



Caldecotte Lake

Lake death man named

A 35-YEAR-OLD MAN who drowned at Caldecotte Lake over the weekend has been named. James Casey, of Furzton, was swimming across the lake on Saturday with a friend but got into difficulties and disappeared from sight. Police were called to the popular boating lake in the Walton Park area just after 4.30pm.

The police helicopter, together with police officers, ambulance and fire crews, carried out a search of the area.

His body was recovered from the lake at 6.05pm. The death is not being treated as suspicious, although investigations into the incident are continuing.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Milton Keynes CID on 0845 8 505 005.

An inquest was due to be opened this morning.

Thousands sign on at new city dentist

THOUSANDS of city people have registered with an NHS dentist – thanks to *mk news*.

This newspaper was swamped with e-mails and phone calls from people after we reported last week how health chiefs admitted to keeping quiet about a new NHS dental practice.

Dental Works, based at Unit 1 Station House, Elder Gate, opened its doors three weeks ago and will take up to 7,000 NHS patients.

Before *mk news* broke the story, there were 4,000 patients on its waiting list and patients were being allocated at a rate of 500 a week.

In the space of a few days 2,500 places have gone leaving the practice only able to accept another 500 people.

MK Primary Care Trust (PCT) has also revealed a further 8,000 NHS dentist places will be available across the city within the next year.

Callers have been ringing the hotline number at the PCT but some have also contacted *mk news* who have said the line has been continuously engaged.

But staff at Dental Works, who have now started to work over the weekends, have also been facing threats and abuse by people who have been calling in at the practice.

Dental Works boss Shahzad Naseem said: "This has put us under more pressure and the phone is ringing non-stop.



Dental Works' Shahzad Naseem

"Our staff have been working very hard and it has been chaos since the news appeared on the front-page of *mk news*.

"People have been calling in the practice and have started getting rude and giving our staff abuse.

"The NHS does not pay us to get abused. In fact if someone crosses the limit then we (dentists or GPs) have the right to refuse to see them or completely remove them from the list.

"My advice to them is to join the

queue and not to jump it because it is not fair for those people who have been waiting for months.

"The hotline system is still a good idea and we are very pleased with it."

The PCT waiting list was also overloaded and very busy.

Spokesman John Evans said: "After the *mk news* story our telephone system hit melt down.

"We have taken more than 2,000 calls in the last few days from people wishing to be added to the waiting list.

"We are sorry people had trouble getting through on the phone line and thank them for their patience. We have one person full time just taking messages from the line and updating our list and we are trying to be scrupulously fair about managing this."

The PCT has also revealed that one city practice is adding an extra part time NHS dentist soon and that will provide 500 more registrations.

"In the slightly longer term, hopefully within two months, a further surgery will be extending its practice and that is likely to mean places for between 2,000 to 3,000 more NHS patients.

"In fact the picture in Milton Keynes is now looking better than at many neighbouring PCTs."

■ Anyone still wanting to register can call the hotline number on 01296 310102

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