



# The Mouth ORGAN

The Houston Dental Practice Patient Newsletter

Autumn 2011

## The Grass is always (Ham) Greener



As the new Ham Green practice has effectively doubled the size of the former Pill site we have now three full-time Dental Surgeons and a Hygienist on site.

As such, we are currently able to buck the national trend and accept new patient registrations.

Additionally, the extra capacity allows us to offer any existing Weston-super-Mare patients who may find it more convenient to be treated in Ham Green the opportunity to transfer there for some or all of their care.

We are aware that being situated only a mile from the Clifton Suspension Bridge and having a free of charge, dedicated on-site car park, the practice has proved a popular alternative venue with some of our patients who work in Bristol and have difficulty returning to Weston-super-Mare for their appointments.

If any patient would like to make use of our branch practice in this way, please speak with reception who will be pleased to be of assistance with making these alternative arrangements to facilitate your ease of attendance for appointments.

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# PRACTICE NEWS

## Pearl Anniversary - 30 not out!

Our congratulations and grateful thanks to our very long-serving Dental Nurse, Mrs. Ellen Hudson who celebrates a wonderful 30 years of continuous service to the practice in September 2011. In today's society it is perhaps unusual to find an employee so loyal to one business.

Although we as a practice treasure her skills and experience, we were very proud when, on a national level our professional peers also recognised Ellen's talents and service during her career by voting her Britain's "Dental Nurse of the Year" in 2006. Whilst currently working with Dr. Alex Willmore in our Weston Aesthetic Dental Centre building, she has variously been the nurse for Dr. Ewan Davidson, Dr. Christopher Lambert and Dr. Ziad Ali during her time with the practice.

To mark the special occasion of her Pearl Anniversary, Ellen was presented with a pearl pendant necklace and a bouquet of flowers by the practice in a ceremony attended by her colleagues on the staff.

We are delighted to acknowledge the enormous contribution Ellen has made to the practices growth and development over the years. Here's to the next 30 years Ellen. (Only kidding!)

## A Lunch Reservation

In November, Mr. Houston will reprise his role as the Chief Judge and compere of the dental professions most prestigious competition, the Private Dentistry Magazine Awards. This will be his eleventh consecutive year in this role. Once again the glittering annual event will be held in the ballroom of the 5\* Park Lane Intercontinental Hotel.

The event will be co-hosted by the Conservative MP and Dentist, Sir Paul Beresford who was knighted for his services as a member of Lady Thatcher's government. The Friday gala lunchtime ceremony is already a 600 seat sell-out.

## Evening Classes

Mrs. Lizzie Barrett who manages our Hygiene Department and Mrs. Jane Tluba who nurses for Mr. Houston recently passed a teaching course at Weston College which ensures that they are recognised as accredited trainers for our in-house Dental Nursing Training Course. We are very pleased to report that both ladies passed with flying colours.

Congratulations to Lizzie and Jane on all of their hard work over the year to gain this valuable knowledge and experience.

## Examination Date

Five of our nursing staff will sit the National Certificate of Dental Nursing Examination in November.

So, it is "good luck" to Miss Susan Allard, Miss Naomi Allen, Mrs. Chloe Dixon, Miss Heather Hudson and Miss Anna Trabska.

We hope that all of their hard work during the eighteen month training course will pay dividends.

## A Training Role



We have recently offered a young local lady, Miss Georgia Archer a trainee Dental Nurse position at our Weston-super-Mare practice.

She will enrol on our in-house dental nurse teaching course with a view to sitting her National Certificate Examination in November 2012.

Her Mentor will be Miss Erin Miller, one of our experienced Nurses who works with both Dr. Owen-Roberts and Dr. Manasses.

We know that Georgia has been keen to pursue a career in dentistry since her work experience placement with the practice.

We wish her well with her new career and hope that she enjoys her training.

## Exam Success

A member of our nursing staff has recently passed a career development course.

Miss Karen Beveridge, who works with Dr. Rahim in Weston-super-Mare, successfully completed the Dental Radiography course run by the British Dental Association.

Congratulations to Karen. We are pleased that her hard work was rewarded.

# PRACTICE NEWS

## Four Square

We are delighted to welcome four new Dental Surgeons to our clinical staff, all of whom were recruited over the summer.

In Weston-super-Mare we are joined by two new colleagues.

Based in a ground-floor surgery is the highly skilled and experienced Dr. Steven Thompson who is a graduate of Newcastle University, where he was President of the Dental Students Society.

Dr. Thompson has been recruited after a year away from practice pursuing his passion for rock climbing in Africa and Asia. He previously worked in Coventry for five years before his travels.

Now located on the first-floor is our new Foundation Dentist, Dr. Ashish Anand. Dr. Anand has recently graduated from Sheffield University and replaces last years Vocational Trainee, Dr. Motamedi.

Dr. Anand has moved to the West Country from his home in Bedford. (Ironically, this is where Dr. Motamedi is now in practice.) Dr. Anand also seems to have an affinity for mountainous areas having completed his student elective in Nepal!

We have been very impressed by the enthusiasm for and dedication to general practice shown by Dr. Anand since joining us. His introduction to practice will be supervised by our Senior Associate, Dr. Alastair Cruse.

Our other two new colleagues are situated at our Ham Green branch practice. The extremely experienced Dr. Matthew Garton graduated from Bristol University almost 20 years ago. Dr. Garton joins us after a period away from practice to indulge his passion for travel. On this occasion he was in India but lists China, South America and Asia amongst his other exotic destinations. His career in general practice has been based mainly in his native North West or the Bristol area.

Dr. Garton is particularly experienced in the care of anxious patients.

Complimenting his arrival in Ham Green is our other recently recruited Foundation Dentist, Dr. Andrew Wilson.

Dr. Wilson hails from Torquay but is a graduate of Bristol University. He is a very keen sportsman and appears to have settled in quickly to general practice under the tutelage of his Trainer, Dr. Neil Dibden.

We wish all four gentlemen well in their new posts and look forward to working with them in providing quality care for our patients.

Their enthusiasm and professionalism are sure to make them popular additions to our staff.



# PRACTICE NEWS

## Trainee Roles

We are very pleased to announce that a number of our nursing staff have become new Mothers.

Mrs. Marianna Murphy who works with Mr. Houston on a Friday has had twin daughters, Caitlin and Jolee.

Her colleague, Mrs. Emma Edwards who works as Dr. Snellings' nurse has had her second baby, a girl called Tayla.

Our joint Senior Nurse, Ms. Sarah Markwell who formerly worked with Mrs. Houston has had her first child, a boy called Ethan.

In our Hygiene department, our long-serving Senior Hygienist, Mrs. Andrea Jeffrey has had her second child, her first boy who is to be called Toby.

Well done to all of the ladies and we are pleased to report that all the Mothers and babies are doing well. We look forward to welcoming all of the ladies back after their well-deserved and much needed, maternity absences.

## Smooth Operator

Mr. Houston recently lectured at the World Aesthetic Congress in London during June.

The two day congress is the highlight of the postgraduate education calendar in the fields of cosmetic dentistry and facial aesthetic medicine.

Mr. Houston covered his area of particular interest, facial aesthetic medicine, with a practical live demonstration of treatment with Botox for three patients on the Friday.

This was followed with a lecture on the theoretical and business aspects of dermal filler and botulinum treatments on the Saturday.

The finale was a question and answer session with the audience.

Fortunately, the presentation was well received by the international audience, with only a Hungarian delegate having trouble with Mr. Houston's accent!

## Parental Leave

Two of our very popular and long-serving Associate Dental Surgeons, Dr. Helen Biddle and Dr. Robert Snelling will both be absent from the practice at Christmas time due to the births of what will be for each of them, their respective first children.

Dr. Biddle will have a nine-month maternity leave of absence which will be covered by a locum practitioner until she returns to full-time work in September 2012.

We know that her patients will look forward to welcoming her back next year.

Dr. Snelling will have a rather shorter two week paternity break to be of assistance to his wife following the birth.

(He might be glad to come back to work for a rest!)

## Bristol Fashion

In an exciting development for our organisation the Dental Nurse Training Course which has been established in Weston-super-Mare for some years will now also begin at our Ham Green practice as from September.

Twelve student nurses from various Bristol practices have enrolled on the evening classes.

They will be jointly tutored by our Hygiene Manager Mrs. Lizzie Barrett, Dental Therapist & Hygienist, Mrs. Suzy Threadgold and Dental Nurse, Miss Becky Chodkiewicz.

Since its' inception four years ago, the Weston-super-Mare course under the stewardship of Mrs. Jane Tluba has produced candidates who have gained some of the best pass marks in the country.

We hope that our new course can emulate this level of success.

Good luck to all of the new Tutors and students.



# PRACTICE NEWS

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## Three of a Kind

We have recently recruited three very experienced Dental Nurses to cope with the expansion of the practice.

In Ham Green we welcome two ladies who were already friends and had worked together before at a practice in Bristol prior to joining us.

Miss Kerry Rafferty, who is a local lady from Pill, now works as Dr. Neil Dibdens' Nurse and is currently studying for a Diploma in Oral Health Education.

Miss Rebecca Chodkiewicz, who also holds a qualification as a Dental Radiographer in addition to her National Certificate in Dental Nursing, works with Dr. Garton.

In the Weston-super-Mare practice we have been joined by Mrs. Sarah White who formerly worked briefly for a surgery in Bridgewater following relocation from the Midlands.

Sarah is also a qualified Dental Nurse and Radiographer. She has been assigned as Mrs. Houston's new Nurse in our Weston Aesthetic Dental Centre building.

We wish all three ladies well with their career progression within our organisation and look forward to benefiting from their skills and experience.

## A Qualified Success

Our popular Associate, Dr. Kiran Naik was recently successful in passing a highly prized post-graduate education Diploma.

He is now entitled to have M.J.D.F. (Eng.) qualification added to his professional plate. (Member of the Joint Dental Faculties.)

We congratulate him on his excellent achievement in realising this next step in his career progression.

## A Good Reception

We have recently recruited a new Receptionist to compliment our existing staff levels.

As such, it is a warm welcome to Mrs. Rachel Robinson. Rachel may well be a familiar face to many of our patients having previously been a long-serving Receptionist at a medical practice in Weston-super-Mare.

From her experience in this post she should bring a wealth of applicable knowledge to our reception team. We hope that she settles in quickly and enjoys her new position.



# PRACTICE NEWS

## Speaking Out

Our popular Associate Dr. Owen-Roberts has been asked to present a lecture to his professional peers on his particular interest subject of Dental Implants.

He will speak at the Bristol meeting of the ITI a specialist group dedicated to teaching and research into this ever expanding speciality.

We wish him well with this important career accolade.

## Prize Winner

We would like to publicly congratulate Dr. Andrew Wilson our new Foundation Dentist at the Ham Green practice who was awarded the 'Claudius Ash Prize for Practical Conservative Dentistry' for his work during the final year of his studies at Bristol Dental Hospital.

These skills will be readily transferable to general practice and will benefit all of the patients in his care.

## Mum's the Word

Our Senior Nurse at the Ham Green practice, Mrs. Anneka Bell has announced her second pregnancy. Anneka will commence her maternity leave in December. We wish her well with the birth and we hope to see her back later in 2012.

## Political Points

We have been very grateful to the Weston-super-Mare MP, Mr. John Penrose for the support he has shown us in our ongoing campaign for additional NHS funding to assist our patients.

Although to date we had no success in securing the funding we requested to maintain the same levels of care as in previous years Mr. Penrose has been very active in representing our case to NHS North Somerset Primary Care Trust. It is our hope that eventually our point of view will prevail and consequently our patients can benefit from easy access to what have historically been essential levels of NHS care.

## Goodbye and Good Luck

Due to family commitments our popular Associate Dr. Devin Vaghela has moved to Berkshire to help care for his elderly parents.

We wish him well in his new post and are grateful to him for all of his hard work on behalf of the practice in helping to establish the original Pill surgery in Baltic Place. He has asked to be considered for any future vacancies we may have, so perhaps he might return to us one day.

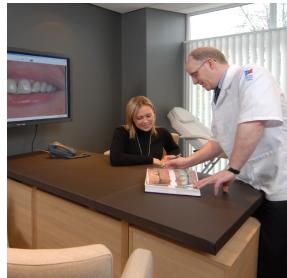
## Do you work in Bristol?

Avoid rushing back to Weston for dental appointments.

We can arrange treatment at our Ham Green branch practice

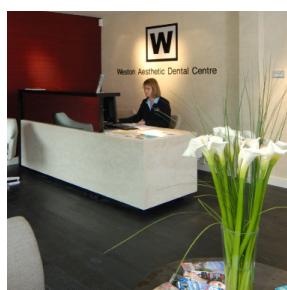
Please ask at Reception for details or call 01275 373497





## We're accepting NHS patients in Ham Green & Weston-super-Mare

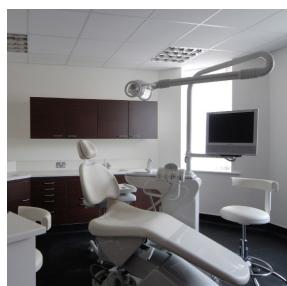
The Houston group now have practices in both Ham Green and Weston-super-Mare



For a limited period, we're continuing to offer the chance to register as an NHS patient with the practice. Please let your friends and family know.

In addition to NHS treatment, we offer a full range of private cosmetic treatments, please phone to discuss your requirements

To register with our Ham Green practice call 01275 373497. For our Weston Practice call 01934 622824/623784



**DA & C Houston**  
[houstondentists.co.uk](http://houstondentists.co.uk)

Call 01275 373497/01934 622824 now to register



## PRACTICE OPENING HOURS:

Monday to Friday	9.00 - 12.45
	2.00 - 5.30

## THE STAFF

### Partners:

Dr. David A. Houston B.D.S.  
Dr. Ceri Houston B.D.S.

### Lead Clinician:

Dr. Steven J. Hinchliffe B.D.S.

### Senior Associate:

Dr. Alastair J. Cruse B.D.S., L.D.S, R.C.S.

### Associates:

Dr. Robert Snelling B.D.S.  
Dr. Ghali Zuhur-Adi B.Sc., B.D.S., F.D.S., R.C.S  
Dr. Ceri Owen-Roberts B.D.S  
Dr. Susan Manasses B.D.S.  
Dr. Lisa M. M. Law B.D.S  
Dr. Neil M. Dibden B.D.S  
Dr. Helen Biddle B.D.S  
Dr. Samir Guatama B.D.S  
Dr. M. Noushad Rahim B.D.S., M.D.S., M.F.G.D.P.(UK) M.J.D.F  
Dr. Devin Vaghela B.D.S, M.F.D.S., Cert. Adv. Aes. Dent  
Dr. Christopher Lambert-Rose B.Sc., B.D.S., D.P.D.S., M.F.D.G.D.P  
Dr. Alex Willmore B.D.S  
Dr. Christina Ekdawy B.D.S  
Dr. Ffion Thomas B.D.S  
Dr. Kiran Naik B.Ch.D  
Dr. Anthony Murto B.D.S  
Dr. Ammar Al-Najjar B.D.S, M.F.D.S, R.C.S

### Visiting Specialists:

Mr. Jagtar Dhanda M.B.B.S., B.D.S., B.Sc (Hons)  
M.F.D.S.R.C.S(Eng)  
Dr. Sankar Ananth B.D.S, D.F.O.(U.Herts), M.F.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.) M.B.B.Ch (Wales)  
Dr. Sajina K. Chandran B.D.S., F.D.S.R.C.S. (London)

### Foundation Dentist:

Dr. Shahin Motamed D.D.S., M.Phil.

### Hygienists:

Mrs Andrea L. Jeffrey E.D.H., Dip. DH.  
Mrs Bernice Maenzanise E.D.H., Dip. DH.  
Miss Kelly Redford E.D.H., Dip. DH.  
Miss Gemma Portis E.D.H., Dip. DH.  
Miss Gillian Foster E.D.H., Dip. DH.  
Mrs Suzanne Threadgold E.D.H., Dip. DH. MSc.

# Dental Implants

A dental implant is an artificial tooth root (commonly made of titanium metal) placed into your jaw, which can support a replacement tooth, bridge unit or denture. They are often more conservative treatment options than more traditional dental techniques, as they do not rely upon adjacent teeth for support.

In suitable patients, implants can be used in conjunction with various combinations of natural teeth, crowns, bridges and partial or complete dentures to restore a healthy, stable and efficiently functioning dentition.

Dental implants will allow you to speak and eat with more confidence and comfort. They are fixed, stable and secure. Thus, overcoming patient concerns over loose dentures. Comfort and aesthetics are prime reasons for choosing the implant option as they can look and feel like your own teeth. They also integrate into the structure of your jaw so preventing loss of the bone after a tooth is lost.

Even if you have lost a significant amount of bone before considering an implant, it may still be possible to place one by means of an initial bone graft. The ideal candidate for an implant will be in good general and dental health. The best cases will be patients with well-maintained mouths free from periodontal (gum) disease.

Placement of an implant requires a small operation. This can be carried out under local anaesthesia, perhaps with sedation if you are slightly apprehensive. Once inserted, the implants must be allowed a period to integrate with the bone of your jaw. This normally takes at least three months in the lower jaw and six months in the upper jaw.

During this time, the implants are usually left buried under the gum. Often aesthetically pleasing temporary restorations may be placed over the region. Later, a short operation allows the implant to be exposed before being used to support the new crown, bridge or denture.

Treatment is normally far less painful and traumatic than imagined. Modern techniques ensure that the insertion of the implant can be carried out relatively quickly and without undue discomfort. Naturally, any surgical operation carries a slight risk of complications arising. However, these can be minimised by careful attention to detail by a skilled and experienced operator. The success rates for dental implants are very high and they are considered an excellent option for replacing missing teeth.

Our highly competent and experienced, specialist practitioners would be pleased to offer you an initial consultation to discuss your particular case.

