**News from the Quantock Medical Centre**

As you are aware we have been working with the Bridgwater Practices providing Covid vaccination clinics at the North Petherton Rugby Club and locally at our own practice when we have been able to get hold of the astra zenica vaccine. I has been surprisingly hard work making the thousands of phone calls required to persuade people to come forward to have the vaccine. Our Patient population at the practice is approx.3734. From the start of this year to the time of writing this we have been able to vaccinate over 1429 of our patients with their first vaccine which is a great achievement. Somerset came top in the country reaching their target of 96.3% of the over 80 year olds vaccinated, and 93.4% of the over 70 year olds vaccinated. Quite an achievement with an amazing team effort across the Practices, and the help of some wonderful volunteers.

From a local point of view I would also like to praise our team at the Practice for their hard work and tireless efforts made to contact patients to book these appointment s, and the whole team for giving up their time to come in and run these clinics and not forgetting to mention the help from the volunteers manning the car parks helping to keep people safe. Thank you.

So given the number of phone calls we are having to make we are trialling a text message system; where if you have a modern mobile phone you will received a text to directly book your appointment. We trailed it for our practice clinic and within 10 minutes 115 appointments out of 200 were booked in, which was brilliant. We will of course still contact people on land lines if you do not respond to the text. So please make sure we have your correct details, If you are not sure contact us and we will check. You can email on [quantock.mc@nhs.net](mailto:quantock.mc@nhs.net) with your correct details, or drop us a note into the surgery.

Helen Stacey

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