

# Diamond Court Dental Practice



goodpractice

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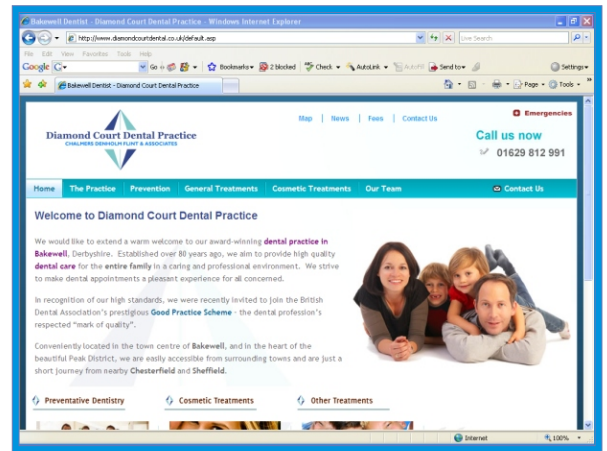
Patient Newsletter

February 2009

## New Practice Website

We have recently launched our own practice website which is already proving to be a great success. As well as containing general information about the practice and profiles on each of our dentists and dental hygienists, there is an in-depth section on all the various treatments we currently offer. Designed to help patients choose the correct treatment option for them, each section is accompanied with frequently asked questions on the specific treatment, short videos to demonstrate the different treatment stages, and photographs showing actual patient cases.

The website also includes a section dedicated to education and we hope this will play an important role in our focus on the prevention of tooth decay and gum disease.



[www.diamondcourtdental.co.uk](http://www.diamondcourtdental.co.uk)

### STAFF NEWS

After nearly 8 years at Diamond Court, **Miles Grout** recently left the practice to take up a new job opportunity elsewhere. We would like to thank Miles for all his hard work and commitment over the years and wish him the very best with his new job.

Miles' replacement is **Joanne Reed** who many of you will fondly remember from her previous spell at the practice. Joanne qualified at the University of Sheffield in 1997 and has extensive experience in all aspects of general dentistry and orthodontics.

Another new dentist who has recently joined our team is **Reiner Koschitzke**. Reiner has a successful dental practice in Germany and will be working in Bakewell on a part-time basis. Reiner has 15 years experience of placing and restoring dental implants (see overleaf) and will solely be focusing on this aspect of dentistry.

**Tara White** has been appointed Assistant Practice Manager and will be helping Anne Askew in the daily running of the practice.

**Jodie Gregory** has recently passed her National Examination in Dental Nursing and is now a fully qualified dental nurse.

**Hannah Dyche, Toni Goodwin, Kerry Hand, Toyia Hughes,** and **Helen Yates** are the latest additions to our team of dental nurses.

### PROPHYLACTIC ANTIBIOTICS

Following the release of new NICE guidelines, the use of prophylactic antibiotics in dentistry is **no longer recommended**, including in patients with heart murmurs and damaged heart valves.

Whilst the risk of developing endocarditis in these patients remains the same, it is now recognised that the large doses of antibiotics were causing more harm than good, including fatal anaphylactic allergic reactions.

**All patients - in light of the current financial climate, should your financial circumstances change then please speak to your dentist.**

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# Dental Implants

Dentistry is a rapidly evolving industry and new techniques and materials are constantly being developed. We aim to provide the very latest treatments based on well-researched studies and are now able to offer **dental implants** at the practice.

Dental implants are a long-term, safe and effective way to replace missing or failing teeth and are generally considered the closest match to a natural tooth.

An implant comprises of a titanium screw that is placed into the bone at the site of a previously extracted tooth and, after a period of healing, bone then grows around the implant and it becomes integrated as part of the jawbone. The screw then acts as an artificial root for a crown, bridge or denture.

In most instances, dental implants are now the treatment of choice to replace a missing tooth as the technique doesn't involve any damage to adjacent teeth and the end result is a fixed, permanent restoration which if looked after properly will last a lifetime.

This is the first time we have been able to offer implants at the practice and we hope this will make the treatment more convenient and accessible and reduce the need for patients to make numerous visits to our previous referral centre in Derby.

## Practice Open Evening

The practice will be holding an open evening on 26th February 2009 (5.30 - 8.00pm) which everybody is invited to attend. The evening will provide patients with the opportunity to meet our dental team and also have a look around the practice.

Several representatives will be in attendance on the evening to provide additional information on a number of our products, including a presentation by **Straumann** on dental implants, a demonstration by our dental hygienists on the latest oral hygiene products, and a representative from **Denplan** will be displaying their range of services, including the new interest-free credit facility Denplan Enhance. We will also be running a live **Britesmile** demonstration - our single visit tooth whitening service - and we will be introducing a new charity which the practice is supporting called **Bridge to Aid**.

Our dentists will be offering free oral cancer checks for patients who haven't been to a dentist for a long time and complimentary smile advice consultations for patients who are looking to change or improve their smile.

Light refreshments will be available on the night and there will also be several prize draws throughout the evening.

## 0% INTEREST FREE LOANS

We have recently added **Denplan Enhance** to our range of Denplan products to help make the cost of dental treatment more affordable. Denplan Enhance is an interest-free credit facility available to all patients, including non-Denplan members. Patients can borrow between £250 - £25,000 with the cost of the treatment being divided into regular monthly payments.

For further information on Denplan Enhance and our other Denplan products please contact **Anne Askew** (Practice Manager).

## EMERGENCIES

Private and Denplan patients seeking emergency dental treatment should contact the practice and we will arrange a convenient appointment - if possible that will be on that same day.

Following the introduction of the latest NHS contract, the local Primary Care Trust is now responsible for NHS patients with dental emergencies. Wherever possible, we will endeavor to see such NHS emergencies but if we are at full capacity on that particular day then patients will be required to attend the Emergency Dental Service (EDS) in Chesterfield. **We are unable to book appointments for NHS emergencies more than 48hours ahead.**

**Please also be aware that NHS patients who miss their appointments may lose their entitlement to NHS treatment.**