



## Buddy Up to Make a Difference!

SCCCC has teamed up with The Star, Sheffield and BBC Radio Sheffield in a bid to attract more volunteers to our telephone support service.

Nancy Fielder, Editor of The Star, Sheffield tweeted that she was volunteering an hour of her time. But she wanted to do more. So, The Star launched their Buddy Up campaign to connect the growing number of isolated older people in Sheffield with thoughtful individuals who can offer their time for a chat on the telephone.

BBC Radio Sheffield also wanted to help and created their #BBCMakeADifference campaign, interviewing service users and volunteers from our Good Neighbour Scheme on their radio shows and offering a platform for people to sign up as volunteers.

With over 100 vulnerable, older people on the waiting list for telephone support, Tammy Wilson, SCCCC Good Neighbour Scheme team leader said;

**“The urgency is even greater since the latest lockdown was imposed, with older people cut off once more from the outside world. Even giving just an hour a week could make a massive difference to the life of an older person in your community”.**



The response has been incredible to both campaigns and as we enter the pathway to a return to 'normality' we hope to restart face to face home visits and continue to support those who are feeling lonely and isolated.

Mark Storey, CEO of SCCCC said “We are proud to be collaborating with Nancy and the team at The Star, Sheffield and BBC Radio Sheffield on our latest volunteer recruitment drive. The increase in loneliness and isolation amongst our older generations has been exacerbated by the Pandemic and we must come together to help combat this dreadful endemic of loneliness that blights our community.”



**26 March 2020...does that date ring any bells with you?  
It should because it's the date we entered the first  
COVID19 'lockdown'.**

More than a year has passed since our lives irrevocably changed. More than a year since the words, 'pandemic', 'lockdown' and 'unprecedented' became commonplace in everyone's conversations.

We're now moving into the loosening of restrictions, and hopefully by 21st June we will all be 'back to normal' - whatever normal is! Personally, I hope that we keep hold of some of the new values, I hope we continue to be kind, to help our neighbours and that we remember how little we actually need in order to be happy.

I'm proud of the whole team at SCCCC, we've pulled together (despite being physically separated for long periods) and we've continued to provide our valuable services to vulnerable older adults in the Sheffield area. Thank you - each and every one!

Mark Storey, CEO

**SCCCC Office: Tel: 0114 250 5290 [www.scccc.co.uk](http://www.scccc.co.uk)**



## Meet a 'Good Neighbour' Service User



Jean Flockton, 82, from Hillsborough, has used the services of Sheffield Churches Council for Community Care since 2019, but says the support we offer came into its own when lockdown first hit.

Jean lives alone, and has no family other than a niece, she also has no carers despite her failing eyesight. She says;

**“when COVID 19 happened, everything was closed down - and so was I”.**



talk to my neighbours when it was warm, but it's much harder in the colder weather.'

Jean is also part of our pen pal scheme. She loves receiving the cards and pictures but her failing eyesight means she struggles to see them clearly and is unable to reply to the senders. A regular chat on the phone with Alice is a life line for her.

We arranged a weekly one hour telephone call with Alice, one of our volunteers and Jean says, 'The calls break up my day. Alice is lovely to talk to, especially when you're isolated like this. I used to

**Would you like to become a volunteer?  
Email: [volunteers@scccc.co.uk](mailto:volunteers@scccc.co.uk)  
or phone 0114 2505292  
to find out more.**

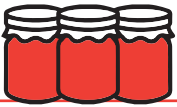
## Look who's Fundraising!

Tina Purnell - Amount raised

**£120** this spring.

Not only a long-term volunteer on our Good Neighbour Scheme, Tina has been making and selling jams and preserves to raise vital funds for us over the last few years.

Thank you, Tina.



## A Helping Hand to Beat the Pandemic



Getting his COVID19 vaccination was proving difficult for 78 year old Roy Helliwell, who lives alone and doesn't drive. He received his appointment back in January but had no one to take him as his son had to work. He was nervous about using a taxi to get him there and worried about falling in the street.

An existing user of SCCC Good Neighbour scheme, Roy has a regular weekly chat with Brian, one of our volunteers and was relieved to find out that we could help him get to his appointment. Our Good Neighbours scheme already included the option for users to be escorted to hospital appointments, so it was a small, yet significant step, to begin to include corona virus vaccinations.

Emma Ward, Hospital to Home team member, said: "Roy was a delight to escort to his vaccine. He was ready and waiting for us when we picked him up. I was allowed to escort him into the surgery and wait with him in the queue. He said that he was glad of the company as he was a little nervous, and it was actually quite a long time standing so I was able to get him a chair. The jab went fine. He said he didn't feel a thing. It's fantastic that as part of SCCC we get to be able to provide this kind of additional support, particularly at such a crucial moment for the nation's older people."

## Pen Pal Scheme

Our pen pal scheme, to keep isolated, older people connected during lockdown, has gone from strength to strength. Members of the public have been busy sending letters, cards and drawings for us to pass onto

service users on the Good Neighbour, friendly visiting scheme. The scheme has attracted people from all over the world and has reached just over 2,000 pieces of correspondence.

Shirley, a service user said;

"I just wanted to thank you for your lovely card. You have cheered me up many, many, times over the past year and I do appreciate it. I would like to write a note to you but I have very bad arthritis and can't hold a pen. So I'm sending you my love with best wishes... thank you"



## 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,

You are currently supporting mum. The regular telephone calls are a great source of comfort to us, to know she is able to talk to someone different.

Glyn,

Relative of service user on the Telephone Support Service.

**What are your thoughts about SCCCC? Share them with us.**  
**Email: [mail@scccc.co.uk](mailto: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.

*giftaid it*

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](http://www.scccc.co.uk) and donate online.**

Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered in England: 1168077,