

## CRADLEY SURGERY NEWSLETTER

Dr Patsy Dye  
Dr Chris Spruce

APRIL 2017

### Dr. Patsy's Fascinating Factoid of the Month

Mothers with small children get 18 times more viral illnesses than any other people.

### Parking at the Surgery

Sometimes our On-Call Doctor's car gets blocked in by someone parking in the drive. Please be considerate and try to park elsewhere; If you are dropping off someone less able to walk this is fine, but please move once he or she is safely in the surgery.

Can we also ask our patients not to park on the road close to the entrance to our carpark. This obscures the entrance and makes it unsafe for drivers leaving and entering the carpark. It also poses a hazard to pedestrians crossing the road to the British Legion carpark for similar reasons.

### Dispensary News

As you know people picking up medication at the dispensary have to sign the back of the prescription and sometimes make a declaration if they are not paying. So that you can see the right box to tick, we now have a magnifying glass at the window for those who have forgotten their glasses.

### Delivery Service

As you are all aware Kevin, the delivery driver had a nasty fall in December. He wanted us to let you know that although he is on the mend it is taking longer than hoped so he will not be able to operate the service for you for a little longer. We unfortunately don't have a date of return for him yet but we will of course keep you posted and please be assured that he is trying very hard to get well again.

Should you experience any issue with the collection of your medication please do let us know and we will always do our best to help.

Kevin and the rest of team are really grateful for your help and support and kind words during this time and hopefully we will all be able to welcome him back soon.

### Repeat Medications

Please only order the medication you need. It's okay not to order items for a month or two. It will stay on your repeat list for when you do need it again and if it does come off we can always reinstate it at your request. Medications, once they have left the surgery, for safety reasons, cannot be put back into the 'system'. If you have a stock of medication that becomes obsolete because the doctor has changed it or you no longer need it, that medication is wasted at a significant cost to the NHS.

### NO SHOWS

There were 34 No shows for appointments in February. This equates to over 5 ½ hours consulting time that could have been used by others. Please call if you don't need your appointment.

## **Quiz Night in aid of second community defibrillator**

As many of you may be aware the Surgery and Friends of Cradley Surgery were asked to help support the fundraising for a second community defibrillator. The Surgery has agreed to “house” the unit on the building and to support the community in raising funds towards this lifesaving equipment. The ‘Friends’ have been very generous with their time and organised a Valentine’s Quiz in February in aid of this project. It was a hugely enjoyable evening which raised an amazing amount of money toward the second community defibrillator; over £550.00. Many thanks to those that supported the evening by entering a team, the quizmaster and ‘markers’ who kindly gave up their time, those that printed and distributed the posters advertising the event and, of course, to Trish Fouque and Diane Poole from the Friends, whose hard work and organisational skills made the evening the success it was.

## **Cradley Medical Equipment Fund**

We have had some very generous donations to our medical equipment fund. Thank you. It means that we can give our patients services that are being withdrawn in other surgeries.

## **Hay fever Medication/ Gap Year Immunisations/ Travel vaccinations**

Hay Fever season cometh – Starting medications a month beforehand can sometimes mean a less disruptive time with symptoms. Please ask at Dispensary.

It is never too early to ask our nurses for their expert travel vaccination advice. Please collect a form from the surgery or download one from our website, simply fill it in and our nurses will do all the research on the country or countries you are visiting and check what immunisations/vaccinations are required against your record. Please give them one week to do this before calling us to find out what their advice is. It is important that you give us plenty of notice before your holiday or travels so that we can research this information and start any immunisations or vaccinations you may need so that they are effective when you are abroad.

## **Contact Details**

Please make sure your mobile numbers are accurate. Spouses, please check that we have your number not the one for your ‘significant other’ as they will be notified of your appointment, not you, and as we move more toward using texting to send you short messages regarding your health care, they will get those too. This similarly applies if you have given your own mobile number as a contact for your children. It is worth considering the implications of this as your children reach their teenage years and would wish to have confidentiality respected.

## **And Finally....**

Does anyone have any easy-clean, wipeable, toys that they no longer need? Our little play house needs some extra entertainment....

**We would like to wish all our patients a very enjoyable Easter**