born. Twenty six years ago I trained as a district nurse and worked in the community until 1990 when I joined the Galletly Practice.

In 1975 I married and lived in various Kentish villages until 1987 when we moved to Bourne. I have one son who is now at University. I have always owned cats and chickens (rural lass at heart!). We have lived in Greatford for 15 years in an old farm worker's cottage and we have been renovating it for all of the time we have lived there!

The loves of my life are reading, gardening, holidays and cooking.

Patient Participation group

We are delighted to report that the patient participation group has now raised sufficient funds to purchase a defibrillator for the Practice. They will be presenting us with it on Tuesday 9th September at 11.00 a.m. in the Alistair Suite. We will also be holding a coffee morning on this date so please come along if you are able.

Our patient participation group is always looking for new members to help them in their work. If you have a few hours free each month and you would like to find out more please do telephone any of the following people who would be pleased to give you more information.

Mr Robin Morris – Chairman – 01778 590654

Mrs Joy Read – Treasurer – 01778 423659

Mrs Beth Panter – 01778 570324

Handyperson vacancy

We have a vacancy for a handyperson at the Surgery to work for us for a couple of hours on 3 weekday mornings from 8.00 am to 10 am. The position would suit a retired fit person who enjoys gardening and DIY. If you are interested please ask the receptionist for an application form and job description.



Computers!

Well what can we say! July 2003 was an absolute nightmare for the staff and the doctors at the Galletly Practice. Our system went down and stayed down for most of the month. An engineer from our Clinical system supplier 'moved in' and stayed with us for about 3 weeks. It was the worst system crash we have ever experienced and it kept on happening! Fortunately all the patient data was secure – and yes we did have back ups!

We would like to thank all of our patients who bore with us whilst we were experiencing these difficulties – we do realise it was extremely frustrating for all of you.

We would also like to thank all of our staff for the huge amount of extra work they undertook doing everything manually whilst the system was down and working extra hard when the system returned catching up with entering all of the data. Well done everyone!

Closure for Target training

We will be closed for the Lincolnshire Target training from 12.30 pm on the following days:-

Thursday 11th September, 2003

Thursday 16th October, 2003

Thursday 13th November, 2003

ECDL congratulations

Congratulations to the following staff who have passed their ECDL (European Computer Driving Licence) through Target training.

Julie Smith – Deputy manager

Cheryll Perkins – Audit clerk

Winter flu jabs

Winter seems a long way off at the moment but unfortunately will soon be upon us! We will be starting our flu jabs during the last week in September. Watch the Jayex board for the actual dates nearer the time. This year we will be offering all of our patients who are aged 80 or over a vaccination against pneumonia. This can be done at the same time as your flu jab.

Step-o-meter trial

This Practice, along with 6 others in the area, is taking part in a trial in conjunction with "Walking for Health". The trial will take place over this Autumn. It will involve



recruiting 10 patients who are at risk of developing heart disease. These people will be issued with a Step-O-meter which counts the amount of steps taken in a day. The recommended steps per day is 10,000 for a healthy heart and lungs. Each participant will be required to complete a log of their step-o-meter readings taken daily over a 6-8 week period. These record sheets are then sent to University College Worcester to be analysed. They will then give the Practice feed back on whether it is considered worthwhile to roll out the programme as a national campaign.