



Appointments

You can make an appointment for a telephone consultation if you feel that you only need to talk to a doctor.

Ordinary appointments and repeat prescriptions can be booked online – www.aylmerlodgcookleypartnership.co.uk

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU NO LONGER NEED YOUR APPOINTMENT – IT CAN BE GIVEN TO SOMEONE ELSE.

Dr Stanley flies high!

Wanting to do something to celebrate her 50th birthday, Dr Stanley did a sponsored (tandem) parachute jump – raising money for KEMP Hospice. Here is what she thought of her experience:

Saturday 26th September couldn't have dawned more beautifully. A clear blue cloudless sky welcomed a perfect early autumn day. So no excuses!

My husband Ian was happy enough to get up early and drive us to the airfield at Hinton Northamptonshire where we arrived for sign in at 8am. We all had to queue to sign the paperwork and then had a 10 minute briefing about what to expect. We then had to wait as each plane was loaded. The first lift went up at 9am. The ride to 13,000 feet takes about 15 minutes so around 9.15 am we saw the first jumpers coming down.

Then the call came. "Jo Stanley to the manifold hut". I was told to go over to an instructor whose nickname was Blakey. Clearly we had been paired up as some of the shorter folks in town! I put on

my flight suit and we signed in again at the manifold hut and walked to the plane. Before we took off Ed made sure we were clipped together at all four points on the harness, Ed behind and me in front. Soon we were airborne and climbing. The plane slowed, the roller door came up and the noise level rose dramatically. There is no hesitation, the jumpers just leave the plane in seconds.

And then we tumbled out of the aircraft door and were flying. It doesn't really feel like falling as you are so high up but the speed and acceleration is astonishing. Initially it took my breath away and after gasping in astonishment I started to grin and laugh. The free fall did seem to last quite a long time and I cherished every second of it. Perhaps in reality it was only about 30 seconds. Then Ed deployed the parachute and we seemed to leap back into the sky. Ed looked for the airfield and steered towards it. It took a few minutes to ride down, landing gently on our bottoms.

Dr Stanley has raised around £1,800 at time of writing: but is still collecting and hopes to exceed £2,000.

Latest News

The new breast imaging unit in Kidderminster hospital will be fully operational as from October 20th 2015. This will provide better facilities for women and allow more screening per week to be done, but will also allow more breast operations to be carried out in Kidderminster, rather than patients having to go to Bromsgrove.

Staff News

Regrettably Dr Anna McDonald is leaving the practice in October and Dr Simon Rumley in November and we will be recruiting replacements.

We have two new GP Registrars - Dr Mary Smith and Dr Sophie Lord. Our registrars are with us usually for a year as an integral part of their training, as we are an acknowledged training practice.

Parking

The car park is only for patients actually visiting the surgery or the pharmacist. If attending the hospital please use the hospital car park.

Please remember to take a number so that you can get out.

Patient Access to their GP record

Online viewing of medical records will be made available to patients in March 2015 (this will include allergies, adverse reactions and medication). Patients must first be registered for Patient Access i.e. the same site where you order repeat prescriptions and book appointments. Several members of the Patient Participation Group will trial this during January and February 2015 before access is made available to all patients.

Boots Hearing Service

NHS Audiology services are generally sited in Primary care Centres, Medical Centres & GP Practices, promoting a trusting healthcare environment with easy access within the local community.

You can now get your NHS digital hearing aids free locally from Boots Hearing Care Services who have been accredited to provide hearing aid fitting, batteries and 3 years aftercare, all free of charge. To obtain free hearing aids you need to be 55 or over and referred by your GP.

Once an appointment has been made patients can visit the audiologist on Wednesday or Thursday at Hume Street Medical Centre. They will examine your ears & conduct a hearing test, if NHS digital hearing aids can help they will either fit them at your appointment (depending on hearing loss) or they will take an impression of your ears to make moulds and arrange another appointment for fitting. Boots also follow up patients 4-6 weeks after fitting to check patients are happy with their hearing aids.

Mind

Dr Carter and his wife completed the Great North Run in September and raised over £1000 for Mind the mental health charity.

111 Service

Out of Hours – Ring 111 or talk to your pharmacist.

Transport

Bus number 12 goes from outside the hospital into town at 10.30, 11.45 and 13.30

Bus numbers 1 and 2 go into town from stop opposite the hospital.

If you have difficulty accessing transport to the surgery there are two community transport schemes which may be able to help:-

Wyre Forest Community Car Scheme 01299 405920

Wyre Forest Dial A Ride 01562 755084

Referrals

Sometimes your GP may refer you on to someone else. Often this is to a consultant, but it could also be another doctor within the practice if they have a speciality in your condition. This is not a “second best” option – you are being referred to someone with a specialist knowledge.

Community Wellbeing Buddies Service

Do you or someone you know have a problem which is causing concern? Patients at this surgery can be offered half hour appointments to discuss non-medical issues which may be affecting their health and wellbeing.

We identify the issues causing distress and seek to find positive steps to address them. This may involve signposting to appropriate sources of assistance and support, finding volunteering opportunities or leisure activities. Some of the areas we can help with include;

- Loneliness and social isolation,
- Mental Health,
- Signposting to addiction support agencies,
- Services for older people,
- Benefits,
- Housing,
- Debt,
- Affordable heating,
- Relationship breakdown,
- Employment.

Appointments can be made via a referral by a doctor or nurse. Patients can also book appointments by asking at reception.

Home Visits

'Home Visits are reserved for those patients who are housebound and medically unfit to leave the house. Please do not request a visit unless you are genuinely too ill to get to the surgery.

Access

Access between the surgery and the hospital is by road. There is no longer access along the footpath and steps.

Seeing a Specific Doctor

Please be aware that not all of the doctors at Aylmer Lodge work full time. If you want to see a specific doctor, this may give you a limited choice of days.

Comments & Suggestions

We welcome your suggestions and comments. Please pop them in the box on the wall opposite reception.