

Meadowbridge SURGERY

Monthly Newsletter August 2026



WWW.MEADOWBRIDGESURGERY.CO.UK

Bank Holiday Closure

August 2026

**THE SURGERY WILL BE CLOSED ON
MONDAY 31ST AUGUST**

**THE SURGERY WILL RE OPEN AS
NORMAL ON TUESDAY 1ST
SEPTEMBER AT 8:30AM**



**FOR ANY URGENT MEDICAL ISSUES DURING OUR CLOSURE,
PLEASE CONTACT DALRIADA ON 02825663500**

**PLEASE PLACE MEDICATION ORDERS IN EARLY TO ENSURE ITEMS
ARE AT THE CHEMIST BEFORE THE BANK HOLIDAY CLOSURES.
PATIENTS CAN REQUEST ITEMS 7 DAYS IN ADVANCE**

MENINGOCOCCAL B (MENB) VACCINATION PROGRAMME

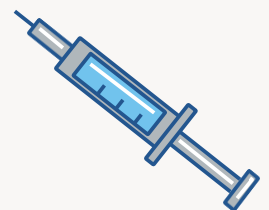
APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE FROM 31 JULY 2026 TO BOOK AT MEADOWBRIDGE

Those at highest risk from MenB disease include older teenagers and students less than 25 years of age who are entering higher educational settings for the first time are invited to book an appointment to receive Men B vaccinations.

This includes:

- all those with a date of birth between 2 July 2007 to 1 July 2008 (the 25/26 academic school year 14 group); and
- Individuals born on or after 21 July 2001 who are due to start undergraduate higher education in the UK or Ireland in autumn 2026, including international students and those from the UK devolved administrations and Crown Dependencies.
- Individuals born on or after 21 July 2001 who will be living in further education accommodation or halls of residence in the UK or Ireland for the first time in autumn 2026, including international students and those from the UK devolved administrations and Crown Dependencies.

This is a time-limited offer (with first doses offered until 31 December 2026 and second doses offered until 31 March 2027). This enables late attendees, and international students who arrive in Northern Ireland after the summer months, to accept the offer of two doses



ONLINE PATIENT SERVICES

WWW.MEADOWBRIDGESURGERY.CO.UK

ONLINE PATIENT SERVICES HAS CHANGED

Please see the video link which can be found on our website under the prescription tab:

www.meadowbridgesurgery.uk/prescriptions-information/

What do I need to do?

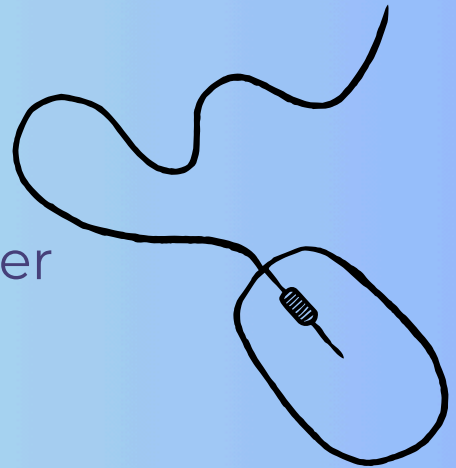
You will need to re-register for an online account to order prescriptions.

You will be provided with:

- 1) Information on how to register for the new online prescription service
- 2) New login details

Please check your emails and spam folders.

Our new system will only allow one user registration per email. Each new user will require their own email address; this does include children's accounts set up by parents.



ONLINE PATIENT SERVICES INSTRUCTIONS

One of our patients has very kindly typed out the following instructions for patient online services.

THANK YOU!

Patient Access installation linking to Meadowbridge on Mobile Andriod Phone

Note: It is easier to set up if you use the patient access app, rather than the website!

1. Have a second mobile ready
2. Download the patient access app on the mobile you will use, which can be downloaded on the play store. (Note: it is possible to have more than one person on that mobile as long as it can access multiple email addresses)
3. Download Microsoft Authenticator app: it is free!
4. Do nothing with apps at this time but place them somewhere accessible on home screen of your mobile
5. Write down on paper the codes which your practice sent (not essential): If you don't have the codes contact Meadowbridge by email - reception.z00382@gp.hscni.net and ask for them. (note, each patient has to have a unique email address)
6. Open patient access app: Click register. (Do not open NHS login!)
6. Create the account with your personal details
7. Enter an email address and verify on your mobile device; make sure you click remember me
8. Sign into patient access and follow the next steps

ONLINE PATIENT SERVICES INSTRUCTIONS

9. **Set up the link to Microsoft Authenticator App:** create a new microsoft account for the email you are using if you dont already have one (this is free)
10. **Go back to the patient access app and access the QR code;** take a photo with the second mobile and it will be in the gallery of that second mobile
11. **Open microsoft applicator app again and click a button on the bottom right that allows you to enter a QR code;** on the mobile you are setting up the system, photograph the QR picture that you have in the gallery of the second mobile, which will now link. (note; there are other ways of doing this and if you get the opportunity turn off the screen lock)
12. **Open patient access app and continue to link app to Meadowbridge using the codes**
13. **Allow use of NHS number**

Note: if you press the number on the authenticator app it should copy and then if you press the box in the patient access app it should paste

Note: People are having problems with the authenticator apps, so make sure you find which one is free. The microsoft one works



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HAPPY RETIREMENT SANDRA

OUR TREATMENT ROOM HCA, SANDRA IS RETIRING THIS MONTH. WE WANT TO WISH HER A HAPPY RETIREMENT AND THANK HER FOR HER MANY YEARS OF SERVICE AT MEADOWBRIDGE SURGERY 😊



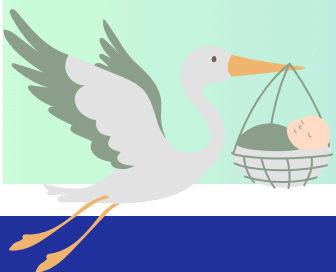
WORLD BREASTFEEDING AWARENESS WEEK



AUGUST 1ST - 7TH 2026

WORLD BREASTFEEDING WEEK IS AN ANNUAL GLOBAL CAMPAIGN COORDINATED BY THE WORLD ALLIANCE FOR BREASTFEEDING ACTION (WABA), IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO) AND UNICEF. SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 1991, WBW HAS AIMED TO PROTECT, PROMOTE, AND SUPPORT BREASTFEEDING WORLDWIDE. THE WEEK SERVES AS A PLATFORM TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT THE BENEFITS OF BREASTFEEDING AND TO ADVOCATE FOR SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENTS THAT ENABLE MOTHERS TO BREASTFEED SUCCESSFULLY.

HISTORY OF WORLD BREASTFEEDING WEEK
WORLD BREASTFEEDING WEEK WAS FIRST CELEBRATED IN 1992, FOLLOWING THE 1990 INNOCENTI DECLARATION BY WHO AND UNICEF, WHICH RECOGNIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF BREASTFEEDING FOR CHILD HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT. SINCE THEN, WBW HAS GROWN INTO A GLOBAL CAMPAIGN OBSERVED IN OVER 120 COUNTRIES, EACH YEAR FOCUSING ON A SPECIFIC THEME TO ADDRESS VARIOUS ASPECTS OF BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT AND PROMOTION.



MEADOWBRIDGE SURGERY LATEST NEWS/UPDATES : AUGUST 2026

Emergency only telephone lines

Reminder that between the hours of 12 and 2pm, and on a Wednesday afternoon telephone cover is strictly for clinical emergencies only and routine queries can be handled outside of these times.

Wool and book donations in reception

We have a book donation area in reception, we welcome donations of books. There is a suggested charity donation of £1 for any book purchase. There is lots of wool and patterns available to be made for donations to the hospital neonatal unit.

Prescription requests

Please allow 72 working hours for your prescription request to be processed and to reach you allocated chemist. Prescriptions can also be ordered 7 days in advance.



INFORMATION FROM LYNN, OUR PRACTICE NURSE

ARE YOU DUE YOUR SMEAR?

Cervical screening (a smear) is not a test for cancer, it's a test to help prevent cancer. It checks a sample of cells from your cervix for high risk types of human papillomavirus (HPV).

High risk HPV can cause abnormal changes to the cells in your cervix.

If high risk types of HPV are found during screening, the sample of cells is also checked for abnormal cell changes.

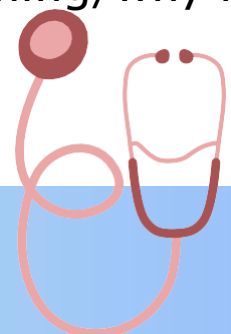
If abnormal cells are found, they can be treated to help prevent cervical cancer.

If you are due a smear please contact the practice for an appointment- please note you can only get a smear when it is due (25-49 = 3 yearly, 50-65 = 5 yearly)

PLEASE KNOW THE FIRST DAY OF YOUR LAST CYCLE WHEN ATTENDING

FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE

www.nhs.uk/tests-and-treatments/cervical-screening/why-its-done/



HAEMATOLOGY AND ONCOLOGY TRIAGE HELPLINE

From 1st July 2026, the Northern Trust 24 hour oncology and haematology triage helpline number is changing.

The new number is 0771 198 9914

This single number will make it quicker and easier to get the help and support you need - any time, day or night.

You will receive the same expert care and support, 24/7.

If you are feeling unwell or need urgent advice, please do not hesitate to call.

IN A MEDICAL EMERGENCY, ALWAYS DIAL 999



Northern Health
and Social Care Trust

If you are feeling unwell between your treatment appointments or after you finish treatment, you can contact the Oncology and Haematology Triage helpline.

PHONE FIRST: Emergency Department

If you are feeling unwell, it is important that you get the right care from the right place.

If you are thinking of attending the Emergency Department or Minor Injuries Unit, the phone first service can save you time and help you avoid busy waiting rooms.

 Northern Health and Social Care Trust

If you think you need to attend the Emergency Department or Minor Injuries

PHONE FIRST

0300 123 1 123
Monday - Friday from 8am to 6pm

A clinical triaging and telephone advice line that can help you identify the care you need.

Step 1.
Call Phone First.



Step 2.
Call handler answers and records required information. The call ends.



Step 3.
Call handler passes the information on to the triage nurse.



Step 4.
Triage nurse reviews the information. They call the patient back to discuss symptoms and advise what they should do next.



Step 5.
Patient takes appropriate action.





TEL 0300 123 1123

MEADOWBRIDGE SURGERY ONLINE

Practice
Website
Views
23,598



Newsletter
Subscriptions
in June
23

TOTAL Newsletter Subscriptions

864

SIGN UP to our newsletter at the bottom of our website by adding your name and email to receive the newsletter automatically to your inbox each month.

Online Patient Services

24/7 ACCESS TO PRESCRIPTION ORDERING
REQUEST A **TRIAGE** SLOT FROM 8.30AM DAILY
UNTIL CAPACITY REACHED
TO **REGISTER**, EMAIL
RECEPTION.Z00382@GP.HSCNI.NET

IMPACT AGEWELL AT MEADOWBRIDGE SURGERY



‘Our vision is that Mid and East Antrim will be a place where everyone can actively age well together, being involved, heard and valued’

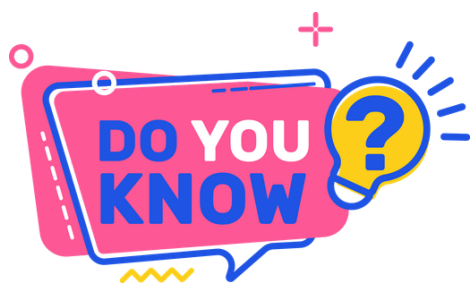
IMPACT Agewell is a community lead model of care, delivered in partnership with GP surgeries, community pharmacists and the NHSCT social work teams.

We support people age 60 +, living alone or with another older person, who have long term health conditions, helping them to stay independent, connected and well.

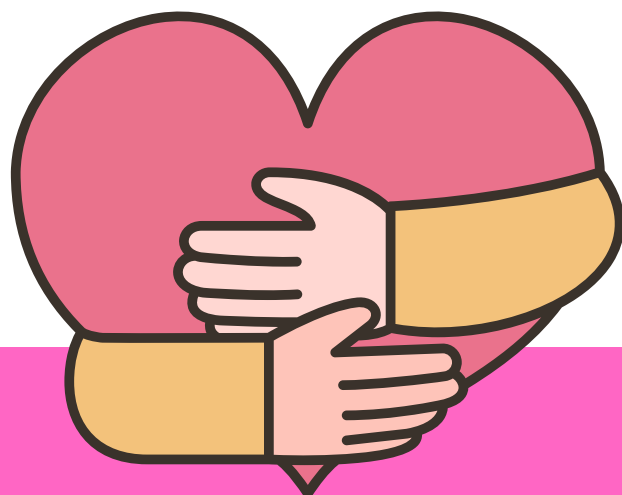
What can you expect?

You’ll be supported by a dedicated IMPACT Age well officer for up to 6 months. They will visit you in your home and focus on what matters most to you.

For more information on how IMPACT Agewell can support you or a loved one, get in touch by calling Agewell on 028 2565 8604



You can also self refer!



IMPACT AGEWELL UPDATES

What an amazing turnout at our Members Meeting in Larne in June!

It was fantastic to bring together older people's groups and supporting organisations to network, share best practice, and discuss the needs of older people in our local community.

A huge thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to the conversation. Your insights and collaboration are helping to shape the support and services that older people need in the Mid and East Antrim area.

This members meeting was funded by The Dormant Assets Fund which is facilitated by The National Lottery Community Fund for Northern Ireland.





Holistic Hoarding Helpers led by Agewell Partnership, supports **NIHE tenants** living in the **Ballymena area** who are struggling to manage their homes due to hoarding challenges.

Working in partnership with local community group The Carson Project, we can support tenants with up to **six home clearance visits**, to improve living conditions.

Tenants will also receive up to **six home visits** from an Agewell Support Officer to support their **health and wellbeing**.

We can support you with:

- ✓ **Home clearance**
- ✓ **Your health & wellbeing**
- ✓ **Financial support**
- ✓ **Connecting to your local community**
- ✓ **Access to Counselling services**

CONTACT US!



028 2565 8604



www.meaap.co.uk

Virtual Dementia Information Program Northern Trust Area

An online series of free information sessions for anyone caring for or supporting someone with diagnosis of dementia or anyone with an interest in dementia.

What is Dementia?

Delivered by Dr. Ronan Kehoe
Consultant Old Age Psychiatrist, NHSC
Monday, August 3rd, 2026 at 10:30am

Speech & Language Therapist (SALT)

Delivered by Erin Walls
NHSC
Monday, August 10th, 2026 at 10:30am

Spirituality in Dementia Care

Delivered by Adrian Friel
Local Services Manager – Alzheimer's Society
Monday, August 17th, 2026 at 10:30am

Direct Payments

Delivered by Chris Meneilly
Centre for Independent Living
Monday, August 24th, 2026 at 10:30am

To register and receive the zoom link
please contact **07730 195 234**

or

e-mail: **midulster@alzheimers.org.uk**

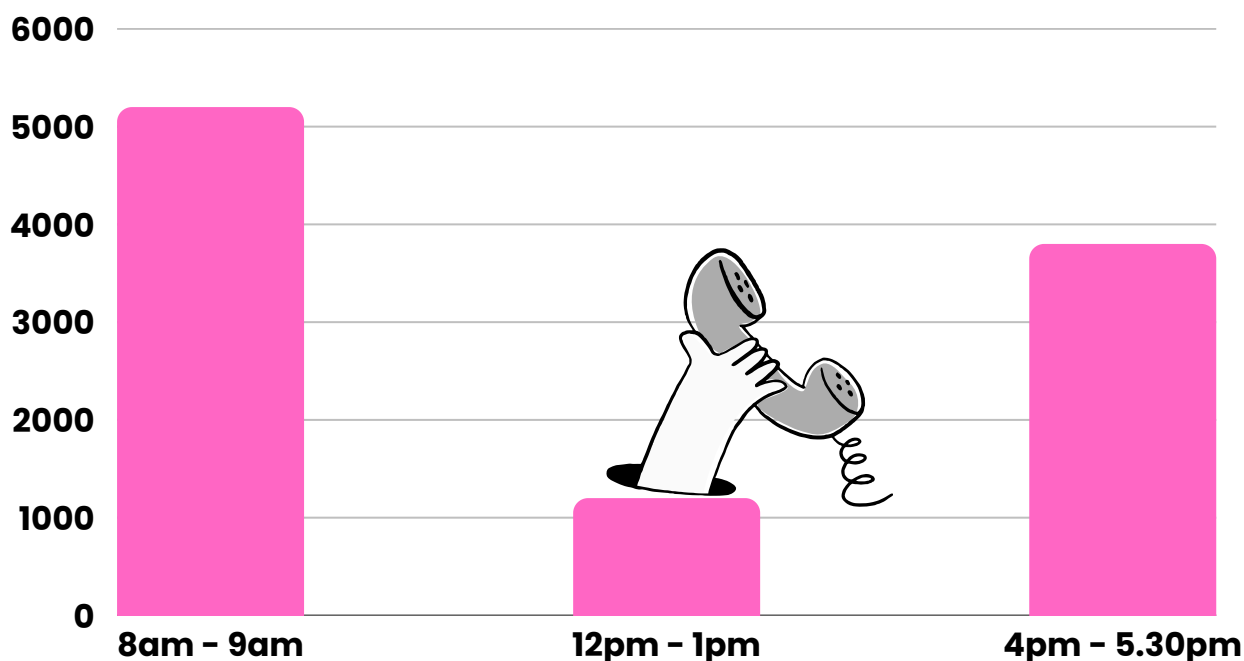


INCOMING TELEPHONE CALLS TO THE PRACTICE IN JULY

18,994



AVERAGE HOURLY CALLS RECEIVED



AVERAGE PATIENT WAIT TIME IN A TELEPHONE QUEUE



1 minute , 10 seconds