



Face-to-face visits are back!

We've finally restarted loneliness busting face-to-face visits, 18 months after coronavirus forced their suspension.

A 66 strong army of volunteers is raring to go and get back chatting in-person to isolated older people, many of whom count television as their only friend.

Precautions like face coverings, enhanced hygiene and social distancing will remain in place, but the long awaited return of physical get togethers represents a major milestone in our pandemic recovery.

SCCCC Good Neighbour Scheme team leader Tammy Wilson, said: "After long months of lockdown and loneliness for so many of the city's older people, we're really pleased to be finally in a position to resume in-person visits.

"Many of our volunteers have provided weekly telephone chats and some will continue with these even after our core services resume. But for those who feel comfortable delivering and receiving them, face-to-face visits will resume with precautions in place."

"We've all been through some tough times but we never gave up hope that we could get one of our flagship services back up and running, so this represents a really important milestone for the charity."



Our Good Neighbour Scheme aims to help the older members of the community by enhancing their quality of life. The service is provided free of charge with the basic aim of helping to combat loneliness for people over 65 living in Sheffield.

Could you spare some time to support this service?

Contact volunteers@scccc.co.uk or phone 0114 2505292.

I often think back to the darkest days of the pandemic, when thousands of isolated older people right here in Sheffield were stuck shielding behind closed doors with little in the way of optimism, hope or company.

Throughout one of the most difficult periods in our history though, all of us at SCCCC kept faith that some of our most important services - which so many people in this city rely upon- would one day be able to resume.

With that in mind, we've been working incredibly hard over the last few months to plan for our pandemic recovery.

All that work is now paying dividends as we proudly resume our fundraising events, from chocolate tasting to running races, which provide such an important income stream to enhance the support we are able to provide.

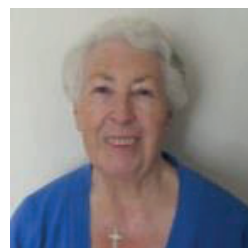
Together with our fantastic volunteers, we're also extremely excited to be resuming face-to-face friendly visits under our Good Neighbour Scheme.

All of this is being done safely and cautiously, with various precautions remaining in place so that both our service users and our volunteers can move forward into the autumn with confidence.

A big thank you to our staff, volunteers and supporters for making all this happen.

Mark Storey, CEO

SCCCC Office:
Tel: 0114 250 5290
www.scccc.co.uk



Meet Glenda – our longest serving volunteer of more than 40 years!

One of our incredible volunteers, Glenda, aged 83, has volunteered for SCCCC since the early 1980s.

Although her role sees her provide much needed company to isolated, older people in her community - she says the friendships she's forged and people she's helped have improved her own sense of motivation and belonging.

Glenda said: "I've been matched with dozens of service users over the years. Six of these have resulted in long-term friendships, but I've also enjoyed lots of one-off or short-term relationships.

"For the last 18 months, I've been visiting a lady called Pam. She signed up to the service when she had a hip operation. She is a lovely and very intelligent person, with an enquiring mind and lots of interesting conversation. We are both avid readers so talk a lot about books and the local news.

"My friendship with Pam is very much a two-way thing - contact with her has helped motivate me and reduce my own sense of isolation during a year of lockdowns.

"Over the years, I've seen a huge rise in demand for befriending schemes like this. There is definitely more loneliness among older generations these days, for so many different reasons. A lot of the time their children are moving further away from their local area than they used to- either to study or for work.

"I've always enjoyed volunteering. I have a genuine interest in other people and their lives - particularly the things they enjoyed when they were younger."

To find out more about volunteering for SCCCC, email volunteers@scccc.co.uk or phone **0114 250 5292**. Alternatively visit www.scccc.co.uk/volunteer

NEWS

Tel: 0114 250 5290

Willy Wonka tour brings fundraising events back with a (sugar) high

It was a proud moment when we resumed, not one, but two fundraising events, holding our first events for 20 months.

Tour goers, including special guests, service user, Dudley, and his daughter Joan, stole a glimpse behind the scenes of a real life chocolate factory, Bullion Craft Chocolate. The tour and tasting sessions were led by Max Scotford and Paul Lacey, the company's master chocolatiers. Guests learnt about the bean to bar process before enjoying a cup of Ecuadorian drinking chocolate and artisan cookie at Bullion's café in Cutlery Works.

The event raised £460.



Running duo smash Half Marathon

Our trustee Pete and his daughter Lucy have raised nearly £2,000 by taking part in this year's Sheffield Half Marathon.

Pete and his family have previously raised around £5,000 for the charity. He says seeing the plight of his own older relatives is what prompted him to lend his support.

Pete said: "I think that Sheffield people should be helping the older and more vulnerable members of their community - after all, we're standing on the shoulders of all those who came before us. Older people can become a forgotten part of our community, but they may well be the people that need the most help."

SCCCC's own team of nine runners - most of them beginners - also pounded the streets for the annual Sheffield 10km, raising a combined total of **over £3,501 for the charity.**

Great work all round!



DONATE HERE! Your support will help us provide a helping hand to over 4,000 older people in Sheffield every year. We provide simple, practical, emotional support - given with genuine care.

SHEFFIELD TALKING NEWS

Sheffield Talking News provides a free weekly overview of local news content to blind and visually impaired people in the city. Each week, editors choose an interesting balance of news and feature stories, which are read aloud by its team of volunteers.

Clients can listen online, on a local telephone call, via a free postal memory stick service, podcast, smartphone app or even Amazon's Alexa.

Anyone needing further advice or help can ring their Answerphone on (0114) 278 0440 or email them at stnmail@sheffielddtalkingnews.org.uk

GET INVOLVED...

Could you offer a helping hand? Volunteer for SCCCC

Each day the Hospital to Home team drive miles around Sheffield delivering equipment and helping to support older people whilst in hospital, on discharge and beyond. We are always looking for volunteers to spend time with the team to assist in the following tasks:

- Collection of personal belongings for patients whilst in hospital.
- Delivery of equipment such as mobility aids, temporary key safes.
- An emergency food shop.
- The moving of furniture to make way for a hospital bed in a patient's home.
- Feeding pets.

You would always be accompanied by a member of staff and the time commitment can be for a full day, morning or afternoon.

If you are interested, then please contact
volunteers@scccc.co.uk
for more information.



LETTERS

Dear SCCCC,

I just want to praise your service and thank you for all the staff's hard work. Nothing seems to be too much of a hassle and all staff are lovely to speak to.

Sheffield Healthcare Professional

What are your thoughts about SCCCC? Share them with us.
Email: mail@scccc.co.uk

Make a donation today to help SCCCC to maintain the level of care that all of our friends and families deserve. Your donation will go a long way to improving the level of care in our communities.

£5 can pay for an emergency food parcel to be delivered to an older person's home who has just been discharged from hospital and has no support.

£10 can help provide emergency practical support for an older person in need.

£20 can support a fully trained friendly visitor to visit an older person at home - helping to reduce isolation and preventing ill health which can result in hospital re-admission.



If you would like to make a donation please complete the following slip and return it to us with your donation to: Unit 19, President Buildings, Savile Street East, Sheffield, S4 7UQ.

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____. Postcode: _____

I would like to make a donation of £ _____
to Sheffield Churches Council of Community Care.

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Please Gift Aid this donation and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past four years. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax then the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year, it is my responsibility to pay any difference. Tick to apply ☐

Please make cheques payable to: SCCCC. Do not send cash.
Or visit our website: www.scccc.co.uk and donate online.

Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered in England: 1168077,