

## **Borough Green Medical Practice November 2024**



This is produced for the benefit of all Patients for sharing information and updates on a regular basis

### **The Practice will be closed on Christmas Day the 25th December, Boxing Day 26<sup>th</sup> December and New Year's Day 1<sup>st</sup> January**

New texting facility available - We have introduced a new feature to our phone lines which means when you call the practice, you can now request a callback and ask for a text update to show where you are in the queuing system. This will show your position and also give you the option to cancel the callback should you not require the need to speak to a receptionist.

We held our Covid and Flu Clinics in October and have so far vaccinated 2020 patients. We still have flu vaccinations available and our reception team are on hand to arrange this for you.

BGMP raised £85.00 for 'Wear Pink Day' for Breast Cancer, Thank you to those patients who have donated.

We will be supporting Macmillan Cancer Support by holding a cake sale in the surgery on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November. Cakes will be either made by staff or bought by staff and available for everyone to try – with a donation to Macmillan Cancer Support.

Christmas Jumper day 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024, raising money for Save the Children Charity.

Please see below regarding the Borough Green pharmacy:

*Dear residents of Borough Green,*

*It has been over a year since the pharmacy changed hands and we are all grateful for the support shown by the community during that time. One of our priorities after the transition was to ensure that medication supply to the pharmacy improved so patients were not left without their regular medications. In the majority of cases, we have been successful in this goal with a number of wholesalers supplying the pharmacy. In*

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*cases where this is not happening, there are national shortages which is unfortunately fairly common at the moment. The pharmacy has a good relationship with the surgery and we communicate to minimise impact on patients in these situations.*

*The first year was about stabilising the pharmacy business and we are now focusing on increasing our provision to the community. Remember that our pharmacist is qualified for the Pharmacy First scheme which will allow any patients with relevant conditions to receive treatment, if appropriate, from the pharmacy without the requirement for a GP appointment. We have also begun rolling out travel vaccinations and weight management as additional non-NHS services. These are challenging times for pharmacies with 8 pharmacies closing weekly across England in 2023 with this trend worryingly continuing in 2024. The pharmacy exists as a resource for, and in service to, the community of Borough Green and in return, we rely on your support. I know that the team is committed to providing the best service and we continue to strive to provide the best advice and care.*

*We will be hosting a patient consultation in the next few months to keep the dialogue open with residents so please look out for details regarding that.*