



It's a Jubilee Year for us too!

2022 also marks a momentous occasion for the team here at Lars Christensen Orthodontics - this year we're celebrating our 25th Anniversary, and we couldn't be prouder of the last 25 years of success. Since 1997, we've provided the highest standards of orthodontic treatment to the people of Oxford and the surrounding areas.

A lot has changed over the years so we thought it would be interesting to share Lars' journey since 1997;

Lars initially rented surgery space in Oxford and the local area. The business and Lars' reputation soon outgrew single surgery occupancy and Lars decided to branch out and in 2007 we moved to our current premises at 69-71 Banbury Road. The previous use of the building as a bank and subsequently a travel agency meant that extensive renovations were needed to accommodate modern dentistry. It was a little different then, with his surgery being located on the first floor. After a second phase of building works, the lower floor was extended to accommodate more surgery space.

The expansion provided Lars with three clinical rooms which enabled him to employ further Staff to assist with the increasing workload and accommodating the services of a Hygienist. With a central decontamination room for sterilizing instruments and a designated laboratory, the practice was all set to embrace the advances that were taking place in the orthodontic world at the time.

Along with smart new premises and the latest dental chairs and surgery equipment, new technology advanced over the years. In particular the use of digital imaging - Lars purchased his own digital X Ray machine so that lower dose radiographs could be taken on site. This progressed to going paperless so that appointment bookings and record taking could all be fully computerized with the installation of practice management and imaging software. Another big advancement has been the introduction of intra-oral scanning. This has replaced unpleasant alginate impressions. The scan is a picture of your teeth taken from the inside of your mouth which can be used to either print models on site using 3D printers or can be shared with laboratories to fabricate braces, mouthguards etc.



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All of which has streamlined the placement of fixed braces so the team here has the ability to be fully in control. From the initial image, design phase and in collaboration with laboratories internationally, we can provide high quality bespoke braces. Lars was an early adopter of this new technique and the digital workflow approach is now commonplace in many practices.

Anna joined Lars in the practice and brought with her, her own wide knowledge and expertise in Dentistry and has been a major contributor in the success of the practice. As a Partner she shares the responsibility of providing exemplary service to patients in a safe environment as well as overseeing the running of the practice alongside Lars.

Along with providing orthodontic treatment, Lars has lectured all over the world, sharing his wide knowledge with various Orthodontic Societies. In fact, he recently presented his 370th lecture in Spain. He is also an Honorary Clinical Lecturer at the UCL Eastman Dental Hospital. In-House Courses have also been held here at the practice enabling others to learn

from Lars' wide knowledge base, in particular as a forerunner to switching to a digital environment.

So what's next? 3D technology continues to evolve with printers now being able to print individually designed 3D orthodontic brackets, not something we've embraced as yet but watch this space!

Lars and Anna would like to thank patients for the trust they have shown over the years in helping to create numerous beautiful smiles. Particularly during the COVID pandemic. They hope your patient journey through the practice has been all that you hoped it would be. Their early ambition to provide treatment in a safe, welcoming environment, will have come to fruition and will have been worth all their hard work!



*“Thank you for all your support
over the years!”*

From Lars, Anna & all the team



Braces and wind instruments



Playing a wind instrument is a complex task involving the muscles of the face and lips, the tongue and the teeth. Some musicians who play a wind instrument may find that orthodontic treatment affects their ability to practise and perform.

Inexperienced musicians will probably find that wearing a brace doesn't change their performance very much, but more experienced, proficient players may notice a greater change. The good news is, that with practice and motivation, most wind instrument players can adjust to wearing braces. Further information can be found on the BOS website and explains what wind instrument musicians can expect whilst wearing a brace and suggests some ways of coping with problems.

Before you start orthodontic treatment you should talk to your orthodontist about the instrument you play, the brace you will need and the possible difficulties you may have with your musical performance whilst wearing a brace. This may affect whether you decide to go ahead with orthodontic treatment or not.

You can read the full article here;

<https://www.bos.org.uk/BOS-Homepage/Orthodontics-for-Children-Teens/Fact-File-FAQ/Advice-for-Musicians>

Article and photos on this page, courtesy of the British Orthodontic Society



COVID GUIDELINES IN A DENTAL SETTING

Whilst restrictions may be starting to lift as we go about our everyday lives, here at Lars Christensen Orthodontics we will continue to take precautions against COVID until further guidance is received from our Dental governing bodies.

We therefore respectfully ask that you continue to wear a mask to the practice, either as a patient or accompanying chaperone and use the hand-sanitizer provided in Reception upon arrival. Likewise, telephone screening before appointments will continue.

We will of course renew our Standard Operating Procedures once new guidelines have been released.

Thank you for your understanding.

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**Christchurch Carol Service
which we featured in our
Winter Newsletter and
staff attended - raised an
incredible £30,000!!**

A big thank you to all who donated