

## Update from the Surgery

What a great start to the month with 4 days off for the Jubilee and a huge turnout for the impressive Woodfest. It was pretty brutal returning to work after such a short week but then we had our own Woodchurch Surgery celebration getting together for the first time in over 2 years to reflect on how the team have worked hard for each other and patients alike. It was a well-deserved celebration and the first time many of us had seen each other without face-masks in a long time.

The latest government advice has allowed us to open the doors and make face-masks optional for all staff except the "clinical" staff (ie Doctors/Nursing team) who still have to wear them when seeing patients. Patients can wear a mask but we ask that any who have new coughs/flu-like/covid-like symptoms wear a mask to protect others in the building.

Sadly we have seen Sophie leave us from the Dispensary, and thank her for all her efforts having started just after the first lockdown. To replace her we have now welcomed three new to the Dispensing Team. Rebecca is a qualified Dispenser we also welcome Denise and Karen (Kaz) who will be both front-of-house and prescriptions clerks. We have become so busy that we hope the addition of these roles will help streamline the journey of a request to a take-home medication and allow the Dispensers to get on with their roles. We still aim to turn-around all repeat requests within 3 working days.

Next month will see the arrival of Ryan Mowat who some of you may know as "Ryan-from-the-hospice". He is a senior Nurse who has walked the boards here before as a District Nurse 10 years ago and is keen to come back to the community to support our Care Homes and Chris Hamilton (our Nurse Practitioner) with all the work she does.

I'm pretty excited about July as I have two weeks off with the family and plan to go to Mallorca. We've grown pretty used to the entitled feeling that if we book a holiday we should be there to enjoy it, however the world is on its head at the moment. I guess we're paying for the chance of getting there and staying where we have booked, so if it happens it will be amazing. With all the publicity about cancelled flights and strikes I'm a bit nervous - interestingly you can get some good info on the "health benefits of going on holiday" but there don't seem to be any health benefits of holidays being cancelled. Hopefully the holiday season will be good for lots of us and not too many cancellations experienced...

With Summer love to everyone on behalf of the Surgery - Jack Hickey, GP