

Netherfield House Surgery

Spring Newsletter

2026

Here comes Spring! Welcome to our Practice Newsletter, which we aim to produce one every Season.

Friends and Family Test – 6 months to end February 2026

Very Good	5018	88.30
Good	506	8.90
Don't know/Undecided	159	2.80

NHS App/Digital Inclusion

We have organised a **Digital inclusion charity** to attend the Practice on **14th April at 10am and the 29th April at 1pm to set up in our Front foyer** to help any patients better understand the world of technology, including the NHS App.

Staff Changes

Welcome to Dr Andrew Oliver who will start with the Practice on 1st April. His appointment will add to our routine appointments as well as contributing to "on-the-day" emergencies. Dr Oliver has a special interest in dermatology, adding to our scope of Practice at the Surgery.

Further staff changes have occurred within the Nursing Team too. Our Advanced Nurse Practitioners Karen and Lesley have moved on, and we wish them well in their new roles.

The changes have allowed us to look again at the specific needs of the Practice Population. We have therefore increased our Practice Nurse Team through the appointment of Rachael Gleeson, who will join Wendy Lowther with support from Susan Goodwin, to provide a full range of Nursing services. This includes management of long-term conditions, e.g. Asthma, COPD, Diabetes, childhood and seasonal immunisations, cervical smears. We wish Rachael well in her new role.

We also now support a GP Registrar, Dr Oshomah, who joined the Practice in February. He will be with us until August, under the supervision of Dr Allan. We hope he enjoys his time with us.

Goodbye

Sadly, we say goodbye to one of the stalwarts of the Practice, our Senior Medical Receptionist Shirley Smith who has been with the Practice for 29 years! Shirley has provided exemplary service to our Patients, and she will retire at the end of March and we wish her a long, happy and Healthy retirement.

Healthwatch

Healthwatch is essentially the Patients Champion. There are over 150 local Healthwatch across the Country. Their role is to ensure NHS Leaders and other decision makers listen to YOUR feedback on services to ensure services reflect and meet your experiences. Healthwatch also helps the public to find reliable and trustworthy advice and experience. Northumberland Healthwatch hold drop in sessions across the whole of Northumberland, dates and venues are available in their website <https://healthwatchnorthumberland.co.uk/>

Holidays!

Most of us are currently thinking about and planning our next holiday and hoping the sun shines. So, now is the time to ditch last year's half used bottle of sunscreen. Remember the sun provides us with vital vitamin D, however without adequate protection the sun damages skin and can result in skin cancer. So, check your passport is still in date, book any vaccinations you may need, and stock up on good quality sunscreen, and apply regularly!

Pharmacy First

Did you know that instead of making an appointment with the Practice, you can have a walk in consultation with a local Pharmacist for the following conditions, sinusitis, sore throat, earache, infected insect bites, impetigo, shingles and uncomplicated urinary tract infections in women.

Local Events

Bowls

Bowls promotes physical fitness and mental well-being for all participants, and the clubs have events and social gatherings throughout the year.

They welcome people to join them during their free Saturday morning 'Roll-Ups' which begin mid-April and last until end of September.

Contact Peter on 07768 923173 or Peta on 07714 639850 for Astley

We have our very own Bowls club in Seghill, who also invite you to join them on a Saturday morning for a "role up" For those who are unfamiliar with the village, the Bowls club is situated next to the rugby club. Contact Bill on 07913861874 for further information, including free membership for the first year.

Tai Chi.

Tai Chi is a gentle martial art exercise. Regular practice can increase flexibility, strength and improve cardio-vascular fitness, balance (helping to prevent falls) and mental wellbeing. LIVE WELL WITH CANCER, offer a weekly sanctuary of this gentle exercise FREE to anyone affected by cancer, including family, friends, carers and health professionals every Monday 2-3pm West Moor Community Centre Benton Lane NE12 7NP. Contact Sandra Accredited Instructor on 07855157955 should you require any further information.

Parking.

A gentle reminder, please, where possible do not park on the main road. There are six park spaces recently created opposite the Blake, along with the Blake car park itself also available.

Patient Participation Group

Our Patient Participation group meets every 4 months and we welcome new members.

Should you be interested in joining the Group, please contact us via nencicb-nor.netherfieldadmin@nhs.net or call into the Practice and speak with Paul Atkinson (Managing Partner) who will be happy to help you.

Facebook

Remember, we do have a Facebook page, where we have occasional messages for your information.