

Newsletter

December 2011

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Practice Update

Saying Farewell

We are saying goodbye to our much loved Dr Taylor who is hanging up his stethoscope in February and retiring from general practice. Dr Taylor has been at the surgery for many years and originally joined Dr Fairclough in the King Street practice, since when he has been instrumental in ensuring that our patients have received excellent health care. I'm sure you will join all the staff, patients and visitors in wishing him a long, happy and healthy retirement.

New Partner

We have recruited a new partner to join the practice. We would like to welcome Dr Zia Ibrahimi who will be joining us in February and comes highly recommended from a Rotherham practice where he has worked for the last 3 years.

Refurbishment

We have now completed the decoration in the main waiting room; patients have again been involved in choosing the colour scheme and we are very happy with the result. In the New Year we will be ordering new seating for your comfort.

New Computer System

If you have been into the surgery over the last couple of weeks you will be aware that we have had a new computer system. The advanced features will improve the way we handle patient information, but like all new things it takes time to learn and we are still having teething problems.

We have specialists on site who are working on making sure everything runs smoothly but we would ask you to please be patient with staff whilst they get used to navigating the new system.

Walderslade Surgery

Flu, Flu, Flu

We want to remind you that you can still obtain a flu vaccination but stocks are getting low so please remember to book yours soon.

If you were invited to a clinic but missed your appointment please re-arrange, as we want to make sure everyone who needs a vaccination has the opportunity to have one.

If you or someone you care for requires a home visit please call reception on 0845 125 7247 to arrange this.

Choose Well

NHS Barnsley expects extraordinary pressures and demands on local health services due to the 3 bank holidays at Christmas and New Year and the winter period in general. Doctors say that the rising numbers are because people are turning up with minor ailments that should be treated elsewhere. A recent survey conducted in the department highlights the extent of the service's misuse. When asked, nearly 60% of visitors said that they had gone to A&E with an ailment they had known about for more than three days.

The NHS campaign 'Stop and Think' aims to encourage people to think before going to

Accident & Emergency.

A&E is for emergencies and serious, life threatening illnesses only. We have notices around the practice, please take a minute and read the advice.

CHRISTMAS IS COMING.....

We will be closed for 3 days over the Christmas & New Year holidays so please make sure you have enough medication.

Remember we need **48 hours notice** to provide you with a repeat prescription

PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP (PPG)

Do you know there are a group of patients working for you who help us improve services at Walderslade? If you have any information about a local service or an idea that you want us to share with other patients at the practice, perhaps something that you have found useful, they might too, so please let us know and the PPG will decide how best share this.

If you are interested in joining the group to represent the patients of Walderslade Surgery (or want to know more) then please call the surgery on 0845 125 7247 and ask to speak to the Practice Manager.