

# Newsletter October 2017

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## Travel Vaccinations:

Please note that due to a UK-wide shortage of vaccines the practice will be unable to offer NHS travel vaccinations to patients from 12 September, 2017, until further notice.

There are local private travel clinics that may have vaccines in stock. Contact:

- Barnsley Travel Clinic - 01226 729868
- Sheffield Travel clinic - 0114 271 1900 or visit [www.sth.nhs.uk/travel-clinic](http://www.sth.nhs.uk/travel-clinic)

Travellers are advised to plan well in advance and to seek travel health advice from a suitably qualified healthcare professional 6 – 8 weeks prior to their trip.

## Don't Under Estimate the Risks of Flu:



The next adult flu clinic at the surgery will take place on **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2017, between 9am and 1pm.** Book your appointment now.

**If you can't make it to the flu clinic, the surgery has appointments allocated for flu vaccinations every day during October.**

Please see a receptionist or give us a call on 01226 743221 to confirm your eligibility for a free NHS flu vaccination.

**Book your appointment today – call 01226 743221.**

**Support your GP Practice and have your vaccination with us!**

## The Sound Doctor:

The Sound Doctor is working with NHS Barnsley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to help patients get the best out of life.



Over 250 films in The Sound Doctor library give information about a number of long term conditions to help patients, a relative or a carer to find out more about how to look after you. The films are short and to the point. They currently cover conditions such as diabetes, COPD, dementia, back pain, weight management surgery and heart failure.

To access the films go to [www.thesounddoctor.org](http://www.thesounddoctor.org). Contrary to what the website indicates, the films are **free** to access. To gain free access you should email [info@thesounddoctor.org](mailto:info@thesounddoctor.org) with the name of your GP and GP practice. Someone from The Sound Doctor organisation will then get back to you with a link to click on; this will take you to a log in page. Fill in your username and make up your password and you're away!

If you don't have a computer, tablet or smart phone, try asking family members if they can help, or you can go to your local library to use a computer there.

### **Dementia Café St Andrews Community Centre, Hoyland:**

Why not come along to the first Dementia Café at St Andrews Community Centre, Hoyland on Monday 2 October, 10.30am until 12 noon. This is a free event with refreshments kindly provided by Tesco Supermarket, Hoyland.

This new café offers a friendly place for people living with dementia, their carer's, friends, or anyone who is just feeling lonely, to meet up for a sociable get together for a chat and a coffee.

The dementia café will be open **every Monday morning**, but the last Monday in the month will be hosted by Tesco, at their store at Platts Common, in their community room.

For more information contact Jill Barker on 01226 773741 or  
Dawn Grayton on 01226 355865.

### **Bowel Scope Screening:**

NHS bowel scope screening is a relatively new test to help prevent bowel cancer. It finds and removes any small bowel growths called polyps that could eventually turn into cancer.

Bowel scope screening is a one-off test and is gradually being rolled out to all men and women in England at the age of 55 only.

As long as you are registered with a GP and living in an area where the test is being offered, you should automatically be sent an invitation from the NHS Bowel Cancer Screening Programme.

If you have any questions or concerns about bowel scope screening, please call the Freephone helpline number 0800 707 60 60.

If you would like more detailed information please visit:

[www.cancerscreening.nhs.uk/bowel](http://www.cancerscreening.nhs.uk/bowel)

### **Thank you:**

The practice would like to thank all patients who attended their booked appointments during September.

Unfortunately **169** patients did not attend their appointments (even some that were booked on the same day). Patients who fail to keep their appointment are denying someone else the chance to get earlier access to medical help. Please remember to cancel as soon as possible if you no longer need your appointment.

Did you know that you can sign up for our MJOG text or email messaging service? We can send you a reminder message 24 hours prior to your booked appointment time. If you no longer need the appointment just reply **CANCEL**. See a member of our reception team for details on how to sign up for this service.

### **The Right Appointment & Signposting:**

Please make your appointment with the most appropriate clinician. A doctor might not necessarily be the best person to deal with your query. We can help signpost you to the most appropriate person if you help us by giving a brief reason for your appointment when booking.

### **Urine Infections:**

If you suspect you have a Urinary Tract Infection (UTI) and call the surgery to make an appointment to see a clinician you will be asked a series of questions by one of our receptionists. Subsequently, you may be added to a telephone contact list when a clinician will call you back to discuss your symptoms and proposed treatment. This is a new protocol introduced by the GPs at the practice.