

# **News from Holbrook and Shotley Surgery**

## **Website**

Our website has been moved to a new platform in order to cope with upcoming technology and functionality. This has meant that it may have been unavailable intermittently, which we were unaware of. Apologies for any problems you may have had.

## **TV screens**

Following daily phone calls to the provider, these are now finally working at both ends and we hope will provide a good mixture of local advertising, information from your surgery and national healthy living advice.

## **Training days**

Our next training afternoons will be on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October and Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November when we will be shut from 1pm. Please ring 111 for advice if your query cannot wait until the following day. In an emergency, dial 999.

## **Parking at the practices**

Please be respectful when parking at the practices. You should not park within 10m of the junction or park on, or near, driveways. We appreciate that many patients need to drive and have limited mobility but this is starting to cause an issue. We will soon have a bike rack installed at Shotley so please enjoy the fresh air if you can.

## **Flu Clinics**

Our flu clinics this year will run from 2.00 - 6.30pm on:

Holbrook: Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September and Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October

Shotley: Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October and Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October

If you are over 65, please accept this as your invitation to attend. Those under 65 with an eligible condition will be sent a letter.

**Please note that we are unable to vaccinate you unless you are eligible and you should attend a pharmacy for this if required.**

## **Summer Appointments**

We have had a number of comments about appointments over the summer, both positive and negative, and will be reviewing these for our future planning. As we knew that we would be short of doctors we decided to offer on-the-day appointments only and this was widely advertised in advance. However, some commented that they would like to have been able to pre-book so we will ensure that this is taken into account if we have to take this action again.

## **Donations**

We have had a number of generous donations over the last few months and would like to pass our thanks again to those who have kindly contributed.

These donations are enhanced by our book sales, which have totalled £1000 this year. Thanks also to those who donated and purchased books.

We have spent some of the money on an ECG machine, blood pressure monitors to loan to patients, books on respiratory disorders to highlight care to patients, some chairs for the nurses' rooms, music in the waiting rooms and a bike rack at Shotley. We will also be buying a new defibrillator for each site.

Julia Smith  
Practice Manager