



27th March 2023

As we move into Spring, we would like to provide some updates and to request for some help and support from our patients.

GP Recruitment

You will have read in the media that GPs are in short supply, with surgeries across the UK struggling to recruit and this is true for us. Despite our wonderful location we have been unsuccessful in attracting GPs after extensive recruitment across Cornwall and Devon and have now set our sights on attracting a GP from further afield. To promote Looe as an amazing destination and Old Bridge Surgery as a great place to work, we've created a short three-minute video and we'd really appreciate your help to circulate this.

<https://www.oldbridgesurgery.co.uk/job/salaried-gp-or-gp-partner/>

You can share via email or visit our PPG Facebook page and tag friends and family who live around the UK and ask them to tag their family and friends. They may even know a GP who holidays regularly in Cornwall and might consider relocating. We've seen several surgeries closing their doors in Cornwall, with patients having to register at other surgeries, so GP recruitment at this time really is our number one priority. Your help is greatly appreciated and thank you in advance.

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100085568863625>

Covid Spring Boosters

As we learn to live with Covid and recognise that it still circulates, NHS England are preparing to undertake booster vaccinations for all patients aged 75 years and older. A small number of immunocompromised patients aged 5-74 years will also be eligible.

As previously, we will deliver these locally and ***subject to vaccine deliveries*** we anticipate we will deliver these as follows.

- From April 3rd, commence vaccinations across our local nursing home and care homes.
- Simultaneously, starting home visits for our housebound patients.
- From April 17th, starting to deliver small surgery clinics with our main mass vaccination clinic likely to take place on Saturday April 22nd at Looe Community Academy with thanks to the Looe Lions for their continued support. Appointments for these clinics are pre-bookable from April 5th. Please call **01503 266960** after 10am, to book your appointment.

Remembering Dr Peter Benton

It is with great sadness to announce that following a short battle with cancer, Dr Benton has passed away. We have shared previously that Dr Benton was a retired Navy Consultant who came out of retirement, as a volunteer, to help the surgery deliver Covid vaccines.

Dr Benton was an inspirational, calm, and reassuring presence at our surgeries and many of you will have been vaccinated by him personally. We will always remain truly thankful for his contribution to the Surgery and the Community and his wife Judy, a retired theatre nurse and social worker, has shared that she would like to continue to support future Covid clinics as this is something that was so important to them both.



Finally, a couple of reminders:

- Please can we remind patients to notify us if you are unable to attend appointments. Surprisingly, we have an increasing number of patients who do not attend, many repeatedly, and we all need to do our bit to protect appointments so that we do not waste them and can offer them to other patients.
- We will be closed Friday 7th April (Good Friday) and Monday 10th April (Bank Holiday). For assistance when we are closed, please visit a local pharmacy, or contact 111. For life threatening matters, please contact 999. However, don't forget you can still use LIVI. If you are not already registered, [click here](#) to register now.

Whatever you are doing this Easter, have fun and fingers crossed we can announce a new GP soon!

GP Partners & Staff
Old Bridge Surgery