

# **NEWS FROM THE SURGERY**

# **STAFF NEWS – WELCOME TO OUR NEW PARAMEDIC**

The surgery is delighted to welcome a new PCN (Primary Care Network) Paramedic to our working week – Sophy Savage.

Sophy is a qualified advanced clinical practitioner (ACP) but is new to General Practice joining Coastal PCN in December 2022. Before that she worked for 10 years in Hampshire as a paramedic, Specialist Paramedic and then as an ACP with an Urgent Community Response Team and on a falls and frailty car.

She was a life-guard in Cornwall before retraining as a paramedic and enjoys paddle boarding and swimming. Sophy will be working alongside Dr Cook on a Thursday, Sophy is excited to be back in Cornwall and is looking forward to being part of the team at Carnon Downs and the wider PCN. She wants to build on her existing skills and develop new ones in order to be an effective team member and serve the community. So welcome to our team!



## DO YOU SUFFER FROM CHRONIC PAIN? NEW PAIN CAFÉ TRURO



Cornwall Wide Pain Cafes – Medication isn't the only way to manage persistent pain.

More than a third of the population live with persistent pain. It is a long-term condition and cannot be 'fixed or cured'. Traditional medical treatments such as pain medicines are now recognised as having only limited value.

Instead, a different way of living with persistent pain is growing in influence. It's called a 'selfmanagement' approach.

For more details email <u>libby.huddy@imagineif.net</u>.

# **UPDATE ON CLINICS**

Saturday Urgent Care Clinics – Summer trial - various dates throughout June, July & August.

GP practices are contracted to provide services including on the day urgent care appointments for registered patients in their core daytime hours Monday to Friday.

The Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Intergrated Care Board (ICB) are undertaking a trial with participating GP practices to determine if there is a patient need for same day urgent care appointments outside of core hours.

The ICB wish to support GP practices to provide these same day urgent care appointments if they have the capacity to do so.

This trial scheme aims to offer additional appointments and test its value to GP practices, patients, and the system to see if it can:

- relieve pressure for GP practices on a Monday (or Tuesday following a bank holiday weekend)
- prevent patients from accessing urgent care services such as hospitals and NHS111 at weekends or bank holidays.

The extent to which GP practices will participate in the scheme is at the discretion of the GP practice and can be flexible to work alongside the current surgery activity and capacity.

The surgery doors and the phone lines will be open during these advertised sessions, however access will be specifically for the booking of urgent medical appointments.

No other general enquiries, bookings or dispensing of medication will be available during these urgent clinic opening hours.

The clinic being hosted at Carnon Downs will run for 4 hours on some Saturday mornings between 8am and 12pm; appointments are limited to this time and once they are allocated any further requests for an urgent care appointment will be re-directed to the usual local urgent care services. After 12 noon we will ask you to revert to calling 111 for medical assistance over the remainder of the weekend.

The GPs and staff at Carnon Downs surgery are always keen to see how we can improve access and availability, but we are mindful of the extra time and work we will need to put in to run this additional service. We are currently running at capacity and therefore if we feel additional working hours will impact on our ability to provide a safe an effective service then we will stop the trial. If the trial shows that the Saturday mornings are a positive addition we will give consideration as to how this might continue.

We hope to have your support during this trial period and understand that the surgery will remain closed for general enquiries and routine appointments over the weekend.

#### TO SEE IF THE SURGERY HAS AN URGENT CARE CLINIC THIS WEEKEND CHECK OUR WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE FROM FRIDAY EVENING EACH WEEK TO SEE IF WE ARE HOSTING AN EXTRA CLINIC.

### **STAFF TRAINING - THURSDAY 29 JUNE AND 27 JULY**

The surgery will be closed on the above dates for staff training between 12.30 and 2.00pm. If you need urgent medical advice during this time, call 01872 863221 and you will be transferred to our Out of Hours Message handler. The dispensary will be closed for collection of medication between 12 noon and 2.30pm.

#### **CONTACT NUMBERS**

Main Reception Telephone: 01872 863221 Open 8.30am - 6.15 pm Mon to Fri <u>www.carnondownssurgery.co.uk</u>