

## **BALHAM PARK SURGERY PATIENTS LIAISON GROUP (BPSPLG) FINANCIAL REPORT JUNE 2007-MAY 2008**

A formal Treasurer's report prepared by Bridie Tobin is available. Below are the highlights from her report and comments from our Treasurer about the Group's financial situation.

The bank balance at last year's annual meeting on 13 June 2007 was £677.72.

Incomings including our grant from PbC freed up resources from our practice (£2265) and incidentals such as savings account interest, brought the cash total up to £2969.15

During the past year, our expenditure was £2440.12 (of which £1300.70 was for postage though £264 is to be reclaimed from the Practice in connection with the mailing to members publicising the meeting about the Battersea and North Wandsworth consultation held in April). Postage is our single largest item of recurring expenditure, followed by printing of the newsletters (£755.44 for two issues).

The Group's balance today (12 May 2008) is £544.70 with petty cash £15.67.

There is some outstanding income. We still have not received our £500 PCT Charitable Trust Committee grant from 2006 (four patients groups applied for £2000 to be divided equally). The PCT Finance Department has been repeatedly emailed about this outstanding obligation.

Our postage bill is reaching astronomical heights as our data base expands - currently at approx 1300. We need to address how to communicate more effectively and inexpensively in the future. Whilst email might seem obvious with a good number having the facility, we have the problem of maintaining the link with the practice list, as we must not include deceased members or those who have moved away. The problem stems from there being no practice email list, but discussions with the PCT may have identified a way for the PCT to pay for this resource to be created.

We also need to consider how to get more of our members involved in our activities. The numbers on the database are rising, but the response in terms of participation is diminishing at almost every meeting and event. I feel that this must be an issue addressed soon. Our publicity is not succeeding in improving attendance at special meetings.

Finally, special thanks to the practice's IT Manager Eugene Aliphon for all of his help in keeping BPSPLG's database up to date despite a very busy schedule and to Natalie, as always, for her continued support to help BPSPLG meet the communications challenges of being a successful patients group in a very dynamic practice.