



Fowey River  
Practice



Fowey Surgery  
Tel: 01726 829272

Par Health Centre  
Tel: 01726 829272

Polruan Surgery  
Tel: 01726 829272

Further information can be found on the Practice website : <https://www.foweyriverpractice.co.uk/>

## PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP (PPG)

# Newsletter

(February 2020)

### Thank you !

Over the past five years, the Fowey River Practice Patient Participation Group (PPG) has been fundraising to support the Practice and patients and £10,000 has been raised since 2015! You contributed to our yearly cause via the Raffle during Flu clinic sessions, donations from patients and other organisations, the Lions Club, Kerris paintings, books and CDs. The PPG is very grateful for your contributions.

The Practice has purchased TV screens, tables and toys for waiting rooms at Fowey, Par and Polruan Surgeries. Added to this, the Event Monitors and Doppler machine the Practice got a few years ago are in constant use. The latest purchase is a 24-hour blood pressure monitor is already in service.

### Par Track's Social Prescribing Programme

Fowey River Practice is collaborating with Par Track to provide Health, Wellbeing and Physical Activity schemes for patients tailored to them in terms of suitability and safety. This programme is working well and there are many positive outcomes.

### Research

Fowey River Practice has been a dedicated clinical trial centre since 1978. Dr. Mike Waldron has worked in clinical research since 1994, and he was later joined by Dr. Paula-Jane Marrett in 2013. The research team comprises of a co-investigator, a research nurse and 2 study co-coordinators. They are a friendly, committed team who strives to embed research in all areas of the Practice.

The centre has a fully equipped research suite which is secure, private, temperature and humidity monitored for both drug and document storage. The centre have been audited successfully several times and performed in excess of 100 trials in Phase II, III, and IV studies in various indications. Currently they are seeing patients for Diabetic and Cholesterol Studies although recruitment for these has ended.

The dedicated Research coordinator, Toni and Research Assistant and Study Coordinator Jason, will be happy to answer any questions. Please contact them on *Telephone: 01726 829272*.

# PPG News

*Living Well with Dementia workshop (10 December 2019) - Sedgemoor Centre, St Austell*

This workshop was organised by NHS Kernow Clinical Commissioning Group and was one of three workshops focused on dementia in the County. The session was chaired by Dr. Allison Hibbert who is the Clinical Lead on Dementia and although 35 people were present, a member of the Fowey River Practice Patient Participation Group was the only PPG representative who attended the Dementia workshop. The PPG member spoke about the supportive networks related to dementia that people can access in Fowey and surrounding areas which includes clubs, newsletters, memory café, libraries, beach cleaning, Fire and rescue and other Social Services. There was a discussion about caring for patients with dementia and issues of carers providing information for such patients. The PPG member added that it would be useful to get feedback from other people in the county and how people with dementia are supported. It was noted that dementia support currently varies greatly with location as well as population.

*Don't Forget ...*



(MK)

There is a range of books for sale in Fowey and Par Waiting rooms.

Do you have any spare books to add to the fundraising venture?

## **Future of Fowey Hospital**

Our local County Councillor, Dr. Andy Virr, attended a meeting with the Fowey River Practice PPG group in October 2019 to explain current discussions relating to plans for development of the Fowey Hospital site and the uncertain future of the Hospital. Dr. Virr is keen to establish a nursing home within the NHS sector that would benefit the people of Fowey and District areas. Discussions are continuing.

## **GP Updates**

Dr. Luke, who has recently completed his training, will be staying on at the Practice and he is focused on education. Dr. Benjamin is the new Registrar at the Practice whilst Dr. George is currently the *new GP trainee*. Originally from India, Dr. George is delighted to be living in Cornwall with his family and newborn baby. Dr. George enjoys bodyboarding and exploring the Cornish coastline in his free time.