

Newsletter

Spring 2007



**Burton &
Bransgore Medical Centres**

NO SMOKING DAY WEDNESDAY 14th MARCH

Once again our SmokeStop tutor, Caroline, will be available at the Burton Surgery on **No Smoking Day** to have a chat about the services we offer at the surgery and those available in the locality. Caroline may even be making some more of the lovely smoothies we all enjoyed a couple of years ago. Come along and find out about making a fresh start.

Wednesday 14th March Burton Surgery

'Make a Fresh Start'

**Come along and get advice
from our Smokestop Tutor**

11am - 1pm

3pm - 5pm



Last year the Practice SmokeStop service helped nearly 90 of our patients to quit. So even if you can't come along on 14th March, enquire about the Service we offer.

www.theburtonsurgery.co.uk

Take a look at the Practice website for the latest news and services. You can also book your repeat medication on line through the website, just follow the form set up under 'Repeat Prescriptions' in the menu on the left hand side.

DNA's (DID NOT ATTEND)

We suffered a drastic increase in the number of DNA's in the first two months of the year. **275 appointments** were wasted, compared with 188 for the same period last year. This amounts to **46 hours** of surgery time, or one of the doctors not working for a fortnight.

Currently we write to anyone who DNAs a second time, but this will now be happening on every DNAd appointment.

Help us, to help you by:

- **Remembering your appointments;**
- **Attending them on time; or,**
- **Telephoning and cancelling unwanted appointments.**

PEOPLE NEWS

Welcome to a new member of the Practice nursing team, Rachel. Rachel is a very experienced Nurse and will be working at both Burton and Bransgore.

Also relatively new to the Practice team is Jeannette. Jeannette is a very experienced Health Care Assistant who will be working with Caroline, our Senior HCA, and the nursing team doing phlebotomy and other tests.

Dr Gamper is taking a sabbatical for the month of April, but be reassured that he will be back, full time, in May.

Dr Longley became the proud father of a baby boy in February.

'FLU & PNEUMONIA VACCINE

Thank you to everyone who attended our 'flu clinics this year, especially as they were run later than usual.

Pneumonia vaccine for the over 65's is still available. The immunization is free of charge for all our patients aged 65 and over. This is a 'lifetime' inoculation, ie, you should only need it once. If you haven't already been innoculated, please make an appointment at either surgery.

BRANGSORE COMMUNITY RESPONDERS

Community Responders are volunteers trained and despatched by South Central Ambulance Service to attend serious medical emergency calls within a five minute drive of the Brangsgore village centre. They provide life support care until the arrival of the trained ambulance professionals.

Community Responders carry oxygen and a defibrillator as well as other medical equipment. They can be with a patient very quickly – providing emergency care in the crucial time before the ambulance arrives.

The team are looking to recruit two more volunteer 'Responders', and if that seems a bit daunting, they need help with fundraising and admin. So if you are interested, look up their website:

<http://uk.geocities.com/brangsgorecommunityresponders/index.html>

Or ring **Adrian Tindall**
Group Co-ordinator
07855 331360

COMMUNITY CARE GROUPS

The communities of both Brangsgore and Burton have the benefit of Care Groups. These worthy Groups are run by volunteers and, for the most part, organise and fund such things that needy individuals cannot access through any other means. For example this can be the provision of equipment and care lines, help with transport to the Medical

Centre or Hospital. Burton also runs a lunch club for the elderly every 2nd Thursday of the month at the URC Hall.

Involvement in these groups in your spare time is very rewarding and has the added benefit of getting more engaged with your local community.

The respective chairpersons to contact are

BURTON & WINKTON CARE GROUP
Gill Farwell **01202 484251**

BRANGSORE CARE GROUP
Sheesha Newbury **01425 673058**

QUESTIONNAIRES

Thank you to everyone who has helped the Practice by filling in one of the questionnaires that have been around the Practice in the last few months. The results are analysed and, where possible, changes do come about. For example, I hope Brangsgore patients see the benefit of a quicker computer system.



Your comments and views are welcomed by the Practice, whether through the annual questionnaire, or directly to the Practice. You can do this by either contacting the Practice Manager, Lorraine Trim, or, if you wish to remain anonymous, via one of our Patient Representatives. Alternatively use the pink slips on the windowsills in both waiting rooms. We invite you to post the completed slips in the repeat prescription boxes as these are emptied throughout the day.

PRIMARY CARE TRUST (PCT)

On 1st October the three Dorset PCT's (South & East/South West and North) joined together to become one larger organisation entitled the Dorset PCT, with headquarters at Dorchester. Details of the new PCT can be found on their website: www.dorset-pct.nhs.uk