



Blackwater Medical Centre Newsletter

August / September 2024

Clinical Staff Update

Dr J Mawa will be joining us in September as a Salaried GP and Dr Abeyratna will also be joining us in October 2024 as a Salaried GP.

We warmly welcome Samantha Briggs, Physician Associate to the practice and Joyrita Maring, Enhanced Nurse Prescriber.

Jaya, one of our Advanced Nurse Practitioners, will sadly be leaving the surgery in September. We wish her all the very best for her future.

Staff Update

Alysha and Aimee have recently joined the Reception Team. Denise has become our new Reception Manager and we wish her well with her new post. Kay, previously with reception, has moved to our Administration Team within office space at Maldon District Council and we wish her well with her new role.

Dispensary Staff Update

Hannah has joined our team and is undergoing training to become a qualified dispenser.

New Dementia Support Clinic being offered at the Practice.

Due to the success of the Alzheimer's Society Drop-ins over the past year, the surgery is pleased to launch a new Dementia Support Clinic for people living with dementia and their families. Patients can access support and information with a Dementia Adviser from the Alzheimer's Society.

Appointments are available at 10am, 11am and 12pm on the second Friday of every month at the Heybridge Surgery, starting on 13th September 2024. Please see reception in the first instance for booking an appointment. Alternatively, you can contact the Alzheimer's Society on 0333 150 3456 or email essex@alzheimers.org.uk

Missed appointments in July – Don't Need It, Cancel It

We had 5302 appointments last month but a total of 134 appointments were booked and not attended. Please ensure that if you cannot make an appointment, you inform the surgery as soon as possible, so that someone else can have your appointment. There is now an option to do this on the phone system.

Friends and Family Survey

Our survey was completed by 135 responses and 90 rated their experience at our surgery as “Very Good”. We thank all our patients who took part in this survey, and we take all your comments on board to try and improve the patient experience.

Call out to all our Veteran Patients

Our surgery and practice team want to easily identify, understand, and support veterans and, where appropriate, refer them to specialist healthcare services designed especially for them. If any patients are interested, please leave your contact details at Reception.

New Facebook Page to be launched.

A new Facebook page will shortly be launched after the success of the Blackwater Facebook group. This has been designed so that the surgery can spread Blackwater Medical Centre news to the wider community, beyond the patient base. Current members of the group will be redirected to the page as soon as it becomes live.

Website

We will shortly be upgrading our surgery website following discussions with our Patient Participation Group (PPG), and it is hoped that this will be more user friendly and informative for our patients.

Maldon’s Medical Services Consultation – Brief Update

There will be an extraordinary Mid and South Essex ICB Board meeting which is scheduled to take place on 30th September 2024. Further information about this meeting will be available on the NHS Mid and South Essex website in due course. We will, of course, keep our patients updated as and when we have something to report from the consultation.

Maldon and District Community Voluntary Service (CVS)

The CVS exists to support thriving and strong communities in the Maldon District. They provide a wide range of activities and projects for the local community. To find out more about these services, please visit their website www.maldoncv.org.uk or call 01621 851891

Local Parkinson’s Disease and Stroke Support Groups

- The surgery would like to inform patients of the local Parkinson’s disease group which meets every 3rd Friday of the month at 2pm in the Plantation Hall in Heybridge.
- There is also a local Stroke Group that meets on the last Thursday every month at 10.00am at the United Reformed Church in Maldon.