



JANUARY 2026

# NEWSLETTER

## IN THIS ISSUE:

- Flu/Covid Clinics
- Christmas Tree Decorations
- Practice Learning Time
- MMR Vaccinations
- Facebook and Instagram
- Medical Students
- Phlebotomy Clinics
- Family & Friends Test
- New Patient Registrations

## FLU/COVID CLINICS

Thank you to all patients who were eligible and attended our recent flu and/or COVID-19 vaccination clinics. We are pleased to report that we have administered a total of 1,869 vaccinations.

If you are aged 65 or over, or under 65 and at higher risk, and you have received an invitation but have not yet had your flu vaccination, please contact the surgery to book your appointment.



# HAPPY NEW YEAR

We would like to wish all our patients a very Happy New Year and extend our heartfelt thanks for your continued support throughout the past year.

This festive season, we were especially lucky to receive beautifully handmade Christmas tree decorations from pupils at All Saints, Ashlands Primary School and Ben Rhydding Primary School. Their creativity and kindness brought wonderful cheer to the practice, and we are very grateful for their contributions.

Wishing you all good health and happiness for the year ahead









# MMR VACCINE - PATIENT INFORMATION

What is the MMRV vaccine?

The MMRV vaccine is a single vaccine that protects against four serious infections:

- Measles
- Mumps
- Rubella
- Varicella (chickenpox)

It works in the same way as the MMR and chickenpox vaccines, but combines them into one injection, reducing the number of needles needed.

Who is eligible?

The MMRV vaccine is offered to eligible children as part of the routine childhood immunisation programme or as a catch-up vaccine if protection is incomplete. Your child may be eligible if:

- They are due a routine childhood vaccination that includes protection against measles, mumps, rubella, and chickenpox, or
- They have not previously received all recommended doses of MMR and/or chickenpox vaccine

Eligibility is based on age, vaccination history, and clinical guidance. A healthcare professional will check this before offering the vaccine.

If you are unsure whether your child is eligible, please contact the practice.  
Questions or concerns?

If you have questions about the MMRV vaccine or your child's immunisations, please contact the practice. Our team will be happy to help.

How will you be contacted?

If your child is eligible:

- We will contact you directly using the contact details we have on record
- This may be by text message, letter, phone call, or NHS app message
- You will be invited to book an appointment or attend a scheduled clinic

Please ensure your contact details are up to date with the practice to avoid missing an invitation.



Polite reminder:- Prescription requests cannot be taken over the phone. Should you wish to speak to our Prescription Clerk, please telephone the surgery after 10 am Monday to Friday



## PRACTICE LEARNING TIME

The practice closes once a month at 1:00pm until 8:00am the following morning for mandatory training. We are however covered by the out of hours service during this time. If you need a doctor urgently please call the surgery on 01943 604455 and your call will be diverted to out of hours. We are closed on:-

20th January, 25<sup>th</sup> February, 26<sup>th</sup> March, 28<sup>th</sup> April, 20<sup>th</sup> May, 18<sup>th</sup> June, 14<sup>th</sup> July, 16<sup>th</sup> September, 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 24 November

## PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

We're always looking for ways to improve our service and how patients perceive our surgery and staff. We meet every 8 weeks to discuss how we can make things better. Young or old, it's your medical practice, so why not support it and tell us what needs changing or improving?

If you'd like to join our Patient Participation Group (PPG) but can't make meetings, you can join our virtual group. We'll occasionally contact you by email or post with short surveys about things like our opening times or the quality of care you received.

Please visit our website or speak to reception for more information.



## FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM

For those patients who use social media, why not follow us on our Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages? We will keep you updated on surgery news as and when it happens!

We also use these pages to advertise our COVID & Flu Vaccination Clinics.

\*Other methods also used.





## MEDICAL STUDENTS

Did you know we are a training practice? We are affiliated with Leeds University and take Year 5 medical students.

We have received the following feedback from our latest students...

“Having our own clinics and everyday afternoon teaching are really good”

“Everything was perfect on this placement”.

“I would say this is the best placement I’ve ever been in on my whole journey of medical school. It is so good, so useful, so comfortable environment so engaging and I am really going to miss this surgery”

## PHLEBOTOMY CLINICS

When booking your blood test appointment, the receptionist will ask you who has requested your blood test. This is to ensure that the requesting GP has issued a blood test form.

This form then allows the phlebotomist to perform the correct blood tests. Please be aware that the phlebotomist is unable to amend or add any addition tests. The decision of which tests are to be carried out is that of the referring GP

It is for this reason we are unable to perform bloods requested by the hospital. We are unable to perform these tests because we cannot guarantee that your requesting consultant will be able to access your results and could delay diagnosis or treatment.





"Always excellent service and care"

"They do their best to help and always make an appointment available in an emergency"

"The reception representative who answered the phone this morning was wonderful - she was kind and asked questions that seemed very fair and necessary. I wasn't expecting to be offered an appointment so quickly."



## FRIENDS AND FAMILY TEST

Patients are at the centre of our practice and we really want to understand your overall impression of the service you receive. When you visit one of our GPs or Practice Nurse, you may be handed a short questionnaire asking the following:

"How likely are you to recommend our GP practice to friends and family if they need similar care or treatment?"

This questionnaire will take less than a minute to fill in, is anonymous and once completed is to be posted in the Friends and Family Test (FFT) post box situated in our reception area. Alternatively please visit our website and follow the link on the home page. The test will help us identify what makes our service great or where we need to make improvements.

"Staff helpful, easy to access the surgery. Positive experience"

"The Practice has always been responsive to my needs & those of my family"

## NEW PATIENT REGISTRATIONS

The practice welcomes new registrations. Registration is easy you can simply scan the QR Code to register online.

Alternatively, please ask one of our receptionists for a new patient registration pack.







World  
Cancer Day  
4 February

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BY  
UNIQUE

● SHARE YOUR STORY  
WORLDNCANCERDAY.ORG

World Cancer Day  
4 February 2026



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