

Patients' Forum Chairperson's Report 2016

As most of you will be aware, there have been significant changes to the NHS over the past year, with the Stockport Together partnership and the ongoing development of a Multi-Speciality Community Provider (MCP). Nevertheless Marple Cottage Patient Forum has continued to offer its input and support to the Practice and I have summarised the last year below:

1. Patient Involvement

The Forum has been run by a small but committed team, who sacrifice an hour every 6-8 weeks to discuss Practice and Forum matters, and get involved where / if they can with mini-projects.

We continue to meet every 6-8 weeks at the Practice, and almost always are attended by a member of the Practice, usually Johan Taylor, Practice Manager. I am grateful to everyone who is involved, and I am absolutely delighted that many new faces have attended our regular short meetings. Some people have attended a few times others only once but all are very welcome and bring new ideas and support our Practice.

In 2017 we will continue to open the forum meetings to anyone who wishes to attend. There is no obligation to commit to attend every meeting, but feel free to attend whenever you can.

We do need more people to help, even if they cannot attend meetings but can offer time with projects or health promotion. Developing our patient representation will continue to be a key priority for 2017.

2. CQC

We were very pleased to help in any way we could in early February 2016 when the Care Quality Commission (CQC) visited and the Practice was awarded Outstanding, a level rarely given. Some of us were interviewed over the phone but all the staff put in so much work, gave so much time and showed such good organisation and motivation that the award was richly deserved.

3. Health Promotion Presentations

We have continued to provide health promotion talks for patients, with fascinating presentations by Dr Khan on Pain Management, and Dementia by Dr Steve Bradshaw. Indeed the Dementia presentation proved so popular that numbers had to be restricted. It was very clear, helpful and above all compassionate. Dr Bradshaw stayed after the main presentation to give personal advice and answer questions.

Organising more patient presentations is a key priority for 2017. We would be very glad of suggestions of subjects relevant to a significant number of patients.

Our plans in 2017

1. Next Patient Presentation: **Bowel Cancer Health & Screening – everything you wanted to know but didn't want to ask!**

Speaker: **Jeff Tipton, Speaker for Bowel Cancer UK**

Time/Date: **18:15 on Wednesday 22nd February 2017**

Venue: **Marple Methodist Church** (please use side entrance)

To ensure we have sufficient seating please can you confirm your intention to attend by emailing stoccg.marplecottagesupport@nhs.net by 20th February 2017. Thank you.

2. Walking for Health



In 2016 Stockport MBC organised a series of easy walks for patients who might need support and encouragement as part of the national Walking for Health initiative.

As from **1st March 2017** the Patient Forum will be working with the Practice and SMBC to begin another series of walks. Please see posters in the Practice and the Practice website. Registration forms can be collected from reception or downloaded from the Practice Website

3. Forum meetings:

We would like more patients to share their ideas and feedback and attend our information evenings. They are short, informative and very informal. We will try to let you know of the meeting dates and times via the Forum noticeboard at the practice, and on the meeting minutes, which will also be on the Practice website.

Next Forum meeting: 18:15 - 19:30 on Wednesday 19th April 2017 (TBC)
– please check Practice noticeboard