

Our quarterly general meeting was held on Wednesday 8th June when we welcomed as guest speaker Amanda Claxton, the Information and Advisory Manager for Age UK Peterborough. As well as attending this meeting and giving out a great deal of information about the services the charity offers in our area, Amanda also comes along to Wansford surgery on the third Monday of each month between 9 am and 12 noon. She is available in the reception area to give information and advice to patients who might have a specific problem or who are interested in the various voluntary activities that Age UK provide. A selection of leaflets are always displayed in the Wansford reception area.

Items of interest from the business meeting of officials held prior to the general meeting were announced and discussed – these were as follows:

A new Communicare noticeboard is being created at the Kings Cliffe surgery which will display items shown at Wansford.

After receipts and expenditure funds are now in excess of two and a half thousand pounds – there were no requests from the practice for contributions towards any new equipment.

The quarterly practice newsletter is now being made available in the Wansford newsagent's shop – copies will also be placed in the Nassington and Kings Cliffe shops and publication via email to patients has also been agreed.

The practice has appointed a new doctor – Fenella Powell – who will be joining the team this month. She qualified in 1997 from UCL originally training as a surgeon but then moved to general practice and now specializes in family planning and women's health.

Following complaints about the lack of seating for patients awaiting dispensing of their prescriptions in the Pharmacy the door between that area and the adjoining corridor, where there are several chairs, will be left open.

In conjunction with our current campaign to encourage more voluntary drivers for our transport scheme, we are now also looking for people who might be prepared to man a telephone line for a few hours at home, maybe one day a week or fortnight, to provide co-ordination for this service – call costs would be reimbursed. This is currently carried out by surgery reception staff taking up valuable time. If you feel that you could offer some help on a regular basis, please contact reception.

The next social group coffee morning is on Friday 15th July at 10am in the Kings Cliffe Sports Active hall. Our next day trip is a visit to Wells on Sea, North Norfolk on Wednesday 13th July, with a stop at Sandringham estate - circa £20 per person. To reserve a place, or for further information please contact Clare Wagstaffe on 01780 470437 or email: superfoguk@aol.com

Wendy Spencer

(457 words)