



## **Maine Messenger Issue 2 - July 2017**

### New Premises in Ahoghill

Maine Medical Ahoghill moved to new premises in the village on 12<sup>th</sup> June following the renovation of the old First Ahoghill Presbyterian Church building. The building dates to the 1850s and the outside has been restored to preserve many of the original features. The interior is now a bright and spacious, modern healthcare facility. An open day is planned for the autumn. Thank-you for your patience during the transition from the old health centre.

Maine Medical Cullybackey continues to practice from the existing premises in Old Mill Park.

### GP Appointments

The new arrangements around booking a GP appointment continue. This is being offered at a growing number of practices across Northern Ireland in a bid to improve GP access and continuity of care. It was commenced in Maine Medical in March 2017. Appointments are now booked on the day. Patients who would like a GP appointment first speak with the GP in a telephone consultation. Those who need to be seen are invited in that day. This improves access to your usual GP improving continuity of care, and ensures that any patients with acute or urgent problems are seen in a timely fashion. We continue to monitor the roll-out and listen to any feedback. A review will take place in the autumn. Please let us know if you have encountered any problems you would like us to take into account.

### Minor Ailments

The local pharmacies now run a minor ailment scheme to improve access to medication for common complaints. These are free at chemist without prescription. The scheme covers oral thrush, cold sores, ear wax, mouth ulcers, athlete's foot, diarrhoea, head lice, thread worms and vaginal thrush. Please speak first with your local pharmacist for advice.

### Sign-up

If you would like to receive a copy of the Maine Messenger by email please give your address to reception and you will automatically receive future copies.