

SHEVINGTON SURGERY

Welcome to your Summer 2026 newsletter. This edition brings you the latest NHS news relevant to Greater Manchester and Wigan, as well as important updates from the practice. We hope you find it useful — and as always, please do not hesitate to get in touch with our team if you have any questions.

Useful Contacts at a Glance

 Our Practice: 01942 367420 | www.shevingtonssurgery.nhs.uk

 NHS 111 (non-emergency): Call 111 | Online: 111.nhs.uk

 Emergency: 999

 Wigan GP Alliance (Extended Hours): 01942 482848

 NHS App: Download free on iOS or Android

UPDATES FROM OUR PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

Shevington Veterans Coffee Morning Continues to Grow

The Shevington Surgery Patient Participation Group (PPG) established its Veterans Group around 18 months ago, and it has gone from strength to strength. Held on the third Wednesday of every month at Shevington Library, attendance has grown from around eight members to more than 15 regular attendees.

The informal coffee mornings provide a welcoming space for veterans, their partners, and now Blue Light workers to enjoy coffee, cake, and conversation. They also serve as an important source of support and information, with representatives from local organisations, healthcare services, and community groups attending to offer advice and assistance.

Veterans benefit from sharing their own skills and experience, including support with mobility aids such as scooters and wheelchairs, with loan equipment available when needed.

The group has also helped raise awareness of the healthcare services available to veterans and their families, ensuring more people understand the support they can access. Information from each meeting is shared on the Veterans Notice Board in the Shevington Surgery waiting room.

The group welcomes all veterans and Blue Light workers who would like to join.



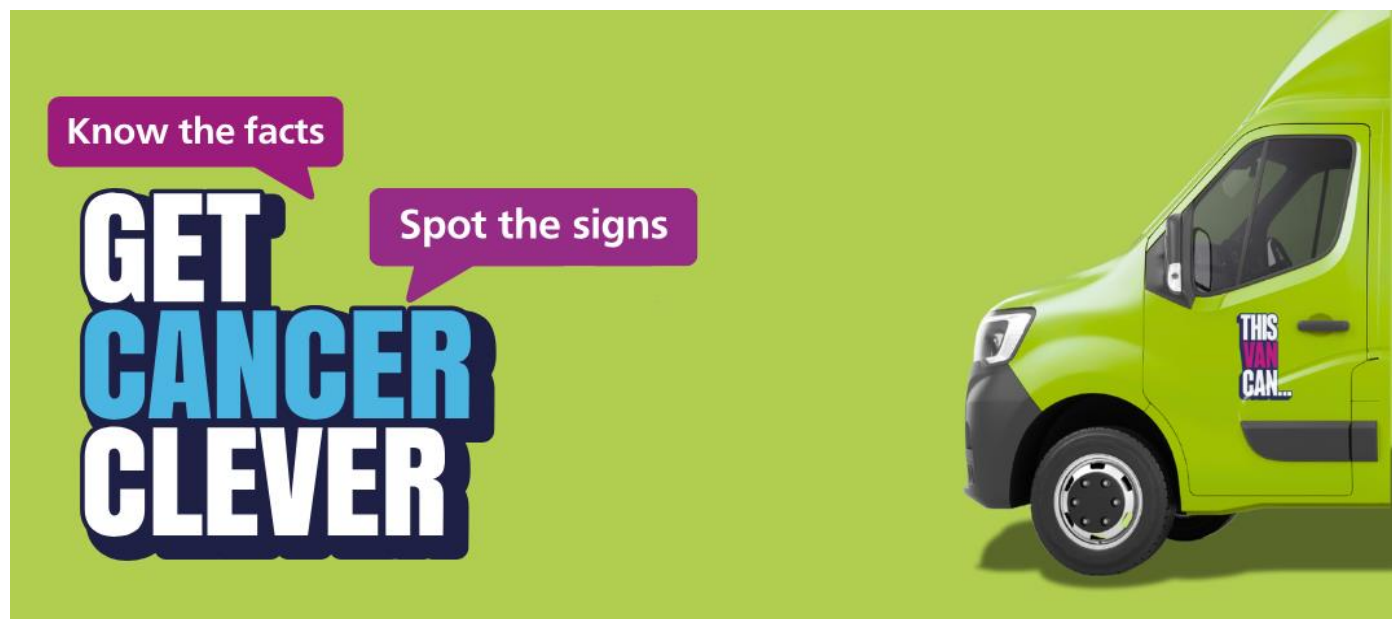
Patient Participation Group (PPG) — Get Involved!

Our Patient Participation Group meets every 2 months and helps shape the services we offer. We would love to hear from new members!

If you are interested in joining, please speak to a receptionist or email gmicb-wb.gp-p92017@nhs.net



This Van Can... Schedule



For the latest 'This Van Can' cancer awareness roadshow schedule and resources to promote the van in your area, please visit gmcancer.org.uk/this-van-can



Wigan GP Alliance — Extended Hours

All patients registered with a GP practice in the Wigan borough can access Wigan GP Alliance appointments for non-urgent care outside of normal surgery opening hours:

- Weekdays: 6:30pm – 8:00pm
- Saturdays: 9:00am – 5:00pm



To book a GP Alliance appointment: Call 01942 482848 (8:00am–8:00pm, 7 days a week)

Cervical Screening (Smear Tests)

We also offer smear test appointments on Monday evenings at the practice, making it easier for patients who are unable to attend during the day.



To book a smear test, please ring the surgery on 01942 367420



Pharmacy First

Did you know that your local pharmacy can now provide advice and treatment for a range of common conditions without needing to see a GP first?

The Pharmacy First service allows community pharmacists to assess and treat conditions such as •sore throats

- earache
- sinusitis
- infected insect bites
- impetigo
- shingles and
- uncomplicated urinary tract infections (UTIs) in women

If appropriate, pharmacists can also supply prescription-only medicines.

This service offers quick and convenient access to care and can help you get the treatment you need sooner. Simply contact or visit your local pharmacy for advice.



PRACTICE UPDATES — FROM YOUR TEAM

Team News & Staff Changes

We would like to warmly welcome Dr Davies, our new female GP Partner who will be joining the team on 17th July.

We also have a new role within the team. Teagan joined us on 1st April 2026 as a GP Assistant and has settled in well. Her role is similar to a Healthcare Assistant, and she offers services including health checks, Chronic Disease Management reviews, Diabetic one-stop shops and Learning Disability Reviews.

Our team includes GPs, Practice Nurses, Healthcare Assistants, a Clinical Pharmacist, a Social Prescriber and a Paramedic Practitioner.

Vaccinations 2026/27

Flu & COVID-19 Vaccinations — Coming This Autumn

This autumn we will be offering flu and COVID-19 vaccinations to eligible patients as part of the NHS 2026/27 programme, expected to begin from 1 October 2026. Those eligible typically include adults aged 65+, pregnant women, people with long-term health conditions and immunosuppressed individuals

We'll contact you — no need to call

We will send eligible patients a personal booking link by text, or we will call you from late summer. Simply use the link to choose your appointment. If you believe you're eligible and haven't heard from us by October, please get in touch.

Access

Using askmyGP (preferred method):

We encourage all patients to submit requests through askmyGP between 7:30am and 10:00am (Monday–Friday).

- All requests received during this time will be triaged by a clinician and appropriate action will be taken.
- If you're unable to use askmyGP, call or visit the surgery during the same hours and our reception team will help you.
- Please be aware that Mondays are our busiest day of the week, with a significantly higher volume of requests and calls.

Patients are encouraged to submit non-urgent requests later in the week where possible.

Requests Whilst Away from the Area

Please do not submit requests through askmyGP if you are:

- Away on holiday
- Staying outside of the local area
- Temporarily residing elsewhere

If you require medical assistance whilst away from home, please contact: • A local walk-in centre • An urgent treatment centre • NHS 111 • Or attend the nearest hospital if your condition requires urgent care

If your request is urgent for today:

Please call the Surgery on 01942 367420 as early in the day as possible, as late requests cannot always be accommodated and we may need to redirect you to other services once we have reached capacity. Our

reception team will ensure your request is passed to the duty clinician, who will triage it and advise on the appropriate action.

If your condition worsens while waiting for a routine request to be triaged, please call the Surgery.

If the Surgery is closed, call NHS 111 for advice.

⚠ Call 999 immediately if you experience any of the following:

- Chest pain or difficulty breathing
- Symptoms of a severe infection or sepsis
- Symptoms that could suggest a stroke (weakness in a limb, facial droop, or slurred speech)
- A mental health crisis or suicidal thoughts
- A serious injury or accident
- Heavy bleeding
- A severe allergic reaction

Thank you for helping us provide safe and timely care for all our patients.

Summer Clinics & Health Checks

NHS Health Checks: Are you aged 40–74? You may be eligible for a free NHS Health Check. Contact us to book yours — it checks your risk of heart disease, stroke, diabetes and kidney disease.

Cervical Screening (Smear Tests): If you have received a reminder, please don't delay — early detection saves lives. Call us to book.

✈ Travel Vaccination Notice

If you are planning to travel abroad, please contact the practice at least 6 weeks before your departure date to discuss any vaccinations or travel health advice you may need.

Travel vaccines often need to be given well in advance to ensure they are effective, and some destinations may require a course of vaccines over several weeks. There is a link on our website in which you can complete with your relevant travel details to allow our team to review.

Please note: If you do not contact us with a minimum of 6 weeks' notice, we can't guarantee an appointment before you travel. To avoid disappointment, please plan ahead and get in touch as early as possible.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Prescriptions & the NHS App

Repeat prescriptions can be ordered online via the NHS App or your online patient access account.

Please allow at least 48 hours (2 working days) for prescriptions to be processed before collection.

The NHS App also allows you to view your medical record, see test results and manage your appointments.

Download the NHS App free from the App Store or Google Play, or visit www.nhs.uk/nhs-app

Thank you for being part of our practice community. We look forward to continuing to care for you and your family.