

FRIENDS OF THE PRACTICE

PUDDLETOWN SURGERY

REPORT TO THE PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

WEDNESDAY 11 MARCH 2009

The Friends of the Practice volunteers continue to play an active part in supporting the work of the surgery and the patients it serves.

Transport

Requests for transport in the 3 months since our last PPG meeting are as follows:

Example:	10 th December 2007 – 11 March 2008 requests received -	77
	10 th December 2008 – 11 March 2009 requests received -	77

Surprisingly there has been no growth in transports compared to the same period last year. Demand may have levelled out although the overall annual figure is likely to be markedly more than 2007-8, as anticipated in previous reports. I compile my annual report at the end of March each year and will have this available for the next PPG meeting.

Other matters

- Recent referrals of note are as follows: A female patient is being supported by a volunteer who is now taking her to fortnightly 'Memory Café' meetings in Weymouth, a support group for sufferers of Alzheimer's. If these trips are not a success the volunteer will take the patient out on other outings instead. A male patient is being taken to the stroke support group in Dorchester each week by a volunteer. He and his wife have been offered assistance to access other local social groups in Puddletown and Dorchester. It is hoped that the gentleman may also be able to attend Computer classes at Age Concern.
- The Friends of the Practice are holding their annual training and information day in Dorchester on St Georges Day, Thursday 23rd April. We will be offering sessions in basic life support, and other subjects. If anyone from the PPG would like to join us for any of the sessions you will be very welcome. Lunch will be provided and you do not need to commit to the whole day, simply to the sessions which you may find of interest.
- I am currently working with my new manager to try to extend the Friends of the Practice service to other surgeries in the Mid Dorset Rural Practices group. Whilst it is early days we have some ideas on how this might be achieved and will be talking with the group's practice managers in the near future.

Sue Brazier,
Friends of the Practice Coordinator