

Partner / Salaried GP / Long term locum

Full or Part time - 5+ sessions / post

Levenwick Medical Practice, Shetland, Scotland



Love general practice?

Are you satisfied, or do you need a change?

Join us! You only live once.

Levenwick Medical Practice is a rural GP practice in the South Mainland of Shetland. We have a list of around 2700 patients, which include the 60 people on Fair Isle, the remotest community in the UK, where we have a branch surgery. We cover the village of Sandwick (population around 800) and the rest of our patients are spread across smaller settlements in the area.

We aim to provide good quality personalised care to our patients, while providing good working conditions for our staff. We are in the process of change and modernisation, in the wake of recovery following a difficult year with the alterations COVID has brought to practice. We are a dispensing practice, and a teaching practice for GP trainees and medical students. We are currently in the process of introducing "Ask my GP" this month, as a computer based consultation and triage tool. We are going to be part of Shetland's pilot of introducing the "House of Care" model of long term condition management in the next few months. We hope to re-commence work on GP workload optimisation (that was started prior to the COVID pandemic) in the fairly near future. As a practice, the values we are striving to achieve are : good clinical care; up to date; fair access for all patients; patient and community involvement; respectful culture; embracing technology; good communication; fair employer; valuing teaching and enabling future services; and financial responsibility.

An exciting opportunity to join us has arisen for the right GP(s), who can share our values, and join our team.



You'll join a friendly clinical team of 3 part time GPs (13 clinical sessions) in addition to this post, 2 practice nurses, and an ANP. Through the health board we also have a clinical pharmacist 2 days a week (who has a significant role in chronic disease management and medication reviews), a helpful community nursing service (with an office on site), and a resident Island Nurse on Fair Isle, who helps us manage our patients there. The non-clinical team includes a

practice manager, 3 dispensers, 2 receptionists / dispensers, and 3 receptionists / admin staff.

We're looking for GPs at any stage of their career to join us, to cover a further 8-11 clinical sessions per week. CPD time will be in addition to these sessions. Partnership options will be available after 6 months for the right candidate(s) if desired. We would also consider applicants looking for a long term locum, or job share options. An interest in teaching is welcomed but not essential, and an enthusiasm to help us lead our practice forwards to deliver an excellent GP service to our population in the evolving environment of the 21st Century is a must. You'll need to be on the GP Register of the GMC, with a Licence to Practice in order to start the post.

We're a dispensing practice, and a teaching practice, for both GP trainees and final year medical students (Aberdeen). We have a dedicated and loyal team of admin staff and dispensers, led by our practice manager, to back up our clinicians. We use EMIS PCAS, and Docman (paper light system). The photo here shows our "COVID Graduate" Lucy on Graduation day, for her socially distanced graduation in Spring 2020.



You'll be joining a Shetland-wide team of over 30 GPs spread over 11 practices; we have an active and supportive cluster group with regular educational meetings and social events.

There are no OOH obligations, but shifts are available at the health board run service based from Lerwick. The Gilbert Bain Hospital in Lerwick provides secondary care facilities and also provides opportunities for you to develop a GPwSI role in a number of different areas if interested.

Shetland is unique: Life here is full of natural beauty and rich culture. Summers, with almost 24hr daylight, bring puffins and sea pinks to the cliffs and long evening walks along beaches and remote shorelines. From the water Shetland is even more spectacular, with caves, arches and tunnels in the cliffs to explore by kayak or with a sea swimming club.

Lerwick, a 25 minute drive from the surgery, hosts the Shetland folk festival every summer which shows the immense musical heritage and talent in Shetland, where over 10% of people play a musical instrument. If you can't already knit, you might find you learn, as our dispensers especially love to share their expertise! Shetland Wool Week may catch your imagination too.



Shetland is one of the best places to see wildlife in the UK with many species driven out of mainland Britain still thriving here. On a coastal walk you'll normally be joined by a seals swimming close to say hello and during the spring and autumn you might see rare migrant birds making landfall in Shetland en route to Siberia, Senegal or South Africa. Watching a pod of Orca hunting around Shetland's coastline is as exciting as anything you'll see in the Serengeti.

As the long winter nights close in, with crisp starry nights and the aurora borealis

lighting the northern sky, Shetland's community comes together. You'll experience Shetland's close-knit community spirit at local events in village halls and at the legendary winter fire festival of Up Helly Aa in late January. Our local South Mainland version, SMUHA was the first to include all genders.

Education in Shetland is excellent, with small class sizes at local primary schools, opportunities for art, music and sport and a strong nurturing ethos. There are plenty of enticements for young people to get off their phones and spend time outdoors!

Thanks to Steve for the use of some his pictures – have a look here for many more!

<https://www.stevebirrellphotography.com/>

For further information about our practice, and living and working in Shetland, try some of these websites

<https://levenwickmedicalpractice.gp.scot/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Levenwick-Medical-Practice-105393437767193>

<https://www.shetland.org/>

<https://www.shetland.org/life/work/islandmedics>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/shetlandorcasightings>

<https://www.shetlandwebcams.com/>

Can't wait to join us?

- Contact Dr Esther Mitchell, on 07913665404 for further details
- Apply by email with your CV and covering letter to Dr Mitchell, esther.mitchell1@nhs.scot
- Start date – as soon as possible, by negotiation
- We look forward to hearing from you!