

## THE UPPER DALES HEALTH WATCH

*The Patient Participation Group for the Central Dales GP Practice*

### Synopsis of the meeting held on October 10<sup>th</sup> 2016

- **Wensleydale Wheels** – the proposal was discussed and it is clear that a lot more detail has still to be worked up. A bid for £125K has been submitted to The Big Lottery for a four year pilot project for which evidence of local support is needed.
- Training for Aysgarth Surgery staff to use the **N3 line** has still to be arranged.
- **Dr Jones will be retiring** on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017. There is not sufficient funding to replace him and continue to have two surgeries. Dr. Jones will provide a locum service 2017-8 when other doctors are on holiday. As from April 2017 there will be a GP two week rota system.
- **Rachel Spensley** had joined the Practice Reception team.
- Every other Friday, Pharmacist Shaun Hockey, will be visiting the Practice to help patients move to the most **cost effective drugs**. His post is funded until June 2017.
- The Central Dales are currently hosting a **medical student**. He will only sit in on a consultation if the patient is happy for him to do so.
- Patients eligible for **'flu jabs** need to make an appointment at Hawes or Aysgarth Surgery.
- **Aysgarth Surgery Reception office** has been refurbished.
- A **volunteer** is urgently needed **to deliver prescriptions** on a Monday in the van the Practice has bought for the purpose. The Monday round consists of leaving prescriptions at the drop off points in West Burton, West Witton, Redmire, Carperby, Askrigg & Bainbridge. Volunteers will need to be over 30 with a clean driving licence and be DBS checked. Anyone able to help should contact Lynn Irwin, the Practice Manager, a.s.a.p.
- **The Step up/Step down bed at Sycamore Hall** has been used twice. So far £150 has been received in donations to pay for the TV and other non-medical furniture & equipment, and a bid has gone in to the Richmondshire District Council's Upper Dales Area Partnership to support this pilot project.
- There will be a meeting at the Fountain Hotel in Hawes on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> October 5.00 – 7.00pm. The future of the **Darlington Memorial Hospital** is the issue of most interest locally.
- **HRWCCG's 2016-17 budget** remains very challenging and difficult decisions continue having to be made.

Jane Ritchie  
Hon. Secretary.