

March 2019



# Worthen Medical Practice Latest News



**Please help us to keep the surgery and village hall a clean and litter free environment. We are noticing increasing amounts of litter and cigarette ends on the car park and the pathway to the surgery. Please use the community bins provided or keep hold of your litter.**



# **The NHS Prescription Charge is £9.00 for each item prescribed from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019**



**The NHS prescription charge is a contribution to the NHS; it is not a payment to the surgery and it is not related to the cost of your medication(s).**

**If you need more than 12 prescriptions a year, you could save money with a Prescription Prepayment Certification – ask a member of the dispensary team for more details.**

# Breast Screening Programme

Our local breast screening team is now working in this area, inviting the women aged about 50-70 who are registered in this practice for routine breast screening.

A research trial is also being done to help assess the benefits and risks of screening women slightly younger than 50 and older than 70. For this research, about half the women aged 47-49 and half of those ages 71-73 are also being sent letters inviting them for screening, plus a leaflet giving them information about the trial.

# Cervical Screening (Smear Test)

The NHS Cervical Screening Programme has made a significant impact on cervical cancer mortality since it was established in 1988, saving an estimated 5,000 lives a year. However, coverage is at a 20-year low and the programme is not meeting its 80% coverage standard.

When you receive a letter to inform you that you are due for your cervical screening please phone the surgery to book an appointment. This is not a painful procedure and only takes a couple of minutes. If you have any worries or questions the Practice Nurse will be happy to talk through the procedure with you.

# Missed Appointments

We are currently experiencing a high number of missed appointments with Julie the nurse.

Recently Julie had 190minutes of missed appointments in one month and 70mins in one day. We therefore apologise for any delay you may have booking an appointment with the nurse because these missed appointments are putting pressure on already full clinics.

Please let us know if you are unable to keep any appointment ideally with at least 24 hours notice so we can offer the appointment to someone else.

# Fellowship of the Royal College of General Practitioners

Dr Kieran was awarded a Fellowship of the Royal College of General Practitioners in London. This award is made by the College in recognition of a significant contributions to medicine, and general practice in particular, and Fellows are ambassadors for the RCGP.

Kieran's award was in recognition of the particularly high standards of care provided at Worthen Medical Practice, and for his role in the Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group developing and promoting quality and safety processes across various sectors of the healthcare in Shropshire. He has worked for many years behind the scenes, ensuring that patients in Shropshire are always central to commissioning decisions, and that in particular, rural communities continue to have effective health care services.

