



The Village Surgery

49, High Street
Wolstanton
Newcastle-under-Lyme
Staffs
ST50ET

Tel: 01782 626172
Fax: 01782710478

Website:

www.thevillagesurgery.co.uk

Doctors:

Dr S. T. Manian
Dr M Arora
Dr F Shaheen

Surgery Hours

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Friday 8am—6pm.
Thursday 8am—1pm.

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House
Nursing Home

Social Care

Bed Blocking:
Scandalous.

Carers visit
three

Care
Home

Rest Home

Volume 2 Number 4 Spring 2017

Hourly Carer

A & E Targets missed

Nursing Home

Personal Care

Most of us will have followed the debate and seen the pictures and clips showing the state of our hospitals and particularly A & E departments up and down the country. On these pages we have continually advised people to avoid going to A & E wherever possible and make other arrangements....The Haywood Walk In, Out of Hours Service or Ring 111.

Locally there is pressure to reduce the NHS budget and one way is to close community hospital wards and beds. Places like Brighton House, Longton Cottage Hospital and Bradwell Hospital are facing threats of bed closures. Closing beds in Community Hospitals means people to have to stay longer in the main Royal Stoke Hospital and 'blocks' medical, surgical and intensive care beds. Moreover, a prolonged stay in hospital cannot be good for a patient able to be discharged but still in need of a care package.

Do you think that government both local and national is providing adequately for both health care and social care?

So what can we do?

If you need more information then visit:

Social Care articles:

'What's for the chop where you live?' at <<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-38838852>>

'NHS Health Check: Nine in Ten Hospitals overcrowded this winter'. <<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-38853707>>

Today programme interview on Radio 4 on 06/02/2017: <<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b08cqgd3>> Listen at 1hr 32 and 2hrs 10 Mins. It features the case of Mrs Iris Sibley.

We can all make our views known about the Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) published by the local CCG. The authors of the STP are very keen to take people's views into consideration.

Email address: contactus@ecstaffs.co.uk

Further you can make your views known to your MP, Mr Paul Farrelley, at the House of Commons or your local councillors. Do try to get involved with the shape of the future of the NHS and Social Care ...for all our sakes.

DiABETES UK

KNOW DIABETES. FIGHT DIABETES.

North Staffordshire Local Group

Diabetes is a condition that can affect anybody at any time in their life, regardless of how healthy they may be. At the moment there is no known cure for diabetes but research and work continues to address this shortfall. Diabetes causes the body to experience problems in relation to the use, distribution and processing of blood sugar (glucose) within the blood.

There are 3 main types of diabetes:

- Type 1 results from **the body's failure to produce insulin**, and requires the person to inject insulin or wear an insulin pump.
- Type 2 results from **insulin resistance**, a condition in which cells fail to use insulin properly, some times combined with an absolute insulin deficiency.
- Type 3 (**gestational diabetes**) occurs when pregnant women without a previous diagnosis of diabetes develops a high blood glucose level. It may precede development of type 2.

There can be serious side effects from diabetes and for many the thought of having diabetes can seem daunting. However, as many of the North Staffs Branch members and their families will testify, the condi-

tion can be controlled and people with diabetes can lead a full and active life.

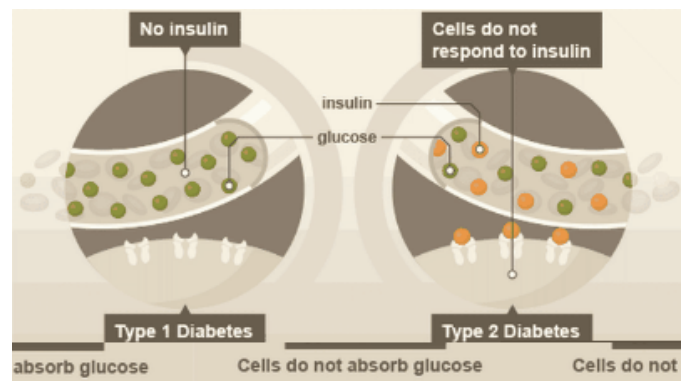


Patient Participation Group Newsletter

Contacts for Diabetes UK

Diabetes UK North Staffs Office
Bradwell Lodge
Porthill
Newcastle-under-Lyme
Staffordshire
ST5 8PS

Tel: 01782 61690 Mob: 07841 347065
Email: office@diabetesuknorthstaffs.org



Village Surgery GP returns to North Staffs.

I recently met and interviewed Dr Shaheen for a newsletter article and was delighted to discover that she had grown up in Stoke on Trent. She attended St Luke's Primary School in Hanley, then Berry Hill High School followed by A Levels at The Sixth Form College. After that, she read Bio-Medical Sciences at Durham University before studying Medicine at Newcastle upon Tyne University. She insists she is not a Geordie but a confirmed Potter!

Her GP training was again all done in North Staffs and Stoke on Trent. She was very pleased to join the Village Surgery as previous jobs in the area had been very rural and getting to house calls could be touch and go. She feels very privileged to have been able to return to work in her local community in North Staffordshire.



She traces her wish to be a doctor back to a family illness when she had been so impressed by the work of the GP that she wanted to be able to help people in a similar way. It is very clear that Dr Shaheen has truly found her vocation as she is very much enjoying being a GP. She says the work is challenging as more patients need treatment and there are increasingly fewer GPs available. She particularly finds helping people with cancer and end of life care rewarding. Above all, it is how she can help people in the small but important ways.

The NHS is very dear and important to Dr Shaheen but she admits that, because of GP and Doctor shortages, changes will need to be made in future. She envisages changes involving nurses and pharmacists. She feels that GP surgeries opening 7 days a week is unrealistic and unachievable in the present climate. The NHS could inform people better of the options available to them to help to ease the NHS back log: for instance NHS Choices and Patient.co.uk as well as ringing 111.

The least favourite aspect of being a GP for Dr Shaheen is without any doubt the mountain of administration. She would prefer to be seeing patients. Her most favourite activity is being able to help people in such a wide variety of ways. She likes talking to them, getting to know them and trying to understand their illness from their point of view.

I asked her what she would say to a young person keen to be a doctor. Her advice was that they should do some work experience with a GP or in hospital. She was most encouraged by her work experience from the Sixth Form at the NSRI A & E and Radiology. They should have a caring nature and want to help people. They must be prepared for the job being very high pressured and be ready to commit themselves to a long period of study. Even now she says her GP training never stops. (JGTG: Ed.)

Meet The Village Surgery

PRACTICE TEAM

Doctors:	Dr S T Manian	Dr M Arora	Dr F Shaheen
Sessional Doctors	Dr R. Bhogal (3 Sessions per week); Dr V. Ukachukwu (2 Sessions per fortnight)		
Nursing team:	Ann Oakley, Paula Bourne, Sarah Lightfoot (Practice Nurses) Lynn Williams (Health care assistant)		
Practice Manager:	Christine Payne	Assistant Manager:	Lesley Durose
Reception/Admin:	Joy Hadley, Tracy Foulkes, Jayne Gerken, Linda Kelly, Neelam Khunger, Caroline Kirbyshire, Elizabeth Roberts,		
Prescription Clerk / Admin Assistant	Sandra Henshall		

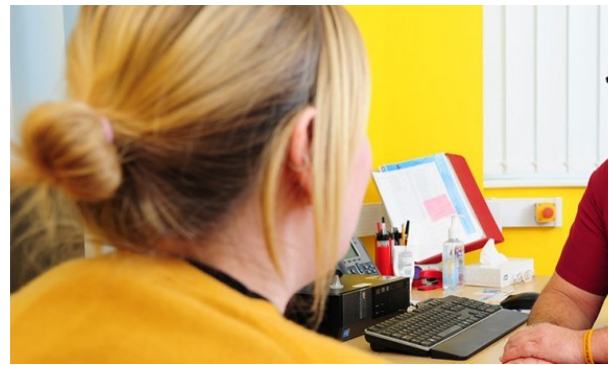
COMMENTS

Have you had a good experience at The Village Surgery? Were you happy with the appointment booking system? Were you



treated well by reception and medical staff? If so then please let us know at over the counter if you feel it is appropriate. Equally if you have had a negative experience please tell reception in the surgery. If you would prefer then go to <<http://www.thevillagesurgery.co.uk/>>.

Look on the left under 'Key Information' and click on 'complaints and comments'. We do want to hear from you one way or the other so we can improve the service to our patients.



Booking Appointments :

Do you know how you can book even same day appointments? You can call in to the surgery; you can ring up on 626172 or you can use a PIN to book your appointment on line. You can obtain your PIN from the website or ask at reception. There is a pre-bookable section on the site if it appears general booking appointments are full. Appointments begin daily at 7.30 and finish at 18.00hrs (Mornings only on Thursday). The Village Surgery prides itself on patients obtaining prompt even same day appointments in urgent circumstances. It is rare for patients to have to wait longer than 48 hours. You can book appointments up to four weeks in advance if needed.



NHS 111

A & E reviews show that NHS 111 is generally working well. Our GPs and out of hours doctors do understand how frustrating NHS 111 can be but feel it is improving. NHS 111 won't always advise going to A & E: if they do it's sound advice. Remember too that The Haywood Drop in Centre may be better for you than A & E.

TALK ON COMMUNITY PHARMACIES

Tania Cork, Chief Officer of the Local Pharmaceutical Committee, will be giving a talk to The Village Surgery PPG group at their next meeting on March 27th at 18.00hrs in the surgery. You would be most welcome to come and join us.