

# Practice Newsletter

**Drs. McLennan, Ellwood, Connolly, Mason & Chapman**  
***The Health Centre, Freckleton & Fernbank Surgery,***

**Issue August 2010**

**Please take a copy of this newsletter**

## *A Training Practice*

We are a Training Practice providing training to doctors who have completed their foundation years and who wish to specialize in General Practice. The doctors complete three years of Specialist Training and are known as ST1 for the first year, ST2 for the second and so on. When this training is complete they will then be qualified to work in General Practice.

The ST1 and 2 doctors spend six months with us with the ST3 doctor joining us for their final year. All the ST doctors initially sit in on appointments alongside our doctors here at the surgery. The ST doctor then moves on to consulting with patients on their own. They are able to prescribe medications, refer patients and visit the housebound if it is necessary. There is always time built into their

surgeries in order for them to liaise with their GP trainer.

Dr Simon Ellwood, Dr Catherine Connolly and Dr Ruth Mason are qualified GP Trainers who provide regular mentoring, appraisals and feedback.

### Thank You

Many thanks for your continued patience and co-operation whilst we have had several of our doctors off sick.

### Surgery Opening Times

#### Fernbank Surgery

#### Lytham

*Monday-Friday 8.30am-6pm*

#### Freckleton Health Centre

*Monday 8.30am-8.30pm*

*Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8.30am-6pm*

*Wednesday 8.30am-12.30pm*

***Monday evening and Wednesday afternoon appointments are open to all patients. Contact your usual practice site to book.***

### DID NOT ATTEND (DNA) APPOINTMENTS

A total of **155 appointments (almost 32 consulting hours)** were wasted during June 2010 due to patients not turning up for their appointments.

Please let the surgery know if you can't attend and we can then try to offer this appointment to another patient. Thank you.

### Telephone numbers:

***Freckleton Health Centre 01253 657210***

***Fernbank Surgery 01253 657200***

## Staffing Changes & News

Goodbye to Dr Priyan Gunawardena (known as Dr G) who finished his year with us at the end of July, and also to Dr Matt Bramley (ST2 Doctor) who completed his training with us on August 3rd. We wish them both well in the future and thank them for all their hard work.

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Welcome to Dr Prasanna Anthony (ST3 Doctor) who joins us on August 9th for his year placement.

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Welcome to Dr Sam Esuga (ST2 Doctor) who began his six month placement with us on August 4th.

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Mr. David Shone recently joined the practice as a Nurse Clinician. David's role is to work alongside the GPs and manage some of the work usually undertaken by doctors in Primary Care. David has undertaken extensive training and has a great deal of experience to allow him to assess and treat patients and prescribe and refer where necessary.

## Blackpool Illumathon

On Saturday September 4th, several of our members of staff are walking the Blackpool Illumathon, a charity walk in aid of Trinity Hospice Fylde Coast. This is a ladies only midnight walk through the Blackpool Illuminations for a staggering 13 miles. If any patients would like to sponsor our intrepid team, you can visit our website ([www.fernbanksurgery.co.uk](http://www.fernbanksurgery.co.uk)) where there's a link for online sponsorship. We are very grateful for any monies sponsored to such a worthwhile local charity.

**Good luck to Jemma, Tracy, Kim, Caren, Shirley, Joan C, Susan and Diane E.**

Well done ladies - hopefully the training will pay off and there won't be too many blisters at the end of the walk!

### ***FIT NOTES (replacing sick notes)***

From April 6th *Fit Notes* replaced the sick note. The main change is that your GP can give you advice about how to return to work. This is because work can play an important part in helping people recover from illness or injury. Your GP can choose if you are 'not fit for work' or 'may be fit for work' and the new *fit note* also includes further space to provide more general

advise on the impact of your illness or injury and where appropriate common ways in which your employer could support your return to work.

Remember for the first seven days of being off work you complete a self certification note and this doesn't need to be seen or signed by your doctor.

***Don't forget you can order your repeat prescriptions online at our website [www.fernbanksurgery.co.uk](http://www.fernbanksurgery.co.uk)***