

The Glenfield Surgery

Patient Participation Group



Newsletter July 2016

Welcome to the July edition of the PPG Newsletter. If you wish to receive the newsletter by email each month, then either complete a form in the surgery and leave in the PPG suggestions box in the ground floor waiting room or email your request to glenfieldsurgeryppg@outlook.com.

THE END OF AN ERA AT GLENFIELD SURGERY

Dr John Cooper retires from fulltime working as a General Practitioner on 26 July 2016.

Born in West London in 1954, the second child of Isabelle and Graham Cooper, a Petroleum Chemist with BP, John spent his childhood at the West London address. He was educated at Latymer Upper until he was 18, then moving to the University of London to study Physiology, where he obtained a 1st Class Honours degree in 1975.

John had held a desire to be involved in medicine so in September 1975 he moved to Leicester to study medicine at the new Leicester University Medical School. In 1980 John gained his MBChB (Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery) degree. He then spent a year as a houseman (junior doctor), before commencing 3 years GP training. This involved 2 years in a hospital followed by 1 year at a GP Practice. John spent his year at The Limes surgery in Narborough. There was a close relationship between Glenfield Surgery and The Limes and it became known to John that a Partner at Glenfield was retiring. John applied for the Partnership and was the successful candidate out of 100 applicants.

September 1984 saw John move to the Glenfield practice. At that time there were 6 partners and a 15,000 list size, 1,000 more than today. The GPs were on-call at night and the Practice also covered Roundhills maternity home. John described the Practice as busy in the 1980s but not as busy as it is now due mainly to increased administration and a more demanding patient list.

All GPs have an annual appraisal and every 5 years have to be revalidated by the GMC to continue to practice. John has been an appraiser for a number of years. He is also an educationalist and since 1988/89 has trained GPs. Following the passing of two of the Partners, John became Senior Partner in 1999, and in 2000 he became a FRCGP (Fellow of the Royal College of General Practitioners) in recognition of his work at the Glenfield Surgery.

What are your immediate plans following 26th July? I plan to take August and September off. During August I will be in France in the Dordogne where my son is getting married. My son works for a media company to help supplement his income as an opera singer. Then in September my daughter is also getting married. She lives in London and works for Deloitte.

And longer term? In October I will return on a part-time basis but no longer as a partner.

Biggest changes over the last 25 years? Workload increase, patient demand has gone up significantly. Premises expansion with the extension to the main surgery several years ago and the refurbishments recently completed to the house.

What 2 things would you do if you were Secretary of State for Health? Listen to the junior doctors and put more money into Primary care.

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What are you going to miss most? Patient contact and continuity. I have seen patients as babies, growing into adults and now attending surgery with their babies. I believe I have been a true 'family doctor'.

What are you looking forward to most? Spending more time with my wife, travelling and going to the theatre. I am also interested in taking up watercolour painting.

The Glenfield Surgery can consider itself fortunate to have had John as one of its Partners and at the helm for so long. We are sure that many patients would like to join with the PPG in wishing John a very long, healthy and happy retirement.

OTHER PRACTICE NEWS

Dr L Jones left on 27th June. She had been on a 6 month returner placement after working in Dubai.

Two locums will join the Practice in August.

An advertisement for a salaried GP has been placed.

The Blood Pressure machine should be installed soon.

A new self-arrival machine has been delivered, awaiting installation.

The TV monitor in the first floor waiting room is now operational.

Jude Foulds, Deputy Operations Manager, from LLR Alliance will be helping the Practice to occupy the new consulting rooms. Part of Jude's remit is to look at utilising vacant clinical space in GP Practices i.e. outpatients and day case work, which is being moved from the hospital setting.