

## New Wychwood Surgery Steams Ahead

As you are all aware a new surgery is being built in Meadow Lane, Shipton-under-Wychwood. Construction is well underway and the external building work



almost completed. Internally, much of the plastering has been finished and craftsmen are beginning the installation of services, flooring, fixtures and fittings. Whilst we have not yet been given a definite completion date, we do know that it will be some way in advance of the original date of the end of June.

### Steps on the Way

The Partners decided some years ago that our current premises were too small to provide the level and quality of service they wanted to be able to offer patients. It took some time to find a suitable site. We are very grateful to the Reynolds family for agreeing to this purchase.

The next step was to agree the building and financing with the North Oxfordshire Primary Care Trust, the Thames Valley Strategic Health Authority and the Department of Health. There are strict criteria for the building of such premises, the number of rooms that can be funded and the maximum size of these rooms. These, together with the constraints of the local planning office, have led to the size and design of the building. Once building work has finished the grounds will be landscaped including a hedge of shrubs and indigenous trees around the site.

### More Space

Over the last few years, we have asked you, our patients, to complete a Patient Satisfaction Questionnaire and the two main issues identified have

always been patient car parking facilities and the size of the waiting area. We hope that the new Surgery will resolve these issues; there is ample parking for both staff and patients and the waiting room will allow for less cramped seating arrangements.

### A New Era

Whilst all the Doctors and staff will be very sad to leave the current surgery premises and its convivial atmosphere, we are looking forward to providing extended services in less crowded conditions. We hope to maintain the high quality of patient care and friendly, but professional, approach, which we feel we currently offer our patients. One major difference, for patients, doctors and staff alike, when we move will be the absence of Dr. Sandy Scott at the helm. After running the Practice, sometimes single-handedly, since 1969 he will be retiring at the beginning of April. It goes without saying that we will all miss him greatly. However, I am pleased to report that Dr. Katherine Welsh, our Registrar from August 2004 to August 2005 will be rejoining us at the end of May as a permanent member of the team.

**Vanessa Newman,**  
Practice Manager