

GREYSTOKE GAZETTE

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Current Covid Situation

As we approach the easing of lockdown measures and start thinking about a return to normality, the current situation is that Covid infections are once again on the rise. The recent European football championship has undoubtedly contributed to the rise in cases, given that the statistics show that there has been a significant rise in positive Covid cases in young men. Fortunately admissions to hospital and the death rate has remained low thanks mainly to the success of the national vaccination campaign as well as the social distancing measures which are currently still in place.

What we are uncertain of at this stage is how things will look after the lockdown measures have been eased and this is an ongoing discussion. There is a lot of uncertainty as to whether masks will remain in certain situations, will there be a new variant and what will the vaccination booster campaign look like. In time, these things will be clearer.

The practice continues to face issues with regards to access despite the acquisition of a first contact physio (see below) and a newly appointed salaried GP with increased sessions. This demand is also seen in secondary care where waiting times for outpatient appointments continue to increase. We recognise the difficulty patients are having in contacting us. Please use the online booking system and eConsult access available on the website.

Thank you once again for your patience during these extremely challenging times.

New First Contact Physio Therapist

We are delighted to welcome back to the practice Mr Joe Waugh who has recently taken up the role of First Contact Physiotherapist at Greystoke Surgery. Joe was previously at Greystoke seeing patients with musculoskeletal issues directly without the need to see a GP first. He has enormous experience in dealing with musculoskeletal problems and is able to offer a clinical assessment, advice and treatments such as steroid injections. When patients ring in, they will be able to book an appointment directly with Joe rather than needing to speak to a GP first. This will help improve patient access overall. Joe also has the added responsibility of being the primary care network lead for first contact physiotherapists so we are extremely grateful for his experience.



There is now a social walking group operating from Greystoke. Please see the flyer below for further details.

GREYSTOKE AND GAS HOUSE LANE SURGERIES

SOCIAL WALKING GROUP

A new friendly walking group to get you active and socialising in the great outdoors.

***EVERY THURSDAY @ 2PM
MEET OUTSIDE THE SURGERY***

You can choose between two walks- one will be suitable for those who can comfortably walk up to 3 miles, and the other will be for those who would prefer a short, slow-paced plod with lots of rest stops. Coffee and cake afterwards!

Email miranda.sheehy@nhs.net for more info