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**irwinmitchell**<sup>(IM)</sup>  
solicitors

Irwin Mitchell is proud to sponsor the Doncaster Carers Newsletter

## DONCASTER CARERS STRATEGY GROUP

Invite carers of all ages to enter the above competition the winning Logo will be used on all promotional materials for the group

LAST DATE FOR ENTRIES

**22<sup>ND</sup> November 2011**

The winning entry will receive a £25.00 Frenchgate voucher

Winner to be announced in January 2012

Please send your entry to:

LOGO COMPETITION  
C/O Debbie Osborne  
74 Church Lane  
Bessacarr  
Doncaster  
DN4 6QD

# Carers Rights Day

## Friday December 02 2011

Families across the country are struggling with high household bills and worries about jobs. But families affected by illness and disability can struggle more than most - as they struggle with the additional costs of caring and often lost earnings as a result of illness and disability. This means that there has never been a more important time for carers to know their rights and access all the financial and practical support they are entitled to.

Each year Carers UK runs Carers Rights Day, working with hundreds of local groups, businesses and charities across the country to support carers in their area.

The theme for this year's Carers Rights Day is simple: Money Matters - because without support, we know that carers can end in debt, struggling to pay essential bills and sometimes sick with the stress of it. Carers Rights Day is about getting carers the information and advice they need to claim benefits, get a carer's assessment and access support.

Article taken from Carers UK website

## Your Carers Centre Needs You

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> November DPfC Carers Centre will be holding a Consultation Event for all Carers in Doncaster.

The event will be held at DPfC Carers Centre with food, quizzes, raffle and workshops to explore what the Carers of Doncaster want from our service.

This event will start at 10am and finish approximately at 1pm. **PLEASE ATTEND YOUR INPUT IS ESSENTIAL.**



Also join us on...

 Find us on  
Facebook



## FUNDRAISING AND DONATIONS

DPfC relies on fundraising and donations to continue activities for carers. Have you got any good ideas to help us raise funds?

## DPfC MARKET STALL

DPfC are soon to be seen in the market place with their very own stall. We will be selling second hand goods from camping equipment to DVDs. Come along and see what's on offer, or if you have any unwanted goods that could be sold on please donate to us, one person's junk is another person's treasure!!

## BLUE BADGE REFORMS UPDATE

An article in our last newsletter told of changes to the Blue Badge Prices. However, as this is a decision to be made by each individual council, the increase in price is not applicable to Doncaster. Mayor Peter Davies has decided that the Blue Badge should stay at £2 in Doncaster. Good decision Mr Mayor!!

# Carers urged to back fire service safety campaign

Hundreds of people are injured in accidental house fires in South Yorkshire every year.

Lifestyles, age and disabilities make some people more at risk of fire and the experience of South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue shows that those receiving care in the home are often amongst those most vulnerable to suffering an accidental fire.

But with just one phone call, you can help protect your friend, relative or loved one from fire.

South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue is urging carers to sign up to its free home safety check service as it seeks to prevent hundreds of people being injured in accidental house fires every year.

Twenty three people have died in accidental house fires in South Yorkshire since 2007 and last year alone the fire service attended more than 600 accidental house fires across the county resulting in 130 injuries.

That's why the county's firefighters are asking carers to sign up to its free service, whereby firefighters or community safety staff will visit the home of the person you care for at a convenient time.

During the visit you will then be given advice on:

- How to make your home safer
- What to do in the event of a fire
- What to do if you are trapped by a fire.

Our staff will also fit free smoke alarms if your house is without one and explain how to maintain it correctly.

SYFR's head of community safety Phil Shilito, said: "Accidental house fires can devastate homes and ruin lives. We know carers do a fantastic job in the community and we want to help them, by offering the peace of mind our free home safety checks deliver and by giving them some basic advice which might just help save someone's life.

"Even following a basic routine every time they visit someone's home could dramatically reduce the chances of that person having a fire in their home."

Top tips carers can use to help reduce the risk of fire in the home include:

- Look out for possible fire risks, such as unsafe wiring, heaters or candles
- Exits- make sure they are clear and door keys are in a safe, easy to find place
- Turn off all electrical appliances after use, especially around the kitchen
- Smoke alarms- test them every week

To arrange your home safety check, or for general fire safety advice, call **0114 253 2314** or text the word **FREE** to **87023**. A member of our community safety team will call you back to arrange the visit.

You can also arrange a home safety check, or find out more about reducing fires, online at [www.syfire.gov.uk](http://www.syfire.gov.uk)



South Yorkshire  
Fire & Rescue  
WORKING FOR A SAFER  
SOUTH YORKSHIRE

# A warm welcome to our newest members of staff

## Helen Butler

Helen Butler joined Doncaster Partnership for Carers in August as one of our Adult Carer Support Workers. A carer for 3 members of her family, Helen has been known to joke that although disabled, she is the healthy one in the family.

Helen has many years experience in the voluntary sector, having volunteered for Age Concern and Dial Doncaster, in the past, and more recently the North East Doncaster Citizens Advice Bureau as a Welfare Rights Worker. Helen joined The Samaritans earlier this year and is currently a volunteer listener with the Samaritans, and also works part time as an advocate for disabled people at SYCIL, South Yorkshire Centre For Inclusive Living.

Outside of work, Helen is an animal lover, and hand reared one of her cats. Unfortunately, as the cats grew up with a dog, when one went for a walk, everyone went, and Helen used to end up taking a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel and 3 cats for "walkies", and keeping her fingers crossed that the neighbours hadn't noticed.

Helen also loves to travel when she gets the chance, although as she hates the heat tends to head in the opposite direction to most of us, preferring the cooler climes of Iceland or Scandinavia to the sun more often associated with a Summer holiday. It is worth the rest of the team noting where Helen goes on holiday, so they can avoid it, as within two weeks of Helen going anywhere disaster is sure to follow; armed robbery in Oslo, floods in Prague, coach crash on the Brussels ring road, and last time Helen got off a cruise ship, 48 hours later it was quarantined for Norovirus.

## Kath Barber

Kath Barber joined Doncaster Partnership for Carers in September as one of our Adult Carer Support Workers. Kath's experience in caring comes from supporting an elderly neighbour and friend who has health problems.

This is a change of direction for Kath and she says 'I am still learning the ropes. I'm here to support you with the support of the great team of people here at the Carers Centre'

Outside of work Kath likes to take long walks (in the sunshine when possible!), pottering in the garden and painting and decorating.

## Local News

### AGM

Doncaster Partnership for Carers will be holding their Annual General Meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> November at The Carers Centre, 3:30pm.

Anyone wishing to attend, please contact The Carers Centre on 01302 531333.

### WEA STEPFORWARD PROJECT

New courses are to begin in January 2012, at various places around Doncaster Town Centre.

#### Monday's

Gentle Exercise at Chequer Road, 9:30am  
Conversation Group at The Women's Centre, 12pm

#### Tuesday's

Top to Toe at The Women's Centre, 9:30am  
Computers for All at The Women's Centre, 12pm

For more information contact Rosemary Stephen on 07854823810

## Carers Corner

C	A	E	B	R	A	S	R	H	M
A	S	S	E	S	S	M	E	N	T
R	R	E	T	O	O	C	S	S	N
E	W	O	I	S	Y	H	P	H	A
R	S	A	T	R	O	E	I	Y	R
L	K	C	H	O	I	S	T	S	G
T	D	A	B	A	K	A	E	R	B

Can you find these words?  
Assessment  
Carer  
Respite  
Hoist  
Break  
Grant  
Scooter  
Physio



This may come a little early, but as you won't be hearing from us until the New Year.

**We at DPfC would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!!!**

**DPfC Helpline**  
Tel 01302 531333  
Mon-Fri 9am-5pm  
Except for bank holidays.



Out of hours we have an answer machine for you to leave a message

## Drop in

### The Carers Centre

Mon-Thurs 10am-4pm

## Who we are

Doncaster Partnership for Carers (DPfC) support adults living in Doncaster who care for a family member, partner or friend who cannot manage without their help because they are ill, frail, have a physical disability or a mental health problem.

All our services are **free** and **confidential**.

## We help carers with:

- Information
- Accessing services
- Complaints
- Training
- Attending support groups
- A listening ear
- Language support
- Meeting other carers
- Volunteering

We can also give you a 'voice' in health and social care service planning arenas.

## Contact us

The Carers Centre  
74 Church Lane

Bessacarr, Doncaster, DN4 6QD

Tel 01302 531333

Email [dpfc@doncastercarers.org.uk](mailto:dpfc@doncastercarers.org.uk)

Web [www.doncastercarers.org.uk](http://www.doncastercarers.org.uk)

# Carers Coffee Mornings

You are invited to our coffee mornings which are informal, informative and fun. It is an ideal opportunity to meet new friends and share your caring experiences with other carers. Guest speakers are invited to keep you informed of services that may be of use to you. Our friendly staff are always on hand for support and advice.

**DPfC** host a twice monthly coffee morning at The Carers Centre, 74 Church Lane, Bessacarr on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 10am – 12 noon.

**BME Carers Konnect Club** Carers from the BME community are invited to experience a range of activities whilst meeting other carers, share experiences and support each other. Held twice monthly, on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 10:30am to 1pm at The Carers Centre, 74 Church Lane, Bessacarr.

**ACM** is a specialist coffee morning for people with Autism and their carers. They meet at The Carers Centre, 74 Church Lane, Bessacarr on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month 10am – 12noon.

# Carers Lunch Clubs

The Carers Luncheon Club is open on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month following on from our Carer Coffee Mornings.

Light lunches are available to order from 11am - 12pm  
Activities take place between 1pm and 2pm

## Let us help untie your time.



We can order & collect your repeat prescriptions from the surgery and have your medicines dispensed and ready for collection at one of our Pharmacies closest to your home.

**Repeat Prescription Order & Collection**  
contact your local Weldricks Pharmacy for details.

**WELDRICKS PHARMACY**

Weldricks is a registered pharmacy in Doncaster, South Yorkshire. We are a member of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) and the British Society of Clinical Pharmacy (BSCP).  
Weldricks Ltd, England, London House, Parkway Court, Doncaster, DN4 0PE. [weldricks.co.uk](http://weldricks.co.uk)

## DONCASTER CARERS FORUM

The Carers Forum meets bi-monthly on the third Wednesday of the month 10am – 12noon at The Carers Centre



Articles printed in the Doncaster Carers Newsletter do not necessarily reflect the view of Doncaster Partnership for Carers Ltd. **PLEASE NOTE:** That whilst every care has been taken to provide accurate up-to-date information, no responsibility can be accepted for error or omissions in this issue, neither does the inclusion of any service imply any kind of recommendation.

## Directions By Car

From the **St Ledger (racecourse)** roundabout exit onto Bawtry Rd (A638). Stay on Bawtry Rd (A638) until you pass the Punches Hotel, at these traffic light turn left into Church Lane. When you come to a staggered junction, continue ahead on Church Lane, we are on the right.

## Bus Route

Catch the **bus (brown line)** from stand A5, get off at the Water Tower Lane bus stop. Church Lane is the road opposite the water tower and we are on the right

