**Bradford on Avon and Melksham Patients’ Participation Group**

**Chairman’s Report to the A.G.M. 2012**

Compared to 2011 this past year has been a fairly quiet twelve months for the Committee in that we have had no merger issues to sort out.

We had three very interesting talks at our quarterly meetings. The first by our own Nurses describing the various services and clinics available to patients. I think those of us present on that occasion were surprised at just how many and varied these were. At the March meeting we had a presentation by the Great Western Ambulance Service on the early diagnosis of a stroke and heart attack, the resuscitation techniques available, (with a practical demonstration) and the First Responder Service. The third meeting in June provided us with the opportunity to hear from two Practice Partners why the merger took place, how it has worked so far and what of the future. We are very grateful to Angie Benford (Business Partner) and Dr Nell Wyatt (a GP Partner) for their openness and clarity in covering this subject.

We had originally planned to hold a Garden Party in the summer, but unfortunately there were not enough volunteers for the catering arrangements, so regretfully we decided to cancel this event. I am grateful to Jen and Jim Andrews for provisionally booking the Garden and the band.

We continue to enjoy excellent working relationships with the Health Centre staff, Alda Sinclair and Michelle Coleman both of whom play a very positive role in the PPG. Within the past year we have purchased two high chairs and two blood pressure machines for the Practice.

We have been represented at the NHS Stakeholders meetings as well as activities at the RUH and it is important that this aspect of our work continues, because it enables us to keep up to date with external developments.

By the time you read this report, our President, Dr Ethel Johnson will have retired. I would like on your behalf to thank her for her active involvement in our affairs and to wish her a very happy retirement.

As I have already announced I will not be seeking re-election. I am extremely grateful to all the Committee members for their support and contributions these past three years. Because some of our members have moved out of the area, we do need some new blood, so I urge you to consider joining us in taking the PPG forward into the future. A future which, I am sure will prove even more interesting and rewarding.

Derek Glover, Chairman