



January 2021 – 2<sup>nd</sup> edition

Dear all,

As mentioned in our previous newsletter, due to the current lockdown and the commencement of our COVID vaccination programme, we will be limiting patient numbers across our surgeries. This will mean that some routine procedures will be deferred until further notice, however please rest assured that the team at Old Bridge Surgery are working extremely hard to ensure that those who need medical intervention will receive help in a timely manner.

**Don't call us, we'll call you - COVID vaccination update**

Our first COVID clinics at Millennium House, Pensilva, have received very positive feedback and we continue to call in eligible patients. We have 4 clinics scheduled this week (Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday) and we are continuing to call in patients aged 80+ years, as these are the first priority group. With nearly 900 patients in this group, it will take some time, so your ongoing patience is greatly appreciated. Once these are complete, we will call the next priority groups, which the government has indicated are patients aged 70+ years, plus those high risk patients who are currently shielding.

Until then, please continue to follow the advice 'Hands – Face - Space', and please refrain from calling us, so that our team can spend more time calling patients, than answering calls asking for an update. We cannot answer and make phone calls at the same time. When the time is right, we will call you as soon as possible and please continue to respect our staff who have been working tirelessly throughout the pandemic to ensure that the medical service to our community has continued with as little disruption as possible. We are facing this pandemic together and appreciate your support and request your patience.



*Millennium House clinic*

On a positive note we successfully vaccinated our largest care home on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January, and will be vaccinating our remaining care homes on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January, so our COVID vaccination campaign is well underway, however it will take time and the PCN are continuing to push for as many vaccines as possible.

### **Coronavirus Support Group**

If you need help with shopping, or even to get to Millennium House for your COVID vaccination, please contact them and they'll see what they can do. You can reach them 7 days a week, 10am-4pm, on **01503 804099**. Alternatively email [support@looetowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:support@looetowncouncil.gov.uk). Sarah's Cabs are also offering transfers to Millennium House for £15 return.

### **Thank you**

Against a back-drop of significant working pressures, we have been both thrilled and excited to receive funding to purchase some new equipment for the surgery.

### **St. Georges Masonic Lodge**

Thank you for purchasing 2 ear irrigation machines and a portable ECG machine, which are invaluable in treating our patients and helping to avoid unnecessary journeys, including admissions to hospital, especially important during COVID times. The equipment has arrived and has been used, so thank you so much.

### **ACHE**

ACHE help to raise funds for the surgery, collecting donations to help fund equipment and we are so grateful for their continued support. To help with assessing patients in the surgery, especially those patients who struggle to get on and off our couches, we'll be taking delivery of 12 new electric couches, so that we can lower them for the ease of use by our patient's and staff. For those that have donated over the years to ACHE, thank you again for your generosity.

### **Flu Reminder**

With unprecedented winter pressures on the NHS, if you haven't already had your flu jab, please call us (after 10am) on 01503 266 960 to make an appointment as it's so important to keep well at this time

**Finally....Stay safe, stay positive and we'll vaccinate our eligible patients as soon as possible.**

Drs Roy, Kodde, Mogford and Buchanan  
Partners, Old Bridge Surgery, and the Surgery Team