



Welcome to the Buckden and Little Paxton Surgeries Patients Association- April 2017

I thought it might be useful for new patients to know more of what we are about and to remind others of who we are. As a patient registered with the Buckden & Little Paxton Surgeries, you are a member of the Surgeries Patients' Association (BLPSPA) which exists to support the surgeries in their services to you. Although we do some fundraising, our main aim is to address, where we can, your collective non-clinical healthcare needs and all manner of issues which may affect you as patients. Among others our funds have provided amenities in surgeries like the check-in screens, the wipe-clean chairs and Wi-Fi.

We are a friendly, all-inclusive group and meet 4 times a year. Reflecting the spread of patients, there are representatives from Buckden, Little Paxton, Brampton, Grafham, the Offords and other outlying villages. We'd welcome new people onto the group to represent the wide spread of patients. Whilst joining might not be an option, you may feel you have a particular skill to offer that could be useful occasionally e.g. designing posters, publicity, organising events.

In September there is an AGM, held annually where the business part is relatively brief. At this meeting, all the officers will be elected for the coming year as our constitution states that they should be re-elected on an annual basis. We would be keen to see more patients attend. The AGM is really an opportunity to bring the wider audience together to discuss plans for your surgery.

If you'd like to know more, please do contact me:

Flora Sheringham, Chair 01480 811189

f.sheringham@btinternet

The *Healthy Living Event* was held at Buckden School. Although it was disappointing that so few attended, the general consensus was that it was fun and well-worthwhile with a number of local providers taking part including a dietitian, Slimming World, YippeeYoga, Meditation, One Leisure, Dancing Tots, Pilates, School/After School Activities, From Couch to 5K. Others also generously sent in leaflets and information and there were opportunities to win a trial class or two in the free prize draw for those who were there. It's not too late to find out more as our surgeries will have leaflets available.

Look out for the *Audiology Awareness Event* at the end of June. Details to follow.

It is satisfying to note that the BLPSPA is in a healthy position both in its membership and financially. We do need to continue to have support from the community to provide the services that you have come to expect. Among these is the Voluntary car scheme which provides transport for patients who need it to keep appointments at the surgery. The demand is high and we need more drivers so if you would like to help, can spare an hour occasionally and have a car, do get in touch. Pam Dodman is the coordinator and will tell you more.

Contact her on 01480 812880

pam.dodman@buckdencambs.co.uk