

**Announcement of merger of Oakley Health Group Practice
with Monteagle Surgery, Yateley in 2018
From Dr Mark Hinton, Senior Partner**

In April 2016, The Oaklands Practice merged with Hartley Corner Surgery to form **Oakley Health Group**. We are based at the same two sites of Yateley Medical Centre and Hartley Corner in Blackwater – less than a mile apart.

Monteagle Surgery (near Waitrose in Yateley) chose not to merge at that point in time. However, Dr Ahmed, the Sole Partner at Monteagle Surgery has decided that now is the time to join with us. This will help maintain a local quality service in the future, given the tight financial constraints within the NHS and the ever-growing demands being placed on Primary Care.

Monteagle Surgery currently has approximately 6, 000 patients, 1 GP Partner, 2 full time Salaried GPs, Practice Nurses, a Healthcare Assistant and some managerial, administration & reception staff.

Merging will make Monteagle far more robust and able to cope with factors that can rapidly de-stabilise a small practice - such as long-term staff sickness, retirement of GPs & recruitment.

Joining with the Oakley Health Group Practice will put us all in a stronger position to weather the significant challenges facing the NHS both nationally and locally. We can then take advantage of economies of scale and shared expertise as well as having a larger voice in working to redesign local healthcare for the future in Yateley and Blackwater.

You may not be aware that Monteagle Surgery *already* work with us day- to-day over local provision of services such as 8-8 opening and “Integrated Care Services” working with Paramedic Practitioners, Social Worker, Mental Health Worker, Orthopaedic Practitioners as examples. Monteagle patients will then also have access to other services such as our Practice Community Matron, Practice Community Nurses, the in-house Clinical Pharmacist and our Urgent Care Centre.

We will continue to be known as Oakley Health Group and will operate on all three sites.

Patients will be able to remain registered with their own GP.

The practices will merge on **1st April 2018**, but before this date, we are keen to talk to patients of both practices to understand what concerns we need to take into account and also what aspirations people have for the local health economy.

We will be publishing regular joint website updates and newsletters, but our consultation process begins with patients of both practices being invited to attend one of two consultation evenings at Yateley Medical Centre, Oaklands, Yateley, GU46 7LS**

Tuesday 21st November 2017 **19:00 – 21:00**

Thursday 23rd November 2017 **19:00 – 21:00**

*** This location has been chosen because it is centrally located and the waiting room can accommodate a larger number of patients who may wish to attend.*

***** These Meetings have now taken place and there will be a follow-up article in our next Newsletter available by mid December**

Dr Mark Hinton

Senior Partner Oakley Health Group