

Rectory Meadow Surgery has three separate Participation Groups for patients to join



FRIENDS of the Surgery	Patients Participation Group (PPG)	Meadowlarks Exercise Class
<p>Was formed some 20 years ago by patients to collectively overcome the inadequacies of NHS funding. The group adds to the scope of equipment in use for all surgery patients and extends and improves the facilities wherever possible. Fundraising and social engagement are key activities.</p> <p>By popular demand there is an optional annual 'fee' or donation guideline of £3.50 per household and no pressure to pay it.</p> <p>So, FRIENDS are just friends of the surgery who wish to help in some way. Many are just grateful for some help, kindness, additional effort or facility that made life easier for them.</p> <p>Like the PPG it shows the surgery and staff that we notice, we care and we can help make a difference.</p>	<p>Started out as an anonymous, virtual reference group which was teased out into the open by members of FRIENDS to be ready to take on the role of a PPG. (Since April 2016 all surgeries are required to have a PPG.)</p> <p>The role of the PPG is to promote co-operation between the Practice and the Patients to the benefit of both through a two-way communication channel.</p> <p>The PPG consults patients about proposals for change, asks for opinions and invites patients to put questions and ideas to the PPG.</p> <p>The PPG helps the Practice produce a Newsletter four times each year. It also organises events on topics of interest to patients and generally aims to ensure that the Practice responds to the views, needs and experiences of its patients.</p>	<p>Gentle exercise class on two Thursdays a month led by physiotherapist Carol Dickinson for those fending off signs of age or infirmity in any part of their body – with the help of music for an hour; followed by tea, cake and conversation.</p> <p>A small session charge applies.</p>