



**CHAWTON PARK
SURGERY**

WELCOME TO YOUR NEW LOOK PATIENT PARTICIPATION NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2022

WE ARE PLEASED TO WELCOME

Dr Catherine Standing starting at the Surgery on
Monday 14th November 2022

She will be working Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays

RETURNING FROM
MATERNITY LEAVE IN
JANUARY IS

DR HANNAH O'RIORDAN

WE AIM TO BRING YOU
NEWS, VIEWS
COMMENTS, INFO
WHAT TO DO.....
WHERE TO GO.....
WHO TO SEE.....

NEED HELP OR ADVICE?

Your GP does not have to be the
first person to ask. There are many
options available: PHYSIO? NURSE?

E-CONSULT... available via the
Practice website:

www.chawtonparksurgery.nhs.uk

or TELEPHONE.... 01420 542542

or

ASK YOUR PHARMACIST
(They really are pretty good!)

DID YOU KNOW.....
ROUTINE MAMMOGRAPHY
STOPS AT 71?
DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN SELF
REFER EVERY 3 YEARS?
Email hhft.breastscreening@nhs.net

MENS HEALTH: THERE ARE NO ROUTINE CHECKS
FOR PROSTATE OR TESTICULAR CANCERS

IF YOU ARE AGED 40-74 YOU CAN REQUEST A
HEALTH CHECK AT THE SURGERY

Further information available at

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/prostate-cancer/psa-testing>

The surgery has been under tremendous pressure since Covid and the lockdown procedures which changed the way GP surgeries work. It is not only Chawton Park Surgery (CPS) who are suffering, surgeries up and down the country are under the same pressures, namely trying to see as many patients as possible.

For CPS the added pressure of taking on patients from Bentley has been a real challenge. Many people do not realise that Bentley surgery closed as a result of no doctors stepping forward to take on the partnership, in other words, to manage a 'company'. Not only do the partners have clinical responsibility, but they take on legal and financial responsibilities too. According to the British Medical Association, during 2020-2021, practices in the UK have lost 644 GPs, and NHS estimates suggest that there is a shortfall of 10,500 Doctors, of which only about 30% would train to be a GP.

Bentley patients were 'distributed' to 9 different practices in the area, and this was done by the CCG, or Care Commissioning Group, a layer of NHS management which no longer exists! As a Bentley patient, it was heart-breaking to see the loss of a local surgery and the loss of excellent GPs. But they too were under pressure, and all had Covid themselves during or after the pandemic. We had very little influence as to which practice we were allocated to, and the Wilson practice took on more patients than Chawton Park. Alongside patients from Bentley came the addition of two care homes, as those patients still had to have a GP to care for them. CPS took one, Wilson practice took the other. So it has not been an easy ride for anyone in recent times.

Future newsletters will include facts and figures to demonstrate exactly what the staff are dealing with on a daily basis. For example:

67 people did not turn up for their booked flu vaccination in October.

4318 routine and repeat prescriptions were processed during October. This requires each item to be checked and signed off before patients can collect their prescriptions. Each prescription may have a number of different items on it.

The staff answered over **14848** telephone calls in October this year.

PPG, what is it, who are we?

The **Patient Participation Group** is a group of patients, registered at CPS, who work together with the Practice manager and GPs at the surgery on behalf of the patients. We meet regularly and discuss how we, as non-medical people, can support the practice. For example, you may have seen volunteers at the flu clinics, we were there!

We also aim to communicate important issues from the practice to the patients.

If you would like to contact the PPG please email ppg.chawtonparksurgery@nhs.net

Or ring the surgery 01420 542542, leave a message and we will get back to you.



This is very sad to see and difficult to manage, and amounts to approximately 10 extra patients a day who could have been seen.

Please, please ensure you let the Surgery know if you are unable to attend so it can be given to another patient.

Did you miss your *flu vaccination*?
Vaccines are still available so do please call the surgery on **01420 542542** to book an appointment

ITS NOT TOO LATE!!