

# **NEWS from the PPG @ KMMP!**

Intrigued? Well, at the **Knebworth and Marymead Medical Practice**, all patients are automatically members of the **Patient Participation Group**.

We aim to be a bridge between the staff and patients, to help practically where possible, to keep patients informed of developments and to organise a range of talks, walks and activities locally.



Our thanks must go to **Graham Fothergill** who for many years has done an excellent job writing the regular PPG **newsletters** to keep patients up to date with health matters. These will now be produced by other PPG Officers.

## **A New Managing Partner.**

We are delighted to announce the appointment of **Andrew Harrington**. He has pledged to tackle some of the thorny problems that have caused patients concern over the recent months. He writes:

"I am thrilled to be joining KMMP as the new managing partner. Ken Spooner has now fully retired, and we thank him for his work over the past years.

At the surgeries we have ambitious plans to develop new services, upgrade systems and processes, bring in new staff to provide even more appointments and care and integrate further with partners who work locally. We will also sort the PHONES!

I am a nurse with over 35 years' experience in the NHS, charity, national, and international health and care sector. I have worked in senior roles in primary care, secondary care, community care and mental health services. Until October of this year I was the CEO of the Milton Keynes GP Federation, working with 26 member practices and providing services across five surgeries and a population of 310,000.

The existing partners and I will be sorry to see **Dr Osman** retire in December. However, I am pleased to say that after a well-earned holiday she will be back. We have plans for a Women's Health Service Hub, bringing all aspects of women's health together in a single clinic. Dr Osman will clinically lead this, supported by admin and nursing colleagues.

We will also be developing a Diabetes Hub, Carers' Café, Enhanced Minor Surgery services, Dermatology services and creating a care home support team to improve our offer to the 170+ plus patients we have in four care homes across the south Stevenage area.

We are one practice, two sites. So, patients will see more services being offered on different sites. We will work with all patients to ensure they can access services and book in advance to these. We will also be supporting patients to access and use digital platforms to support their self-managed care.

Lots to do, exciting times ahead. Please do give me and the team feedback and ideas. I can be contacted via the surgery, or via [Knebworth.manager@nhs.net](mailto:Knebworth.manager@nhs.net), as can Nic Dungan, our new operations manager.

We all hope you have a happy and healthy Christmas, remember Covid boosters and flu jabs!!"

## **Vaccination Update – more than 4000 vaccinations given since September!**

KMMP is part of the Primary Care Network (PCN) along with other Stevenage surgeries. Since September, Dan Taylor has led sessions every week on Thursday afternoons and Saturday mornings at the Roebuck Surgery with more than two hundred patients attending at each session.

This could not have been possible without tremendous support from a team of willing volunteers. These included clinical and administrative staff from the four Practices in the PCN, members of the St John Ambulance as vaccinators and last, but not least, PPG members from the four Practices on marshalling duty, either in the car park, at the entrance to and on the inside of the surgery.

In recent sessions, patients who had not already had their flu vaccination have been offered the opportunity to have it along with the Covid jab (one in each arm!).

These vaccination sessions are planned to continue for a few more weeks until all the PCN's eligible patients have been included. If the government's Joint Committee of Vaccination and Immunisation deem that there is need to extend the Covid booster programme to younger patients, no doubt this will be accommodated by the PCN in a similar way.

## **Christmas and the New Year opening times at KMMP**

<b>Christmas</b>							<b>New Year</b>				
Fri 23	Sat 24	Sun 25	Mon 26	Tues 27	Weds 28	Thur 29	Fri 30	Sat 31	Sun 1	Mon 2	Tues 3
Open	<b>CLOSED</b>				Open	Open	Open	<b>CLOSED</b>			Open

## ***PPG meeting Tuesday December 13th at 7.00 pm by Zoom.***

There will be updates on Surgery matters, followed by a

### ***Christmas quiz!***



devised by Graham Fothergill – with prizes to be delivered to your home later! Please send your email address to one of the Officers below if you would like the Zoom link.

**All patients are most welcome to attend!**

***Season's Greetings and  
a very Happy New Year to you all!***



### **PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP OFFICERS**

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