

The Baronscourt News

Volume 7, Issue 2

July 2007

Welcome to the Summer 2007 edition of the Baronscourt News

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FY2

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Urgent Surgery

In order to deal with urgent medical problems we offer a “walk in” surgery between 8.30am and 10am daily. Patients must be aware and understand that this surgery is for urgent cases only; it is appropriate to use this service for problems, which will not wait until the next available routine appointment. It is inappropriate to use this service for routine medical care or follow up. As we have no control over the number of people attending these surgeries you may find you have to wait some time before being seen. This will be more evident in the winter months. The GP rota for this surgery is not fixed and you will not be guaranteed to see a particular doctor.

Protected Learning Afternoon

The next staff protected learning afternoon will be Wednesday August 22nd. The Practice will be closed from 12pm that day. This provides the staff with valuable time to develop as a team and learn about new services.

Staff updates

Fiona Lindsay, HV, will be commencing maternity leave on 30th July for 1 year. The following arrangements have been made to assist Andrea Kidd with Fiona's maternity cover. Lisa Miller, HV based at Southfield practice will be working one day per week in a mainly support role. Emma Young, nursery nurse at Restalrig practice will also be here for 2 ½ days per week on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. There may however due to the limited cover be some changes made to some services provided but we will ensure that our patients are informed if this is necessary.

GP Trainee

Baronscourt Surgery is a teaching and training practice. This means that the Practice is responsible for the further training of qualified doctors who have decided to specialise in General Practice.

Dr Hala Gammoh, Baronscourt's 6th GP Registrar who joined us in August 2006 under the supervision of Dr Ryan and Dr Thomson has finished to start her maternity leave but she will be returning in approximately a year to finish her GP training on a part time basis.

We are pleased to introduce Dr Linda Watson, Dr Watson is also a fully qualified Doctor who like her predecessors in Baronscourt has decided to specialise in General Practice and will be in the practice for one year from August 1st.

You will be able to book appointments with Dr Watson in a similar way to the other doctors at the Surgery.

Foundation Doctor

Our current FY2 doctor is Dr Andrew Douglas, who is nearing the end of his 4-month placement with us. Dr Douglas leaves us on July 31st and Dr Oliver Robinson will start his placement with us on August 1st.

We wish Dr Douglas well in his future ventures

Working Towards Health

Working Towards Health is an innovative partnership, which provides specialist personal advisors, disability employment advisors and Working Towards Health practitioners who are NHS Health professionals.

Baronscourt Surgery now has a Health Advisor, Avril Hunter, attached to the Practice who will be available by appointment on Wednesday mornings between 10.30-12.

Avril's aim is to:

- Help you understand your health condition or disability and work with you to develop ways you can live with it
- Give you one to one help and support to assist you back to work and access training
- Increase your confidence, improve your job skills and change your lifestyle with the help of specialist programmes
- Help you access extra support and financial help when you return to work

You are eligible to apply for the programme if you are in receipt of the following benefits:

- Incapacity Benefit (including credits only)
- Income Support (because of your incapacity) or
- Severe Disablement Allowance

And:

- You and your personal adviser agree that the programme may help

Taking part is voluntary and will not affect your entitlement to benefit. Please make an appointment with your usual GP in the first instance.

Flu vaccinations 2007/08

We aim to start the annual Flu vaccine campaign in October. Invitations will be sent to patients who are eligible asking them to phone or come into the Practice to make an

appointment from approximately the last week in September.

Patients who fall into the following categories but do not wish to have the flu vaccination please remember to contact us in October so that your records can be updated accordingly. We will continue to offer the vaccine until January.

All patients:

- Over 65
- With severe asthma, or chronic lung disease, including cystic fibrosis
- Who have chronic heart disease for example those who have experienced a heart attack or suffer from angina
- Chronic kidney disease
- Chronic liver disease
- Diabetics
- Those with immunosuppression, due to disease or treatment, for example chemotherapy or following an organ transplant
- Those who are the main carer for an elderly or disabled person whose welfare may be at risk if the carer falls ill.

In previous years there have been various problems with shortages and delayed delivery of the flu vaccine. We appreciate your patience when we have encountered these difficulties and are hopeful that everything will run smoothly this Autumn!

OSCE

Once again the 2nd year medical student exams were held in the Practice on May 24th and we would like to thank everyone for helping to ensure that the OSCEs ran smoothly for another year. We are pleased to announce all the students who were taught at the Surgery passed, as did those who sat the exams here.

Public holidays

The Surgery will be closed on the following public holiday:

Monday September 17th 2007

In the event of an emergency please contact NHS 24 on 08454 24 24 24.