

GREYSTOKE GAZETTE

ISSUE 111

JAN-FEB 2022

**A very belated happy new year to all our patients
from all the staff at Greystoke Surgery!**

Staff update

There have been a few staff changes at Greystoke Surgery we would like to update you on...

Trainees

Congratulations to Dr Rachel Drew who is now a fully qualified GP. Dr Drew completed her GP training at the end of January and will be returning to Greystoke from time to time to undertake locum shifts.

Dr Mekhail and Dr Fazal will be remaining at Greystoke until August 2022.

We welcome Dr Adetola Adeyekun to Greystoke who is in the final stages of his GP training.

Admin

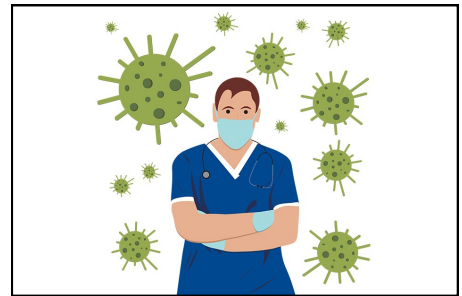
We welcome Alison Peart as a permanent staff member to Greystoke Surgery. Alison undertook administrative duties for Covid clinics that have been run by Greystoke and we are delighted to welcome her into the Greystoke team as a permanent addition.

We also would like to welcome Danielle Bradshaw and Isabel Reed to the Greystoke administration team.



Covid 19 update

As we continue to negotiate our way through the Covid 19 pandemic, the question everyone is asking is, 'Is this nearly over?' or, 'Can we see light at the end of the tunnel?'. The staff have worked extremely hard during the pandemic whilst rolling out the vaccination programme. At one point, the practice was identified as being the best performing practice IN THE COUNTRY at delivering the Covid 19 vaccinations in adults as part of the best performing Primary Care Network. As well as the hard work of the staff, this is, of course down to the willingness of our patients to uptake the vaccine and engage with the programme. We would like to extend our thanks to all the volunteers and staff who have worked so hard at delivering the vaccination programme. With the restrictions for Plan B being relaxed it is uncertain which direction the pandemic will now take. There is no doubt that the vaccination programme has significantly reduced hospital admissions and the evidence indicates the Omicron variant results in milder symptoms. It is uncertain whether further vaccinations need to be administered, but if this is the case, the practice will respond accordingly. In the meantime, we would ask our patients to respect the ongoing measures to minimise the spread of Covid 19 by wearing a mask when entering the building, washing your hands or using the hand sanitisers and maintaining social distancing. Some staff members have been off work due to contracting Covid or self isolating so we thank you for your ongoing patience when staff levels are lower than usual.



Hayfever Sufferers

All the evidence shows that if you start your anti-histamines, sprays and drops before your hayfever develops you will achieve much better control of your symptoms throughout the hayfever season. Despite the cold weather the hazel catkins are out and shedding pollen and other trees will be following soon. All those who are sensitive to tree pollens should start their medication now. If you are only sensitive to grass pollens you should start your medication by the end of April.



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Please note that should you need medication for your hayfever, this can be purchased at your local pharmacy or supermarket, often cheaper than a prescription charge and your pharmacist will be able to advise you on what treatment options are available.