

Bradford on Avon
Health Centre
Newsletter



September 2006

Edition 7.

Diabetes Awareness Evening

An education evening is being held on Wednesday 6th September at 7.00 p.m. – 8.00 p.m. at The Health Centre about Diabetes.

Dr Nell Wyatt (Lead GP for Diabetes) and Marian Carpenter (Diabetes Nurse) will be speaking about diabetes – what it is, why it is on the increase, why some people have diabetes and others don't and what you can do to prevent yourself or your family from getting it.

Everyone is welcome! Please just come along!

This event is the first of its kind being organised by the Patient Participation Group.

A.G.M.

18th September 2006

The Patient Participation Group is holding its first A.G.M. on Monday 18th September at 7.00 p.m. at The Health Centre.

Dr James Heffer is the guest speaker and will be discussing the future of The Health Centre in Bradford on Avon

Travel Vaccinations

New travel vaccinations charges were introduced on 1st August 2006.

You will need to pay for your vaccinations at the time of your appointment.

Please remember to book your appointment in plenty of time to ensure that you can receive all the relevant injections that your require.

An Update on Bradford on Avon Hospital Site

The West Wilts Primary Care Trust formally declared Bradford on Avon Hospital and its site surplus to requirements at a Board meeting in June. The PCT is planning to sell the site and has appointed Humbert's, the estate agents, to manage this on its behalf. It is likely that a sale will occur in the autumn of this year. The PCT has stated that it would like to see a mixture of social, health and residential development on the site. The Bradford on Avon Development Trust, in conjunction with the Town Council and Health Project Group, is working towards a bid for the site which would allow such a development to take place.

The Health Centre Team

We are delighted to welcome back Dr Louise Paterson following maternity leave!

Jonathan Cowie and Emma Garrett are joining us too! Jonathan is our new dentist who hopes to start in October and Emma will be undertaking nursing clinics from September.

Green Tree Health

Mr Steve Pope, Orthopaedic Consultant, now offers private orthopaedic consultations from Green Tree Health. He is able to advise on all orthopaedic problems and has a particular interest in back, knee and hip surgery. Your GP will be able to discuss with you if it is appropriate to see him.

Larissa Horder is also new to Green Tree Health she is replacing Joanne Elms, our Chiroprapist. We wish Joanne all the best for the future with her new young family.

Osteopathy - Anthony Weller is taking over from Joanne Lushington. Anthony and Jo have worked very closely at Green Tree Health over the last 18 months so you can be reassured that you will receive the same standard of care from Anthony as you have from Jo.

National Eczema Week (16th – 23rd September)

The week aims to raise awareness of the condition that affects one in 12 adults and one-fifth of school-age children.

What is eczema?

Eczema (or dermatitis) is a common skin condition. There are several different types, the most common being **atopic eczema**, which affects both children and adults and is closely associated with asthma and hay fever.

Symptoms

Eczema isn't usually life-threatening, but the red, inflamed skin can feel unbearably hot and itchy. The itchiness tends to make people scratch, causing bleeding and making the skin vulnerable to infection. Dry, cracked skin can also make movement painful. Adults and children are often too uncomfortable to sleep, leading to disturbed sleeping patterns and irritability.

Facts and stats

- 73 per cent of sufferers worry about their appearance
- 47 per cent are embarrassed when with people they don't know very well
- 29 per cent feel people don't want to touch them
- 27 per cent have been teased or bullied because of their eczema
- 46 per cent feel there is no release from eczema

Where can I find out more?

The National Eczema Society provides practical information, support and advice to people with eczema (as well as dermatitis and sensitive skin) and their families. For more information, call 0207 281 3553 or go to www.eczema.org.

Clinical Trials

- **Do you have a persistent cough following a viral infection?**
- **Do you have osteoarthritis or rheumatoid arthritis and need regular painkillers?**
- **Do you suffer from problems with erections? Are you aged 18-65?**
- **Do you have Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) and your symptoms are not well controlled on your current inhalers?**

If you have said **YES** to any of these questions and are interested in finding out more please telephone Sue Matthews on 01225 860014 or Beverley Lewis Belza on 860033.