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Issue 84



## **COQUET MEDICAL GROUP**

Welcome to our spring newsletter in which we would like to update our patients on covid clinics, about recent staff changes and some exciting upcoming developments due to take place in our practice which will directly improve our patient services.

**COVID UPDATE** Two years on from the first lock down we are relieved to see signs of life returning to some kind of normality for most. There is no doubt that our national Covid-19 vaccination campaign has contributed greatly towards this and it is proven that receiving the vaccine is a far safer way to build protection, usually without experiencing any major sickness. We at Coquet Medical Group, with the help of our wonderful volunteers, are very proud to have been part of the journey and to date over 90% of our local population (12yrs+) who qualified for an injection, have now had their 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and booster injections. We are currently in the process of giving the Spring(4<sup>th</sup>) boosters to those most at risk (75yrs+). Our last day for these injections is Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April. Please could we ask that if you have contracted Covid in the 4 weeks prior to this date that you do not attend for your vaccination and that you rearrange an appointment for yourself via the National Booking Service. Tel: 119 or use the following website:-

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/>

We will shortly be inviting all healthy children (5 – 11yrs) to attend Amble Health Centre on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June for their 1<sup>st</sup> Covid-19 vaccination and look forward to working closely with our local primary schools in order to provide this service. Children's 2<sup>nd</sup> vaccinations will be held on 6<sup>th</sup> September. If your child has not previously contracted Covid-19 we would however, recommend parents contact the National Booking Service to arrange a vaccination as soon as possible.

### **NEW TELEPHONE SYSTEM**

We have been listening to feedback from patients and staff and are pleased to announce that on 26<sup>TH</sup> April we will be upgrading our telephone system. All telephone numbers will remain the same and our engineers have assured us that there should be no disruption to our service. Patients should see improvements to the messaging and queuing systems and staff will have access to live data showing the number of calls received which will enable us to plan any further necessary improvements.

## STAFF CHANGES

We are delighted to announce that Dr. Jamie Willey is now a partner in the practice.

Recently we said goodbye to our Senior Receptionist, Maria Bryson, following 16 years of loyal service and to our Registrar's Dr Yu and Dr O'Donovan. We would like to wish them all every success in their future careers.

We have recently welcomed Mr. Arslan Javid who is a PCN Clinical Pharmacist and two new Registrar's, Dr Ruth Gertig and Dr Ben Abawe along with F2 Dr James Parkinson, to our team. We have also been joined by Receptionist Laura Green and Sophia Lillico is replacing Ethan Kelly as our Kickstart reception trainee.

**Mind and Sole** Invite you to join a free walking group. Amble's Walking and Talking session starts Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May @10.30am

Meet outside Amble Health Centre. **Please note, there is no parking allowed in the Health Centre car park.**

Contact Christine on 078 253 96072 or mindandsole1@gmail.com

## Chat Health

A new service for 11 – 19 year olds, called Chat Health is now being provided by the School Nurse Team. For confidential advice and support for all different kinds of issues such as healthy eating, relationships, mental health, self harm, bullying, smoking, alcohol and drugs.

Text 0750 733 2258

## **Sharps Bins for Diabetic Patients**

Diabetic patients are advised that your local pharmacy can provide 1 litre sharps bins for your personal use at home via the Diabetic Sharp Scheme. You will need to return your sharps bins to the pharmacy as we are unable to dispose of these for you. In the event that your local pharmacy has run out of 1 litre sharps we may be able to provide you with one, if our own stock allows but these must be returned to the Pharmacy for disposal. Thank you!

**REFURBISHMENT PROGRAMME** – We are very excited to announce that we have secured funding from the Clinical Commissioning Group to develop both Broomhill and Amble Health Centres to gain extra clinical space. Works will begin at Broomhill Health Centre at the end of April with plans to convert the old existing dental area into three new surgeries. This will better accommodate our expanded clinical team as the number of registered patients increases. Broomhill is expected to be completed within 4 weeks, followed by works at Amble. Watch out for more information on our website, facebook and in forthcoming newsletters.