

## NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

The plans for the new surgery at Millfields have now been passed and hopefully building will commence in the New Year. With an estimated building schedule of 9 months we should hopefully be relocated by Autumn of 2018

### Vaccine Shortages

An increasing number of vaccines normally routinely available are in short supply. We have now been notified there is even a shortage of the adult over 65 pneumococcal vaccine. Some holiday vaccines are still impossible to get hold of for GP practices but patients have reported that they are still available at private travel clinics. Please think about this if planning exotic holidays. It is very important to be vaccinated and 'coming to your GP' might not be an option.

### Influenza Vaccination

We are nearly at the end of our supply. If you are in an at risk group and wish to have the vaccine and have not yet done so, please make an appointment with the Practice Nurse

### Shingles Vaccinations

You are eligible for the [shingles vaccine](#) if you are aged 70 or 78 years old.

In addition, anyone who was eligible for immunisation in the previous three years of the programme but missed out on their shingles vaccination remains eligible until their 80th birthday.

This includes:

- people in their 70s who were born after 1 September 1942
- people aged 79 years

### Out-of-hours

A number of patients contact the out-of-hours service and report 'unable to get an appointment with the GP'. You should only be contacting StHelens rota if you have an emergency which cannot wait. If you contact the practice during the day and feel you are an emergency, please make this known to reception. We try to see all emergencies on the same day and we should not be burdening rota if you need to be seen urgently. Sometimes we have no record of being contacted.

.

### Christmas and New Year

We are closed for the Bank Holidays. Please make sure you have enough medication. Please be sensible in celebrations and try to avoid trips to A+E. Please use your local pharmacies where appropriate. Please take responsibility for your health.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and a healthy and prosperous 2018.