



Newsletter



Issue 11 Autumn/Winter 2013

Welcome to the next edition of our practice newsletter. As well as keeping you informed of any changes happening at the practice, there is also some helpful information on some of the services we offer.

Meet the team A warm welcome to Paul



As a practice we always strive to deliver an outstanding quality service, and to accommodate our patients' needs. Our aim is to see patients who have dental pain on the same day and patients with lost fillings and fractured teeth within a week. We endeavour to book routine treatment appointments within 3 weeks.

As the practice continues to grow, it has become increasingly difficult to fulfil these aims 100% of the time. With this in mind, we are pleased to inform you that from November 2013 we will be welcoming Dentist Paul Goslin to the team at The Old Malt House. Paul will be available to see all patients registered at the practice, so that we can effectively reduce appointment waiting times in order to achieve increased patient satisfaction.

Paul is an experienced dental surgeon and a personal friend of both Brian and Helen. He has worked in Dorset since 1987 and we are really happy that he will be joining the team.

Francesca

We are pleased to announce that Francesca has been successful in passing her written paper which counts towards her National Diploma in Dental Nursing. Since starting at the practice in September 2012 she

has been studying and working hard; the National Diploma involves a combination of practical assessments, coursework and a written examination. We are very proud of her achievement and she is a great asset to the practice.

Francesca will need to complete a further year working in the dental practice, along with completing her coursework and practical assessments in order to become registered with the General Dental Council.



Tooth Whitening

Tooth whitening has become increasingly popular over recent years. It is a popular choice for patients who are looking to improve their smile without major invasive treatment. It is no surprise that it has become one of the fastest growing areas of dentistry, with a third of all cosmetic dental treatment involving tooth whitening.

Recent reports in the media have caused some confusion over the "legalities" of tooth whitening treatments and whether it should be carried out in other establishments such as beauty salons. The General Dental Council strongly believes that tooth whitening is a "practice of dentistry" that should only be carried out by a qualified and registered dental professional.

New regulations came into effect on 31st October 2012 when the European Council's directive on tooth whitening was released clarifying that tooth whitening can only be carried out by, or under the

supervision of a dentist, and that the supply of tooth whitening products containing more than 0.1% peroxide can only be sold to registered dental professionals.

However, there has been concern about the continued advertising and promotion of illegal tooth whitening treatments being carried out by beauticians, shopping centre kiosks and other non-dental professionals.

A new website to protect the public from illegal and harmful tooth whitening has recently been launched. Under the guidance of the Tooth Whitening Information Group (TWIG), the website - www.safetoothwhitening.org - aims to educate the public on how to achieve tooth whitening in a safe and legal way.

We strongly advise that if you are considering a tooth whitening treatment you have the procedure done at your dental practice under the prescription and supervision of your dental practitioner.

We are pleased to offer “Voco Perfect Bleach” tooth whitening here at the practice. If you are unhappy with the colour of your teeth then please do not hesitate to discuss the treatment options with Brian, Helen or Paul who will be able to advise whether you are suitable for the treatment, along with the results you can expect to achieve.

Affordable low cost payment options are available for tooth whitening from only £7.80 per week. Please ask for more details.

“Before” and “After” photographs



Mouth Cancer Action Month 2013

November is Mouth Cancer Action Month. The British Dental Health Foundation is one of the leading campaigners who aim to help raise awareness of the risks and symptoms of mouth cancer. Although this can be a scary subject it should not be ignored.

Each and every year the number of people who are diagnosed with mouth cancer rises. Unfortunately, 2013 is no different. There are now more than 6,500 new people each year in the UK who suffer from mouth cancer – that's 18 people diagnosed every day.

Early detection greatly improves survival chances. The five-year survival rate of mouth cancer patients is just 50 per cent. But early diagnosis gives patients a 90 per cent chance of survival.

Risk factors include smoking, alcohol, poor diet and the human papillomavirus (HPV). Warning signs such as ulcers which do not heal, red or white patches or other unusual changes in the mouth can lead to early detection which can save lives.

Here at the practice, at every routine examination, your dentist not only checks the health of your teeth and gums, but also performs a full examination of the soft tissues of your mouth to screen for the early signs of mouth cancer. This includes the tongue, palate and floor of the mouth, lips, neck and the insides of your cheeks. For this reason, regular examinations (as often as your dentist recommends) are very important in maintaining the overall health of your mouth.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to ask Brian, Helen or Paul, or visit www.mouthcancer.org, and remember “if in doubt, check it out”.

Our Promise and Commitment

We are committed to providing you with a quality service, and welcome your opinion.

With the help of some very kind patients who were willing to share their experiences of the practice we have put together a new “testimonial book” to go in our reception area. We hope that you will enjoy reading some of the lovely comments we have received over the past year.

We have also placed a “suggestion box” in the reception area for any comments, praise or criticism you may have. Every comment is discussed during our regular practice meetings so that we can continually improve the service we provide. Remember, if we please you – tell others! If we don't – tell us!