
Branch End News

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SEPTEMBER 2008



We are holding our annual flu clinics on the following dates

FLU CLINICS

Wednesday October 1st

8.30am – 12.30pm & 2pm – 5pm

Wednesday October 8th

8.30am – 12.30pm & 2pm – 5pm

Wednesday November 5th

8.30am – 12.30pm

ALL AT THE SURGERY

Methodist Church

Wednesday October 15th

8.45am – 10.00

Golf Club

Thursday October 23rd

9am – 10.00am

It is particularly important for you to be vaccinated if you are over 65 and/or have one of the following conditions:

- Diabetes
- Asthma or Bronchitis
- Thyroid Problems
- Heart Trouble
- Kidney Disease
- An illness requiring chemotherapy or corticosteroids
- Any other chronic debilitating illness.

If you do not wish to have a flu injection, could you please let us know so we can mark your records accordingly for this year. Due to government requirements, we must invite you to attend if you fall into any of the categories above.

Extended Opening Hours

We are pleased to announce that the practice will be offering extended opening hours from the end of September onwards.

Please see attached sheet

Suggestions Box

We have placed a suggestions box in the upstairs and downstairs waiting rooms.

The practice and the patient forum will discuss any of your suggestions at our monthly meetings.

New staff

We are pleased to welcome Fiona Hutchinson as a new member of our reception staff.

Carers' Emergency Card Scheme

What is a carer's emergency

This is any unplanned event involving the carer and resulting in a situation where it would be unsafe to leave the person needing care without help. Planning for the kinds of emergencies that can happen to anyone can reduce anxiety and stress.

Peace of mind

Though unlikely, many people worry most about having an accident while away from the person they care for. By registering for a carers' card, and carrying it, a carer will know that help is only a phone call away in a crisis. In the unlikely event of an accident, it will alert people to the fact that a person is a carer, so that the person cared for will be looked after.

How does the scheme work?

The card contains the emergency 24/7 number for the British Red Cross and the carer's unique reference

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number. It is this number that is called in an emergency and the reference number that, when quoted will automatically display the carer's plan and help the British Red cross duty officer decide what action to take. They will call the contact numbers (of friends, relatives, or care staff to be contacted in an emergency). If none of them answer, or if they are unable to respond immediately, local Red Cross volunteers will be sent to stay with the person cared for until alternative arrangements are in place.

Calling for help in a crisis

Carers can also use the card to ring the Red Cross in a crisis. If the carer feels ill or

exhausted and unable to cope, or if there is another family priority they need to attend to, and they have no-one to sit with the person cared for, they can use the card to call the emergency Red Cross pager, and ask for support.

What can Red Cross volunteers do?

- Ensure people are warm and comfortable
- Assist them to prepare light meals and drinks
- Prompt them to take medication
- Help the person to avoid discomfort or distress

If you want to know more phone for an Emergency pack now

0844 800 7354