



14 March 2022

Dear all,

### **Spring Covid Boosters – coming soon**

Heading into Spring, we want to take this opportunity to say thank you to everyone who has sent in personal messages of encouragement and support during the Covid pandemic. Whilst it's not gone away, please be assured that we are still here and working hard to protect our community and we thank you all for continuing to wear your masks when visiting the Surgery.

Throughout the pandemic, where needed, we have continued to see patients face-to-face and have even managed to continue to undertake annual bloods and reviews for patients with long term conditions, despite being advised by NHS England that we could suspend this service.

We continue to deliver Covid vaccinations to patients aged 12 years and over, and we will be inviting patients aged 75 years and over to have their 2<sup>nd</sup> Covid booster jab as part of a Spring booster campaign. This needs to be done at least 6 months after the first booster.

This next wave of Covid boosters is for our most elderly and vulnerable patients, and also includes all patients in care homes and patients under 75 years with weakened immune systems.

Our next Covid clinics at the Millpool Centre are:

- Friday March 25<sup>th</sup>
- Saturday March 26<sup>th</sup>
- Friday April 8<sup>th</sup>

Please call the surgery to book your appointment on **01503 266 960**.

### **Please be kind**

Unfortunately, in recent weeks the surgery and staff have come under fire, suggesting that we are not seeing patients and that we don't care. This is of course untrue, undeserved and has deeply impacted staff morale. Our team are not faceless, many live in and around the area, their children attend local schools, and their families are deeply rooted in the community. We have got through this pandemic with a strong sense of team and community, and it's this spirit which we must protect and preserve. Serving nearly 10,000 patients, we are proud of our staff and we thank you for your support and understanding.

Of course, if you have any concerns, we encourage you to raise these directly with us.

In the meantime, for the protection of staff and patients, the NHS continues to operate a Zero Tolerance policy. We have introduced CCTV and continue to record all telephone calls. Patients who upset, intimidate and threaten our staff could be removed from our patient list.

### **Breast Screening Time**

Many of you will have seen the mobile breast screening unit in the Millpool car park. If invited, we strongly recommend that you attend, as this vital service really can help save lives.

### **Worrying Times**

Family, health & financial worries, and of course the awful situation in Ukraine, can play havoc with mental health. If you, or someone you know is struggling, please click on one of the links below.

- [Mental health](#)
- [Financial](#)

Finally, we are here if you need us.

**Partners**

**Old Bridge Surgery**