

Your Doctors

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OPENING TIMES

8AM-6.00pm

Dispensary 9am—5pm

Closed Saturday & Sunday

Enhanced Access Monday & Tuesday evening, by pre-booked appointment only.

Call 111 for medical advice & direction: 999 for life threatening emergencies.

When to call 999?

You should always call 999 in a life-threatening emergency: heavy bleeding, chest pain, collapse or losing consciousness, extensive/major burns, sudden facial or limb weakness, seizures, spinal injury, floppy unwell infant, severe allergic reaction, poisoning or overdose, headache with loss of consciousness all need 999. Unsure what to do, dial 111 to be directed.



Winter newsletter Brackbridg Surgery 2025

Winter Wellness

Top 10 tips for winter wellbeing

Nutrition and Hydration -

- Eat immune boosting foods citrus fruits, leafy greens, garlic, ginger & nuts.
- Stay hydrated Cold air and indoor heating can dehydrate you - drink plenty of water, not just hot drinks.
- Vitamin D Shorter days = less sunlight, consider food like oily fish, fortified cereals or supplements if recommended.

Immunity and Illness Prevention -

- Wash hands often to reduce flu and cold spread.
- · Keep winter vaccinations up-to-date.
- Rest and sleep 7 to 9 hrs supports immune function.

Movement and Energy -

- Stay active indoors yoga, chair exercises, at the gym, home workouts.
- Outdoor Exercise safely dress in layers, protect extremities, be wary of slippery surfaces.

https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/seasonal-health/keep-warm-keep-well



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Skin and Respiratory Care -

- Moisturize to prevent dry, cracked skin.
- Use a humidifier indoors to ease dry air and protect sinuses.
- Cover nose and Mouth Outdoors in very cold weather to warm the air you breath.

Safety in Cold Weather -

- Dress in layers breathable inner layer, insulating middle, waterproof outer.
- **Protect hands, feet, ears** from frostbite with gloves, warm socks and hats.
- Limit alcohol outdoors it makes you feel warm but increases heat loss

Mental Wellbeing -

- Combat seasonal blues get outside in daylight, stay socially connected, and consider light therapy if recommended.
- Mind Relaxation mediation, reading, or hobbies can ease winter stress

Winter Wellness: Why the darker months affect your mood and what you can do to protect your mental health this winter: www.amh.org.uk/winter-wellness



Your Health

Remember that older neighbours, friends and family members, may need extra help over the winter. Keep in touch with them, especially if they live alone. Make sure they're stocked up with enough food supplies for a few days, in case cold, ice or snowy weather stop them from going out.

If they do need to go out in the cold, encourage them to wear shoes with a good grip and a scarf around the mouth to protect them from the cold air, and to reduce their risk of chest infections.

Make sure they get any prescription medicines before the Christmas holidays start and if bad weather is forecast. If they need help over the holiday period when the GP practice or pharmacy is closed or they're not sure what to do, NHS 111 can help. The service is available online at 111.nhs.uk and also by phone.

By answering questions about their health problem they will be told what to do and where to go. For further advice on how you can help, visit www.ageuk.org.uk or call 0800 169 6565



Carcer Care Map Aford Bradworthy Kilkhampton Thornbur Bude Stratton Marhamchurch Derril Week St North Mary Taimerton Ash

Out and about during the winter months, please take steps to help prevent the spread of winter illnesses such as flu and COVID-19. If you are feeling unwell, it is crucial to stay home and refrain from visiting hospitals or care homes.

Ensure you rest, keep warm, and stay hydrated. **Regular handwashing** is essential, particularly after being in public spaces. If you experience severe symptoms and are uncertain about what to do, consider using NHS 111 online for guidance. Together, **we can protect one another** and

What is Cancer Care Map?

Cancer Care Map is a simple resource that aims to help find **cancer support services** in **your local area** wherever they are in the UK.

Visit www.cancercare.org and insert your postcode to find your services near you, from medical Services, to emotional support, health and wellbeing and practical concerns—NHS England

Feeling under the weather?









Respiratory illnesses, including COVID-19, are on the rise. If you feel unwell, try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people.

If you have **respiratory symptoms** such as a cough or a sore throat, along with a fever, consider giving social gatherings a miss as it's best to avoid close contact with other people, especially those who are **vulnerable**, such as the **elderly** or those with **weakened immune systems**.



Within just 12 weeks, your circulation improves, and your heart gets stronger. Every smoke-free day helps your body repair itself.

Find free NHS Support:

https://www.nhs.uk/better-health/quitsmoking/

Smokefree Devon: This program provides free support to individuals looking to quit smoking. You can contact them via:

Email: info@stopforlifedevon.org

Website: www.stopforlifedevon.org

Stop Smoking Services in Devon - Smokefree Alliance

BUDE PAIN CAFÉ

Are you living with chronic pain? Or do you know someone who is? You are warmly welcomed to join us at the Pain Cafe.

An informal, friendly, café which encourages people to connect with others, share experiences, and develop new ways to take control of their chronic pain.

We meet at 10am on the second Thursday of every month, in Neetside Community Centre, Bude, EX23 8LB





■ Social prescribing.pcnhbsvenhs.net Cornwall & Devon Pain Cafes https://pain.cafe

UK Health Security Agency

patients have >

joined our

page...help us to

help keep our

up-to-date.

patients



Antibiotics are used to treat or prevent some types of bacterial infection.

> Antibiotic resistance and 'superbugs'

The overuse of antibiotics in recent years means they are becoming less effective and has led to the emergence of 'superbugs'

There are some strains of bacteria that have developed resistance to many types of antibiotics.

When it comes to antibiotics, take your doctor's advice on whether you need them or not.

