# Spring 2016

#### **Dr Geddes**

We are pleased to welcome back Dr Geddes after her period of sick leave. She is feeling a lot better and is currently working 3 mornings per week on a phased return basis. Appointments for her are therefore limited compared to in the past when she was working 7 sessions and we cannot therefore always accommodate patients' requests to see her specifically. She would like to thank everyone for their kind wishes over the last few months.

## Dr McCready

Dr McCready will be leaving the practice from the 15th July 2016. After 10 years of working at Alison Lea Medical Centre she is moving to a work at a new GP practice nearer her home, to enable a better work life balance. We are in the process of recruiting a replacement GP and will keep you informed. Many of you will have met our long term locums, Dr McAdam, Dr Burns and Dr Jackson who continue working here on a regular basis.

### **Nursing Staff**

We now have a full complement of nursing staff. Sister McGregor can see all patients but is the person to see if you need an asthma/copd or diabetes review. Sister Boyle can see all patients other than those requiring asthma/copd /diabetes reviews. Nurse Campbell is our treatment room nurse who sees patients for injections, dressings, bloods and blood pressures. Mrs Martin is our health care assistant who primarily does blood testing and blood pressure checks.

#### **Phones System**

We finally got a new phone system in place after much difficulties and contractual problems relating to the previous system. Our perception is that this is significantly better and we hope you feel the same. If there are any ongoing issues with our phone system then please let us know so we can endeavour to improve this further.

### **Chronic Disease Management**

There have been changes to previous systems for recalling our patients with chronic diseases following the merger of practices. Can we encourage anyone who has not had their asthma/copd/heart disease/hypertension/diabetes annual reviews over the past year to please contact the surgery over the coming months to see the practice nurse for review.

#### **Thanks**

We again wish to thank you all for your patience and support during the past year. The merger has presented its own challenges and difficulties but we remain confident that it is the right way forward for the practice and its patients and hope you will continue to support us with this as things are now stabilizing.