

## *Winter 2012*

### **DR CHISHOLM**

Dr Chisholm has reduced his hours this year due to his impending retiral next year. At the moment the practice is using locums to cover the sessions no longer covered by Dr Chisholm.

### **APPOINTMENTS**

After previous trial of having all our appointments as "Book on the Day" , which had advantages and disadvantages, The Practice is now opening the appointments book up on a Monday morning to release half the appointments for that week for each of the doctors. We are hoping this will be a more successful system in enabling patients to get an appointment time and day of their choice, hopefully with the GP of their choice.

### **EXTENDED HOURS**

The early morning appointments on a Wednesday and late evening appointments on a Thursday are proving to be very popular. We have received a lot of positive feedback from our working patients by whom these slots are primarily taken.

### **PUBLIC HOLIDAYS**

- 25th and 26th December 2012
- 1st and 2nd January 2013

Please note that the Practice will be closed on the above dates with NHS24 responsible for providing General Medical Services. They can be contacted on 08454 24 24 24.

As always, we anticipate the Practice will be very busy on the days when we are open between the public holidays and the majority of our appointments for these dates will be "book on the day" for urgent medical care needs that arise over this period.

### **PROTECTED LEARNING**

The surgery will close on the following dates from 1pm to allow for Practice training purposes. NHS24 will cover General Medical Services

- Wednesday 21st November 2012
- Wednesday 20th February 2013

### **CARERS VISIT**

Linda Craig will be available from 230pm till 415pm on the last Thursday of every month to provide information and support advice to carers. If you would like an appointment with her then please contact Heather MacKillop at the surgery on 01355 578065.

### **INFLUENZA VACCINATIONS**

The majority of patients who are eligible for free Flu vaccinations by the NHS have now been immunized. However, there remains a number who still require vaccination and we will continue to offer appointments for this purpose. Please contact one of our receptionists for more information.

## **E-MAIL PRESCRIPTIONS**

We have spent a lot of time looking into various options for improving patient access to their repeat prescriptions. It is likely that early next year we will be able to offer repeat prescriptions via a computerised system which allows patients to log-in to their own repeat prescription list and request prescriptions. We are currently collecting a database of patients E-mail addresses to facilitate this and would appreciate if patients could keep us up to date with their contact details for this purpose.