

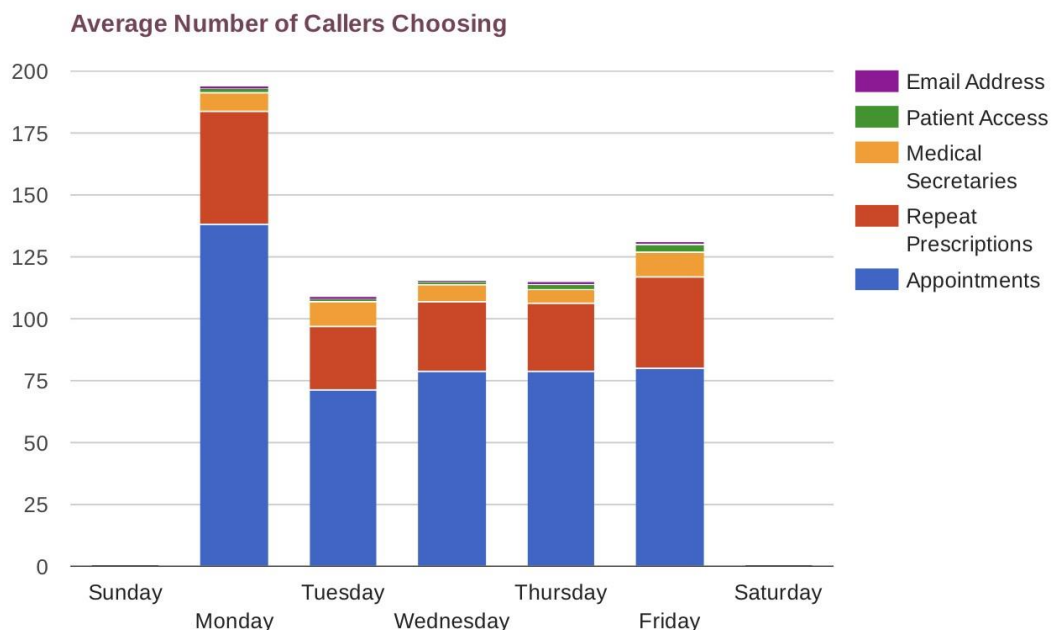
Kingstone Surgery Newsletter March 2024

Springtime is welcome, but brings changes to the surgery beyond our lovely crocus' that Dr Warner planted. We are sad to announce that our beloved practice manager Charlie Rankin is leaving Kingstone after 7 years with us. She has steered us through COVID, partnership changes and an increase in the local population. Her military background has shone through with her efficiency, and we will miss her- not least those dulcet Glaswegian tones.

We are, however, delighted that Dee Price is taking over her role. Dee has been Office Manager at Kingstone for 3 years and has an excellent knowledge of the surgery and the (labyrinthine) complexity of the NHS, as well as further previous management experience with John Lewis. We know you will support her as she expertly steers us through the future.

Also new to the surgery in April is Dr Amar Rehal, our new GP trainee who will be with us for 4 months. She comes to us from a stint in paediatrics and the Ross community hospital so is well equipped for her time in Kingstone. Although by August she will be back in the hospital posts, she will be returning to us again for 12 months in a year's time. She is a fully qualified doctor but will be supported here whilst she is doing her specialist training to become a general practitioner.

From staffing to data. Our wonderful new(ish) call system issues some interesting reports. Last month's shows we are still getting up to a quarter of our calls being about repeat prescriptions, especially on Mondays (our busiest time for phone lines). This is a reminder that the NHS app (also available via desktop) is a great place to put in requests for repeat prescriptions whilst avoiding the call queue.



Vaccinations: A further reminder the COVID spring vaccinations are for an exclusive cohort of >75 years, or those living in a care home for adults, and those 6m+ who are immune compromised (as defined by tables 3 and 4 in the *surprisingly readable* 'Green Book' available to all online). We will be running some weekend clinics and will be contacting those eligible - although we cannot vaccinate those <16 years at The Surgery. However, do please keep an eye on our website for more information confirming dates (which, due to bitter experience, we will not announce until the deliveries are guaranteed).

<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65d50a1f2197b2001d7fa70e/Greenbook-chapter-14a-20240220.pdf>

Finally, but importantly, do you have any family members living with you who are NOT registered with a GP? (eg, because they are well, and never use the service). **Please ask them to register with a GP.** It helps them access vaccinations, public health interventions and on-the-day medical care from general practice. It is also key for surgery funding, as there is a flat annual General Medical Services fee per patient, no matter how many times they use the service per year (£104.73). As funding for general practice is well below inflation this is increasingly important to allow us to maintain our standards.

With best wishes for a lovely Easter,

Dr Rosie Wellesley