



## FRIENDS OF ORCHARD SURGERY NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2008

Dear Friends

This newsletter is to invite you to two forthcoming events and to tell you that our current project is the purchase of two 24 hour blood pressure monitors for the surgery. This follows the purchase of the ambulatory ECG monitor which has enabled patients to avoid travelling to Crawley hospital to have the equipment fitted.

Our next ***Christmas Bazaar and Coffee Morning*** will be held on **20th November** between 10.00 and noon at the Unitarian Church Hall (opposite the bus station). Please bring your friends, neighbours and relatives to support this event. There will be a Christmas gift stall, books, raffle and tombola. Our last Coffee Morning held on 8<sup>th</sup> May was not as well supported as we had hoped but those who did come were generous and we raised £352. Can we do even better for the next event?! Thanks again to all our contributors and helpers.

We will be holding a ***Cheese and Wine evening***, incorporating a short Annual Report, on **7<sup>th</sup> October**, commencing at 6.00 p.m. This will be held at the surgery and all members are invited. To assist with our catering, please complete the form below and hand it in to the surgery or send it to our Treasurer at 3 Weald Close, Horsham, RH13 6HE.

We would like to draw patients' attention to the fact that the Surgery is now offering extended hours of opening, which can be booked through the Reception. The main aim of this is to provide easy access to primary care for patients who are at work during normal opening hours. We would encourage people only to use this service if they are unable to make appointments at normal times.

One further innovation, that we hope will be up and running in the next few months, is the Surgery website, which is undergoing development at the moment. This will contain information for patients that we hope will be useful, including a section for use by the Patient participation Group.

We would be pleased to welcome more members to the Committee. We meet six times a year in the afternoon at the surgery to discuss matters of concern to the surgery and patients and to plan future fund-raising events. If you are interested in joining us, please let the Treasurer know (address above) or drop a note into the surgery.

### ***Note from the Surgery***

***The Doctors and Practice Manager would like to thank the PPG for all their help and support.***

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I/we wish to attend the AGM and social gathering on 7th October at 6.00 pm at the surgery

Signed .....