



PATIENT NEWSLETTER - MARCH 2011

DOCTORS JOHN DAVIES AND ANTHONY CRAWFORD RETIRE



After 35 and 32 years, respectively, Dr. Davies and Dr. Crawford have decided to retire from general practice. Having joined St. Clements as fresh faced, newly qualified doctors, John and Tony went on to provide loyal and dedicated medical care to their Winchester patient list for over 3 decades. They have been involved with several generations of their families gaining a considerable medical knowledge of their patients. They will miss their patients as much, we are sure, as many of their patients will miss them but they are also looking forward to some time with their families, as their own grandchildren grow up.

Both of these doctors are very modest and do not want a 'fuss'. However, for those of you who have asked how you can donate towards a farewell gift, you may either hand in a small gift of your own choosing via the front desk Reception team or make a monetary donation by cheque which will be used towards a gift of both John and Tony's choosing.

The practice is currently recruiting to the vacancy created by these retirements and will advise patients of the new doctor as soon as the appointment has been agreed.

CITY CENTRE DEVELOPMENT

Many of you will be aware of the on-off city centre development which will impact on the St. Clements' surgery premises. The Council's appointed developers were affected by the recession last year and went into liquidation. However, Winchester City Council have been successful in appointing new developers and we hope to renew discussions about new practice premises in the very near future. All those involved in these discussions, including the practice, the Primary Care Trust and the City Council, are clear that St. Clements must remain in the city centre, within easy access of public transport and walkable distance for those who live centrally.

We will continue to keep you informed as plans progress.

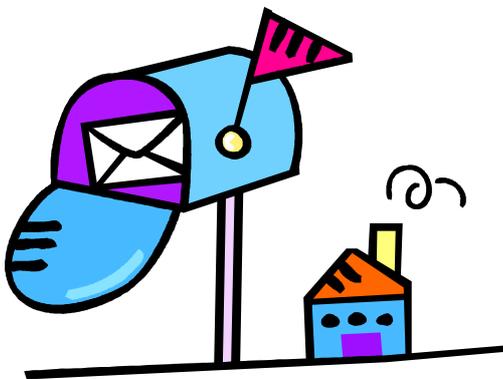
G.P. COMMISSIONING



You will also have read, with interest, of the Government's plans to put G.P.s at the forefront of commissioning healthcare services. These are still very early stages in this major change to the N.H.S. However, St. Clements has been very proactive in the previous initiative of Practice Based Commissioning and is similarly involved in the preparations for the next stage of G.P. Commissioning Consortia (GPCC).

We work, in partnership, with 12 other neighbouring practices on these initiatives and are also in communication with the wider groups of GP practices in our region in developing a cohesive GPCC which will achieve the best healthcare services, within the constraints of funding, for our population. Again, we will keep our patients informed as this new initiative progresses.

Invitations from the Practice



We regularly invite patients, by letter or on prescriptions, to a range of clinics provided by the practice. In addition, other healthcare services may contact you to invite you to important healthchecks provided by the NHS, including retinal eye checks for patients with diabetes and, recently, a health 'MOT' for patients in restricted age groups who may show a slight risk of developing heart conditions, in the future, if lifestyle changes aren't introduced.

All of these checks are provided at the practice premises and you are encouraged to take advantage of these services.

Similarly, following the difficulties experienced earlier this year with flu vaccine supplies, those patients who ANNUALLY receive a flu vaccination should book their appointment as soon as reminders are displayed in the practice, on our website or on your regular prescriptions. Please help us to help you.

PATIENTS FORUM

Our group of patient representatives meet two or three times a year to discuss practice developments and changes and to raise items of interest or concern to patients.

Please contact Wendy O'Shea, on the main practice number, if you would like to join the Patients Forum to help us develop the practice in line with patient needs. Your input will also be of interest as we progress towards the changes planned by the Government.