



STAFF NEWS – WELCOME TO OUR NEW CLINICIANS

The surgery is delighted to welcome a new GP to our team. Dr Luke Waldron will be joining us permanently from May 2023. Dr Waldron trained in Aberdeen University and moved to Cornwall in 2013 where he later completed his GP training. He has since worked in many different practices in Cornwall including a brief spell in South Wales. He has a keen interest in medical education having completed a Post graduate certificate in this area. He previously trained as a physiotherapist and enjoys seeing sports injuries. He loves the variety and challenges that GP offers and is interested in working with patients to promote healthier lifestyles and improve physical and mental well-being. He is an enthusiastic triathlete and regularly competes. He has a wife and 5-year-old boy who keep him very busy whether it's baking, swimming or exploring the shores of Cornwall.



We are also delighted to welcome Dave White our Specialist Paramedic. Many of you may have already spoken to him or seen him on a Monday during the last year when he has been working alongside our Duty Doctor in his capacity as a PCN (Primary Care Network) Paramedic. Dave is studying to become an Advanced Clinical Practitioner and will be an invaluable member of the team.

He will now be here on two more days a week managing two of the Duty Doctor emergency sessions. When patients call and the team enquire about your medical needs it is because we need to make sure we are signposting by giving you an appointment with the correct team. This might include our First Contact Physio, our Care Co-ordinator, our Nursing Team or a routine appointment with your own GP. Dave's role will be the Duty Emergency Clinician assessing whether you need to be physically examined, require

ambulance assistance etc or indeed a prescription because you have an acute condition that needs medical attention that day.

UPDATE ON APPOINTMENTS

We hope you enjoyed the Bank Holidays in May and the wonderful Coronation weekend and that you stayed well over the long weekends. You may need to see a GP while we are closed – please do not wait if you are unwell. There is an out of hours service that will arrange for you to see a GP where necessary. Call 111 or go online to <https://111.nhs.uk/>.

We understand that sometimes our patients are frustrated with potential delays in accessing our services - but we want you to know we are doing the best we can with current resources. Appointments are not limitless, and this is currently the situation across many GP service providers in the county. Specifically, at Carnon Downs, we have had some big changes, 2 GPs and Jackie our nurse recently leaving in February and March, but we have been extremely lucky with the wonderful locums through whom we have secured some of the eight GP sessions we have been missing each week- for their support we are extremely grateful.

We are looking forward to our new GP Dr Luke Waldron and Paramedic Dave White taking increasing our weekly sessions from the beginning of May. In addition to this Dr Elizabeth Hodgkiss our new GP Registrar will be starting later in the summer so our capacity will certainly be increased over the next few months. It is a challenging time across the NHS at the moment, but we are all in it together. We really care about our patient community so a big  thank you to you, our patients, for being kind and supportive over these changes. We'd also like to say thank you to our reception team who handle the hundreds of calls, sometimes difficult, every day. We feel there is light ahead and remain positive and optimistic that we can be the best for our patients here at Carnon Downs Surgery.

STAFF TRAINING - THURSDAY 27 JUNE, 26 JULY AND 23 AUG

The surgery will be closed on the above dates for staff training between 12.30 and 2.00pm. If you need urgent medical advice during this time, call 01872 863221 and you will be transferred to our Out of Hours Message handler. The dispensary will be closed for collection of medication between 12 noon and 2.30pm.

SHARPS BINS NOW ON PRESCRIPTION

We would like to inform all our patients that sharps bins are now **only** available via a prescription. They are no longer available at the desk as they will now need to be prescribed. If you are not entitled to free prescriptions (aged over 60 yrs, medically exempt etc) you will need to pay the **£9.65** prescription fee.

You can use your sharps bin to dispose of medical supplies such as:

- needles and syringes
- lancets used with finger-pricking devices
- clippers

Put needles or similar medical supplies into the sharps bin immediately after using them and do not try to take them out again. Only fill the bin to where it says "Do not fill above this line". Always keep your sharps bin in a safe place so it's not a risk to other people and is out of the sight and reach of children.

When full, the box should be collected for disposal by your local council by calling 0300 1234 141.



LONG TERM CONDITION REVIEWS



If you have a Long-Term Condition (LTC) you may remember the nurses like to review you during the month of your birthday. We also have our new blood pressure machine which patients can use to measure their 6 monthly interim blood pressure reading.

You might also receive a message from the surgery to supply us with a current up to date reading, so come to the foyer and if you need help with the machine just ask one of the team.

CONTACT NUMBERS

Main Reception Telephone: 01872 863221

Open 8.30am - 6.15 pm Mon to Fri www.carnondownssurgery.co.uk