

Chaddesden Doctors

Doctors Tully, Barry and Taylor had their practice on Chaddesden Park Road near the Cemetery end. They had a large bungalow with a brick built waiting room added at the side. Our doctor had a 'turn up and wait' system to see which doctor you preferred. Dr Barry was a lovely man, very friendly and kind. The best part about a village doctor is that they know each family really well.

Doctor Barry was called out to my dad and he sat on the bed, little knowing that our dog was under the eiderdown. Mum was most embarrassed until the doctors cleaner said that his dogs slept on his bed too.

Dr Rudge's surgery was on Nottingham Road where Abbey Vet's Surgery is now. One semi detached house with a wooden waiting room in the garden was the start. The adjoining house was taken over after a time, the chimneys were left up and the front rooms were made into one big room, being heated from the original fireplaces. The reception desk was under the two flights of stairs.

No appointments were necessary to see a doctor, much like Dr Tully's surgery. Patients would go into the surgery waiting room, which was a wooden building, through one door. Their notes were given to the doctor in between patients and then they were called in to see the doctor in order. The queue would move around the room. One doctor had the room upstairs, Dr Rudge in the back room and the other doctor in the front room. When the patient had finished seeing the doctor they left through another door. Eventually the wooden building was demolished.

There was another practice on Northwood Avenue that moved to the corner of Maine Drive and Chaddesden Lane, previously the site of a council-run clinic. Doctors Thompson, Disney, James, Keeling, Rivers and Cox were based there with another practice in Borrowwash. The clinic was for pre-school children. Health visitors worked from there, they would come out to mum's homes to review the babies and assess the progress of the pre-school children.

Margaret Poyser

22 comments were received when this article was first published in April 2012.
Sorted here by the location of the surgery.

Nottingham Road (Drs Tully and Rudge)

From Gordon Bowley:

As I remember in my childhood Dr Tully's surgery was on Nottingham Road in the front room of a house just above Reginald Road which stood back from the road. I seem to remember Dr Tully lived in Lodge Lane Spondon. His "tonics", a bottle of coloured liquid, soon put things right!

From Brian Hayes:

I totally agree about Dr Tully as in my very early years, he was my Doctor and eventually Dr Barry also.

From David Guy:

Can any one remember Dr Durning on Nottingham Rd early 50's?

From Peter Ciupa:

Yes, I remember Dr Durnin in the 50s. I'm pretty sure I was on my way to see him with a chest problem when I fell over and broke my wrist. I'd be about 7 at the time. And 'still clumsy after all these years' to paraphrase Paul Simon.

Chaddesden Park Road (Drs Barry and Taylor)

From Trevor Morris:

The surgery on Chadd Park Road was in the second bungalow down from Chadd Park Social Club. The bungalow is still there.

We were also contacted by the present owner of the bungalow that was formerly Dr Barry's surgery.

Northwood Avenue (Drs Russell and Dow)

From Paul Spencer:

Looking at the information about Mayfield Road and Northwood Avenue, both addresses seem to ring true but such a long time ago. The two main doctors at that practice in the 1940's were Dr Russell and Dr Dow. In those days doctors didn't impart much information about your condition and were very quiet and reserved men. The Nurse/receptionist was Mr Nightingales sister in law. Mr Nightingale had the chemists shop at the top of Chaddesden Park Road. Mr and Mrs Nightingale were lovely people and had two daughters. Doctor Plant is familiar, did he also work at Northwood Avenue for a while, I am sure he attended my mother at one stage.

From John Goosey:

In the early 1950's when Dr Russell was a young man the Northwood surgery was held in a wooden scout hut which was the first building on the right coming from Chadd Park Rd. In effect directly opposite to where the surgery was later built.

From Charlie Latham:

I seem to remember the hut the doctor used was built by them for a surgery, moving from a house on possibly Chad Park Road – that's very vague though, they moved across the road to a purpose built building.

From Pamela Helm:

I seem to remember that the Drs Thompson, Disney, etc surgery was on the next street up - Northwood Avenue not Mayfield Rd.

From Margaret Hirst:

I agree that the surgery was on Northwood Avenue, not Mayfield Rd. I went to that surgery and transferred with them when they moved to the newly built Park Medical Practice

From Margaret Peat:

Maine Drive doctors were at Northwood Avenue previously. I remember Doctors Dow, Stark, Russell and Pavely before the arrival of the younger ones. The Scouts took over the wooden hut (moving from Morley Road School).

From Matt Helm:

Northwood Ave doctors moved to Maine Drive in 1991.

[Thanks to all who commented about the surgery being on Northwood Avenue, not Mayfield Road. The final paragraph of the main article has been corrected.]

Chaddesden Lane (Dr Plant)

From Valerie Greene:

I remember Doctor Plant on Chaddesden Lane. next to the Memorial hall. I lived with my Parents on the lane third house from the entrance. Doctor Plant used to come to the house

