



# Shipston Medical Centre Patient Participation Group (PPG)

Website: <https://shipstonmc.warwickshire.nhs.uk/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ShipstonGP>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ShipstonMC>

No 16: May 2022

## Ukraine Fund raiser

Thank you to everyone that donated to our walk/run in aid of Ukraine on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. The total raised is over £2400, which with GiftAid is over £2900.

## Farewell to David

In April we also said an official farewell to Dr David Williams after over 20 years at the medical centre. He and the team reflected positively on his time in the surgery and David felt he was leaving the surgery in safe hands for the future. He is enjoying spending his time between Mull and Warwickshire.

## COVID update

We'd really appreciate it if visitors to the surgery would please continue to wear face coverings to protect our staff and vulnerable people in our community. NHS staff are still required to isolate if they catch COVID 19 and these absences will impact on our ability to provide a service.

The **COVID Pass** availability has been extended and is now available for children aged 5 to 17. If the child is aged 5 to 11 then they can be issued with a COVID Pass letter. If the child is 12 or over then they can get their own on line access to their COVID pass. These are not issued or managed by the practice. More information is available via:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/nhs-covid-pass/children-under-18-and-the-nhs-covid-pass/>

## Booster Vaccinations

Covid Boosters are available for:

- everyone aged 16 and over, and some children aged 12 to 15, who have not yet had a booster and had the 2nd dose of the vaccine at least 3 months ago.
- anyone who had a severely weakened immune system when they had their first 2 doses and who had an additional primary

dose (3rd dose) of the vaccine at least 3 months ago.

- people aged 75 and over, people who live in a care home for older people, or people aged 12 and over who have a weakened immune system and whose last dose was over 6 months ago.

Further information and details of how to book an appointment can be found at:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/how-to-get-a-coronavirus-vaccine/how-to-get-a-booster-dose/>

## Staffing update

Sadly Dr Ruth Dixon left us this month. We are pleased however to let our patients know that Dr George Naylor will be joining us as permanent member of the team in August.

We welcome Donna Harper in to the medical records team.

## Parking at the medical centre

Please be respectful of our neighbours and don't park where this obstructs their driveway. Staff have also had their cars damaged recently in the car park area which hasn't been reported to the practice. Please be considerate and report any instances that you are aware of.

## Surgery Closures

### For Staff Training

Each month Warwickshire GP surgeries are closed from 12.30pm for staff training. The next date is Thursday June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### For Staff Meetings

The surgery is also closed between 1 and 1.45pm on the following dates for a staff meeting:

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July



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## **Medication Ordering and Collection**

As we approach a few Bank Holidays, patients are reminded to order their medication allowing for the usual processing time.

Telephone requests for medication are processed up to 2pm each working day. Messages left after this time are processed the next working day. Please also remember that you should allow **3 full working days** before you come to collect your medication - unless you are texted before this to say it is ready.

Medication is collected from the dispensary desk inside the surgery, and we ask that you wear a face covering when attending. We are open 8am – 6.30pm 4 days a week, and until 8pm on a Thursday.

Please also remember that if you live more than a mile outside of Shipston you can request our free delivery service. Please call dispensary on 01608 665502 to be added to our delivery service, which operates Monday – Friday (excluding Bank Holidays) between 12 & 6pm.

## **Requests for completion of documentation**

As mentioned in our last newsletter, our website provides a list of our charges for the completion of documentation, e.g. travel cancellations, shotgun licence applications, to whom it may concern letters etc. Please allow time for these to be completed – we aim to complete these within 21 days after payment has been received.

## **Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy**

South Warwickshire have updated the Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy Self Referral form and this will improve how the form can be completed and submitted to the Therapies Department. The form is now fully electronic and once completed, can be submitted. The form can be accessed via the South Warwickshire Hospitals Internet page, select Our Services>Adult Inpatient Services>Physiotherapy (adult)>Adult Physiotherapy Self Referral Criteria and Form.

## **Replacement Hearing Aid Batteries**

The Ellen Badger Hospital site is now closed and will remain inaccessible for some time.

Replacement hearing aid batteries can be collected either from Shipston Medical Centre or from Stratford Hospital. Please be aware you should have your white card available to show, when collecting batteries from Shipston Medical Centre or Stratford Hospital. If you do not have a white card please call 01926 482668 as Shipston Medical Centre and Stratford Hospital will be unable to provide replacement batteries without the card.

Alternatively call 01926 482668 to request that the Audiology department post out batteries to you.

## **Going on holiday?**

When packing for your holiday remember to think about medications – do you have sufficient a supply to last? Have you packed all the medications you need? As well as your prescription medication we would encourage you to think about first aid basics, such as paracetamol, indigestion tablets and anti-histamines.

If you find yourself being elsewhere in the UK, and needing medical help, please call us and we will see what we can do to help – we can send prescriptions electronically to a pharmacy near where you are. However, if you are abroad you will need to seek medical care where you are. We cannot offer medical advice to those not in the UK.

## **Travel vaccinations**

If you are thinking ahead to your holidays then please consider any vaccinations you may need. The practice does offer a travel health service. We ask that you complete a travel risk assessment form (available from reception or on line on our website) and when you return this we will book you a slot for it to be assessed.



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Following assessment our nurse will be able to advise you on vaccinations and book you in for these. Please bear in mind that there can be a wait for a travel risk assessment appointment and thus you need to ensure you leave plenty of time before travelling to use our service. We are unlikely to be able to help if you have less than 8 weeks between returning a risk assessment and your travel date.

### Food Banks

If you need to use the Shipston Foodbank then please note that you don't need a referral or a voucher, you just need to go to St Edmunds Church on Saturdays between 10am and noon where you will receive the support you require. If anyone wishes to leave donations then these can be left at the church or at both Co-ops.

### Sharing the Information

If you know of patients who aren't on Facebook do let them know that the newsletter is available for collection from Reception, Dispensary and in the Waiting Room. If they have their medication delivered they can also ask the delivery driver for a copy.

The newsletter is also published on our website under Patient News and we alert on Facebook and Twitter when it's ready.

### Shipston Patient Participation Group (PPG)

We (PPG) meet regularly with members of the practice to represent patient views in discussions about the provision of local healthcare services – whether those are delivered in Shipston or further afield.

We really welcome feedback from Shipston Medical Centre patients.

Perhaps you have a question about local healthcare services and don't know who to ask or you have views which you would like to share:

**If so, please contact Carole Nossiter, Chair, Shipston PPG on [shipstonppg@gmail.com](mailto:shipstonppg@gmail.com)**

