



## Staff

Our receptionist Sarah Connell has now left the practice, we wish her well in her new job. We are currently in the process of recruiting a new receptionist, and would ask you to be a patient patient whilst he / she is being trained.

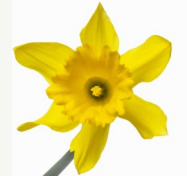
## Changes

### Unscheduled Care Record

Access to a limited summary of your GP medical record is now available to clinicians in the Out of Hours Service and Urgent and Emergency Care services. Your permission will always be asked before a clinician accesses your record.

### Marie Curie

### Cancer Care



Thank you to patients who purchased yellow daffodils, we raised £42.34 for Marie Curie.

### Practice Booklet

We are currently in the process of updating our Practice Booklet, please collect an up to date copy from reception.

### National Cancer Screening Programmes

There are currently 3 national programmes which screen for cancer. We would like to encourage all our patients who are called for screening to attend.

The [NHS Breast Screening Programme](#) invites women aged 50 to 70 for screening every three years. Those over 70 are encouraged to make their own appointments. The programme aims to detect and treat breast cancer early.

The [NHS Cervical Screening Programme](#) (NHS CSP) invites women aged 25 to 50 for screening every three years and those aged 50 to 64 every five years. The programme aims to prevent cervical cancer by detecting and treating cervical abnormalities before they cause problems. Once you receive your invitation letter you will need to telephone the surgery to make an appointment with one of our Practice Nurses (both female). Most women consider the procedure to be only mildly uncomfortable.

The [NHS Bowel Cancer Screening Programme](#) (NHS BCSP) invites men and women in their sixties to be screened for bowel cancer every two years. Participants are sent a Faecal Occult Blood test (FOBT) kit which they complete at home and send to a laboratory for testing. Anyone with a positive result is referred for a colonoscopy and any necessary treatment. People aged 70 and over can request a kit by telephoning the helpline on 0800 707 60 60, you can also telephone this number if you didn't send off your kit, but now want to send one off.

**Remember that screening is for people without symptoms. If you are concerned about any symptoms, please contact us to make an appointment with the doctor.**

### Appointment System

At most times, other than after a bank holiday, we have sufficient appointments available to meet demand. There are times however when we cannot meet demand because patients are limited to the time they can attend the surgery. Could we encourage patients wherever possible to attend morning surgery so that there are sufficient afternoon appointments for those who cannot come in the morning. We always have more morning appointments available than afternoon ones. We encourage patients to phone at 8am on the morning they want to attend as this is when the majority of our appointments are released, and unless we have been exceptionally busy you will be offered an appointment for that morning. Wednesday and Thursday are usually our quietest mornings. Monday or the day after a bank holiday is the busiest. You will be offered the earliest appointment unless you have a preference for a particular doctor, or want to see the same doctor for follow up of an ongoing problem. If you are unable to attend that morning, we will ask you to ring later in the day for an afternoon appointment. Currently we have extended evening appointments for those who work during the day. We also have a selection of appointments which can be booked in advance for those patients who struggle to ring at set times. You can register to book appointments online, please ask at reception for more details.