



Barbauchlaw Medical Practice – Spring 2023 Newsletter

Issue 4	March 2023	Dorothy Conn, Practice Manager
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Welcome to the new issue of our Newsletter; designed to keep you up-to-date with developments in the Practice.

Practice News

There is a big change at the end of this month for our Practice. Dr Catriona Wilson will be retiring as a Partner having been with us for 27 years. We are grateful for the service she has given the Practice and its patients. Wishing her a long, healthy and happy retirement. We will certainly miss her! Here is a reflection from her:

“As you may or may not know, I am retiring at the end of March. I came to work in Armadale in 1996. There has certainly been a lot of changes since then – changes in the size of the community and changes in medicine itself.

Time has flown past and I will be sad to leave. I don't think I would have liked to have been a GP anywhere else.

I wish my colleagues at Barbauchlaw Medical Practice and all its patients the very best for the future.”

There have been other staffing changes since my last newsletter too. We are delighted to welcome on board:

Elaine Leslie – ANP
Elaine Bell – ANP
Elaine Tonner – Admin
Jordan McMichael – Admin

Jess Sommerville – Practice Nurse will be joining us in April
Ishbel Campbell – ANP will be joining us in June

You may be asking “what is an ANP” and “what do they do” – well:

Advanced Nurse Practitioners (ANPs) are experienced, professional, highly educated, registered Nurses who work at an extremely high level of Practice. They have advanced clinical and practical skills which are relevant to their specific role.

They manage the complete care of patients in an acute or chronic situation and have the authority to investigate, refer, admit and discharge within their defined clinical roles.

They are competent in the investigation and interpretation of results. They can prescribe medications, administer sick lines, refer to secondary care for specialist review and can care for patients just as effectively as a GP.

NHS Pharmacy First Scotland

Need free advice or treatment without a GP appointment? Contact Pharmacy First.

Find more info at:

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/care-support-and-rights/nhs-services/pharmacy/nhs-pharmacy-first-scotland>

Travel Vaccinations

You might be thinking about jetting off to sunnier places. Here's how to book any necessary travel vaccinations:

NHS Strathbrock Clinic (West Lothian) - the Strathbrock Clinic is based at the Strathbrock Partnership Centre in Broxburn.

The travel clinic is found in the vaccination area of the health centre. Arriving through Entrance A, you will turn left passing the pharmacy and continue through to the community reception. The reception team will greet you and direct you to the travel clinic waiting room.

Contact: 0131 537 2823 (Central Booking Line)

There are also various clinics throughout Lothian and the Central Booking Line can assist with this.

Appointments

We continue to offer both face-to-face or telephone consultations – you will be offered the choice when booking. We have also introduced some pre-booked appointments but this is limited. Working in this manner has reduced the need for patients to 'phone back the next day or even beyond that. If you are required to come to the Practice, please wear a face covering; this does not need to be a mask but anything that covers your nose and mouth is adequate. Please do not be abusive to our Reception staff; they are working under the guidance of the GPs and will do their best to assist you.

Prescriptions

Please remember that you can sign up to our online service. If you have access to a computer or tablet, then this is the quickest and easiest way for you to order your medication. You can pick up a registration form from our Reception Desk or from our website (barbauchlawmp.com).

Text Messaging Service

We can now send you text messages rather than letters, however, we need your consent to do this. If you have not signed up to this services, please pick up a form from our Reception Desk or, alternatively you can get this from our website (barbauchlawmp.com)

Dates for your Diary

Public Holidays:

Friday, 7 April 2023 – Good Friday	Monday, 10 April 2023 – Easter Monday
Monday, 1 May 2023 – Public Holiday	Monday, 8 May 2023 – Public Holiday (for King's Coronation)

Please ensure you have medication to last over the holiday periods.

Remember that NHS24 can also provide routine medical advice during the day, even when the practice is not on holiday.

Finally, do you have any suggestions for items you would like to be included in the newsletter? We appreciate any contact, whether you like something or whether you have suggestions for change – drop a note to the Practice Manager, Dorothy Conn.