

Issue 6

October 2018

Welcome to the sixth newsletter. It has been a tumultuous and stressful time since the last publication, so we've been focused on maintaining the high standards of care you deserve.



Drs Morrice, Masson, Geddes & Andrews

Maternity Leave

The eagle-eyed amongst you will have noticed Dr Andrews' ever-increasing bump over the past few months; by the time you read this, Dr Andrews will have finished up work for a year's maternity leave. Of course, she goes off with all our love and best wishes, and I'm sure we all look forward to her first visit with baby!

In her place, we welcome **Dr Emma Renfrew** (pictured right) to the practice. She will be covering for Dr Andrews for the duration of her maternity leave, and says of her appointment:

"I am delighted to be joining the practice to cover Dr Andrews maternity leave for the next year. I qualified as a GP in 2014 having trained in Renfrewshire. I have been working regularly for the last couple of years in West Dunbartonshire and have also worked in a number of practices in East Renfrewshire over the last 4 years. I am looking forward to being a regular member of the team and getting to know everyone."

Welcome to the team!

Please note, our change of personnel will result in a service change for the practice; historically Drs Geddes and Andrews have offered coil insertions, so for the foreseeable future we will have to refer you to the Sandyford services (or you can self-refer, see QR code overleaf for AHPs) if you want a coil. Removal of coils is easier, and Drs Morrice or Masson can do this for you, as can they change ring pessaries. Contraceptive implants can still be done by Sr Brown.



Vaccines

It's that time of year again! We'll be putting on drop-in flu vaccine clinics again; watch out for posters, the TV screens and on our website and Facebook page for dates of clinics.



Clarkston
Medical

Eastwood Health and Care Centre
Drumby Crescent, Clarkston
East Renfrewshire G76 7HN
Tel 0141 451 0620
Fax 0141 638 8626

Remember, the easiest way to book an appointment with the GP of your choosing is to use our online services, ask reception for a registration form.

Allied Health Professionals



Over the next couple of years, you will notice some changes in the way services are delivered, not just in our practice but in the whole of East Renfrewshire. Across NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde, there is a programme called Moving Forward Together, a huge redesign of services to ensure that at all times you see the right person, at the right time and in the right place - ideally as close to home as possible.

A fundamental component of this service redesign is the amalgamation of Allied Health Professionals (AHPs) to our practice teams, or in some cases, to the Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP). This means that sometimes, on occasions where you would previously have seen a GP, you will be signposted to another professional whose skills are better suited to dealing with your issue.

The practice already has some attached AHPs, with whom you may find yourself in contact: Sean Mannion, Link Worker for mental health; Bethan Day, clinical pharmacist; Karen MacDonald, prescribing support pharmacist; Karen Noble, pharmacy technician; Gillian Buchanan-Mackintosh, healthcare assistant.

For more information on other services available now in East Renfrewshire check out www.knowwhototurnto-eastren.co.uk (QR code above)

Dr Geddes Update

Many thanks to all of you who have enquired after Dr Geddes, and to those who have handed in cards and gifts for her. She really appreciates your concern.

The primary aim of her operation was to prevent further damage to her spinal cord, namely paralysis of her arms or legs. In that regard, the surgery was a success. However, she is struggling to make significant progress with her rehabilitation physiotherapy and with the pain related to the damage already done by the disc prolapses and the operation itself. She still has to take heavy-duty medication to not be in excruciating pain, and, as a result, has neither the necessary manual dexterity or mental clarity (the drugs cause "brain fog") to come back to work for the foreseeable future, at the time of publishing.

She will shortly embark on some new treatments which will hopefully help her progress, and we will keep a close eye on her, and continue to support her goal of coming back when she is safely able to do so.

Thank you for your patience and understanding; we know that for many of you Dr Geddes is your preferred GP and we hope with all our hearts that she will be able to come back to us, and to you, some time in 2019. Regular updates will be posted on our Facebook page, so keep your eyes peeled for the latest news on her progress.



Thank you for reading our newsletter. Kind regards,

Drs Morrice, Masson, Geddes & Andrews