

Friday 16 October 2026

Marking Black History Month Well done to colleagues who collaborated with Opportunity North East (ONE) to organise four short talks at the ONE BioHub this week to mark the Black History Month. These talks highlighted UK research inclusion initiatives in which NHS Grampian has played a key role. Speakers included Professor Seshadri Vasam and Dr Ijeoma Okoliegb from NHS Grampian, Mr Favour Jacob and Dr Selvarani Subbarayan from Heriot-Watt and Dundee Universities respectively.

Professor Vasam co-led the National Research Inclusion Strategy approved by the CRDC UK Network earlier this year. Dr Okoliegb highlighted the important role of healthcare scientists and Mr Jacob spoke about the Consolidate Network which explores how technology can enable independence for people living with dementia. Dr Subbarayan spoke about Widening Access to Trials in Care Homes. Thanks to all for your insightful contributions.

Hot Food Returns to Cairngorm Cafe Following yesterday's technical issues, hot food is once again being served in the yellow zone at the Cairngorm Cafe.

Gambling Harms Recovery Network Event and Survey Join the first Gambling Harms Recovery Network (GHRN) Conversation Café on Friday 30 October, from 10am - 1.30pm at the Douglas Hotel, Aberdeen and help shape support for people affected by gambling-related harm across Aberdeen City.

This is the first in a series of Conversation Cafés taking place across Aberdeen, bringing together practitioners, organisations, communities, and people with lived and living experience to share learning, explore current challenges, and strengthen connections.

The Network is a partnership between NHS Grampian, Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership, and the Scottish Recovery Consortium. To find out more and register for the event, visit [Eventbrite](#)

There is also still time to complete or share the [GHRN survey](#), which is seeking views from people with lived or living experience of gambling harm, including those affected by someone else's gambling.

Do you know about Interpreter on Wheels? Interpreter on Wheels (IOW) is an iPad device on wheels which connects to an audio interpreter via Language Line at any time. It requires Wi-Fi access. This offers additional, quicker access to an [interpreter via Language Line for foreign languages](#).

IOW equipment is provided by Language Line at no additional cost for NHS Grampian. However, there is a minimum monthly usage requirement. You can share the IOW with other wards, clinics or services. The cost of using IOW for calls is the same charge as for telephone interpreter.

For more information on or to request an IOW [please complete the form available at this link](#) or email gram.equalitydiversity@nhs.scot

That was the week that was

Monday 12 – Pulse Survey and Posters and Displays

Tuesday 13 – Winter Infections and Lind Your Spark with VBRP

Wednesday 14 – Celebrate AHP Day and Sustainability myth-busting

Thursday 15 – Frailty Expansion Update and Executive Team Update

All briefs are stored online, [just click this link](#) or visit Working with Us>HR Portal>NHSG Staff Daily Briefs on the NHS Grampian website.

Supported route to HNC Healthcare Practice course Experienced healthcare support workers are invited to join one of four forthcoming information sessions to find out more about supported routes to becoming a registered nurse. [Follow this link to find out more about forthcoming information sessions.](#)

Child Development Team South The contact telephone number for the [Child Development Team South](#) has been updated to 01224 475243.

Foresterhill Road partial closure To allow for essential works on Foresterhill Road, a section of the road will be closed to all traffic between the hours of 10pm and 5am for four nights from Monday (19 October). This will mean the bus stops at the Blood Transfusion Centre will not be serviced during this time and buses will divert accordingly. The bus stops at the main entrance of ARI will operate as normal. Thank you for your understanding while these essential works are completed.

STAR Award If you know a team, or individual, STAR, making a nomination couldn't be easier. All you need to do is complete the short form [available via this link](#).

Tune of the day Today we have a trio of requests. The first goes out to Debbie Ritchie, senior records clerk, from all her colleagues in the health records team at Dr Gray's. She's not actually celebrating until Monday, but as she'll be on holiday then, the team are getting their best wishes in early. They've asked for [Happy Birthday](#) by Stevie Wonder.

Also getting a shoutout today, 15 of our nursery team, (Erin, Rachel, Karyn, the 2 Claires, Ailsa, Toni, Tennille, Ella, Natasha, Macy, Helen, Jade, Katie, Javier) from Little Acorns will be doing 'The Dook 2026' on behalf of Cash for Kids on Sunday. So far, they having raised an amazing £1570 (and counting) and are the highest fundraisers for the event.

The rest of the nursery team, parents and children would like to wish them good luck. For them we have [Gnarls Barclay's Crazy](#)... the Jaws theme felt a bit ominous.

And last, but certainly not least, we are marking the retirement of district nurse Kathleen Taylor from the Aden Community Nursing Team, in Mintlaw. Having dedicated 47 years to the NHS since 1979, Kathleen has inspired many people throughout her career.

Her colleagues said: "We are incredibly grateful for everything she has taught us and the support she has given us. What we have learned from her will help us become better nurses, and she leaves us as a stronger team. She will be greatly missed by us all."

They have opted for [ABBA's Thank you for the Music](#) and wish you all the best in retirement.

If you want to request a tune, follow up on items included in this brief, or suggest an item for sharing, drop us an email via gram.dailybrief@nhs.scot