

## GET INVOLVED...



## Could you be a SCCCC volunteer?

At the heart of Sheffield Churches Council for Community Care is – and always has been – our volunteers.

### Our volunteers help by:

- Taking part in regular friendly visiting to combat loneliness
- Doing some shopping in an emergency
- Accompanying an older person to a medical appointment
- Helping move furniture for older people who are returning from hospital or needing more space for mobility aids in the home
- Collecting an older person from A&E and taking them home
- Help with fundraising.

If you are interested in being one of our volunteers, please email [volunteers@scccc.co.uk](mailto:volunteers@scccc.co.uk) for more information.

## DIARY DATES

Thursday 25th May
Ladies lunch at Piccolinos
Saturday 10th June
Peace in the Park
Sunday 25th June
Morrisons bag pack
Sunday 2nd July
Pie and Peas Cruise Quiz
Saturday 8th July
Beighton Fun day

Summer BBQ date to be announced. Email [ericka.hill@scccc.co.uk](mailto:ericka.hill@scccc.co.uk) for more details.

## LETTERS



We often receive letters thanking us for our help. Here are a couple.

*"Thank you for the help that Elspeth gave me when I needed it. She was excellent! Your service is invaluable - I could not have found a place for my aunt without it and I have no transport of my own and have health issues which mean I cannot use buses. I do hope the funding continues in the future."*

*"Penny was fantastic! She was very helpful and gave great advice. She remained impartial throughout our visit too. I felt reassured having someone there to support my mum and myself at a difficult time."*

What are your thoughts about SCCCC? Email [mail@scccc.co.uk](mailto:mail@scccc.co.uk)

## We need your donations!



We rely on voluntary gifts to fund our vital work.

To achieve our aims, we need the financial support of organisations and individuals who understand the difficulties older people face in today's society.

You can do this by making a one off donation, or by setting up a monthly donation from your bank account. A regular donation is easy to set up and helps us save on administration costs.

Whichever way you decide to give your kind donation will help us to help thousands of older people in Sheffield each year.

### How we use your money?

**£5** could pay for a food parcel to be delivered to the home of an older person who has just been discharged from hospital and has no support.

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

**£20** could support a fully trained friendly visitor to visit an older person at home - helping to alleviate isolation and preventing ill health which could 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: 11 Holland Place, Sheffield, S2 4US.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make a donation of £ \_\_\_\_\_ to Sheffield Churches Council for Community Care.

*giftaid it*

Please Gift Aid this donation and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than 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 cheque payable to: SCCCC. Do not send cash. Or visit our website: [www.scccc.co.uk](http://www.scccc.co.uk) and donate online.**

# SCCCC News

SPRING 2017



## Volunteer plea to mark half century supporting city's over 65s



### We are 50 – and it feels great!

We are marking a fantastic half a century of community care with a plea for more volunteers to aid our vital work supporting thousands of older people in the city.

Our flagship Good Neighbour scheme offers a befriending service to the over 65s who are referred by health agencies, care teams or relatives.

Social visits, welfare checks, telephone support and one off emergency shopping trips all form part of the help we offer under the scheme.

SCCCC was set up in October 1966 by church members of all denominations from across Sheffield, but has today expanded to support older people

of different faiths and secular groups from across the city.

We thrive on our strong community links and proudly work alongside the Council and health services to achieve our mission of improving the wellbeing of older people in Sheffield.

Other services we provide include a Hospital Aftercare scheme, which supports older people on the journey from being admitted to being discharged from hospital.

Our Placement Support initiative gives advice to patients and their families when viewing care homes, whilst the A&E to Home scheme helps older people who are taken to hospital with minor injuries but have no family or loved ones to support them on their journey home.

Mark Storey, Chief Executive Officer at SCCCC said: "It's hard to imagine a day when you don't see anyone - no phone call, no email, no text. For thousands of older people in Sheffield that is their reality, every single day of their lives.

"The heart and most important part of SCCCC is our volunteers who generously give their time and energy, enabling us to help older people in Sheffield for 50 years. But we need more people to come forward to pledge their time, even if it's just for one hour a week, to continue to improve the lives of lonely and isolated older people where we live."

We were proud to be awarded the prestigious 'Volunteer Award' at the Thank you Awards hosted by Sheffield Teaching Hospitals in 2016 in recognition of our dedicated volunteers.

## FOCUS ON...



### STAFF PROFILE

**Name:** Sharon Saunders  
**Job Title:** Volunteer Co-ordinator

#### What is your role responsible for?

I'm responsible for increasing our volunteer numbers. This covers the whole process from advertising to recruitment. As our volunteers are often going into the homes of older people, we need to properly interview prospective volunteers, follow up references and apply for DBS checks.

#### What does a typical day involve?

I respond to email queries and chase up outstanding applications. The phone never stops ringing in the office so I'm often taking calls. I also attend meetings with external companies to raise the profile of volunteering with us. Plus, drinking too much coffee!

#### What is the best aspect of the job?

I love delivering the induction session, which is the final part of our recruitment process. Knowing that the volunteer will soon be visiting an older person in the community and having a cup of tea and a chat, helping them feel less lonely is so rewarding.

#### And the worst?

We always have more older people who have been referred to us than volunteers available to visit them. This gives me the incentive to keep on revisiting our work to try to make improvements to help speed up the process.

## Welcome to the first edition of our new regular newsletter SCCCC News

It's timely we're launching this publication having just marked half a century of lending a helping hand to older people in Sheffield.

I've always felt that SCCCC is one of the city's best kept secrets, but by sharing news of who we are and what we do more widely, I hope our next 50 years can be as successful as our last.

From humble beginnings in 1966, the organisation I lead has grown to become one of the city's most important community organisations. We now offer a menu of vital services and support thousands of older people to live longer, healthier and more fulfilled lives and to stay in their own homes for as long as possible.

Of course, none of our work would be possible without our small team of dedicated staff, our army of fantastic volunteers or our many, many fundraisers and supporters, some of whom you will read about elsewhere on these pages.

Although it's right to reflect upon our achievements we must also look to the future and the challenges we are all



likely to face in the future.

Sheffield's population is aging and the strain that is likely to put on public services will be considerable. Good quality, social care for older people is at last beginning to move up the national agenda and the role of third sector organisations like this one in supporting older people is also being more widely recognised.

But to do more for local older people, we need more too. From hosting an SCCCC Afternoon Tea, to doing a sponsored walk. From making a small donation on a regular basis to leaving a gift in your will. Or, more importantly still, becoming a volunteer.

So let me start this newsletter with a plea to help us in any way you can. The time you give, the money you raise and the support you provide really does make a difference.

**Mark Storey**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

## VOLUNTEER OF THE ISSUE

Our first volunteer accolade goes to Brian Gannon, who is one of our longest serving volunteers, giving up his time for 20 years. Brian, who's 85, has befriended dozens of older people as part of our Good Neighbour Scheme.

Brian said: "I retired at the age of 65, which was when I started being a volunteer for SCCCC. It is a marvellous organisation. When I was younger I helped out with more physical tasks, like decorating and moving furniture in and out.

"I'm too old for that now, so I visit two elderly gentlemen each week. Melvyn has a carer who comes in each day, and his son comes and takes him out. But Frederick has no family or friends and there are days when he doesn't see anyone. I'm pleased I'm able to give them something to look forward to.

"There are lots of older people who are lonely and for many television is their

only form of company. Regular face-to-face visits give people a reason to live and something to look forward to. Just a chat for an hour makes all the difference."

**Could you be a part of our Good Neighbour Scheme? Email Sharon, our volunteer coordinator on volunteers@sccccc.co.uk**



Photo credit: Jackie Jones

## NEWS...



### WE CYCLED TO THE MOON... ALMOST!

**At the turn of the year we launched a truly interstellar fundraising challenge with an attempt to 'cycle to the moon' - dreamt up by no other than our CEO Mark!**

Sheffield's largest gym, Xercise4less, set up a dedicated exercise bike which allowed us to invite individuals, teams and larger groups to get involved and help us clock up the miles.

The challenge ended in February, and although we were a good few miles off our 238,855 mile target, we raised lots of money to help us improve care for older people in the city.

Staff at Big Yellow on Bramall Lane cycled a whopping 522 miles and raised a fantastic £500. Having set the challenge, Mark also got involved and cycled an awesome 500 miles, raising more than £100.

## SCCCC plug gap of social care concerns in national headlines

Earlier this year, ITV News revealed the findings of a major national investigation into the care of isolated, vulnerable residents. It found that a massive 16,000 older people across the UK are known to be receiving 15-minute 'flying visits' from carers despite Government guidelines recommending half hour visits. SCCCC works to bridge this gap, lifting standards of adult social care and give an elderly person the support and help they need when they need it.

All our schemes offer vital support to either older people or their relatives and loved ones. The schemes are supported by our network of amazing volunteers and are designed to give older people the quality of care in later life that they deserve.

But due to the huge surge in referrals, we need more people to come forward with their time, conversation and kindness to continue our potentially lifesaving work.

We also rely on voluntary donations, which not only help support our work, but pay for a variety of services, including food parcels, bedding and the loan of equipment, such as high seat chairs to help with recovery from surgery for hip and knee surgery.



Photo credit: Peter Wobsthorpe

## Did you know we have our own eBay page?

We joined the eBay revolution this year and have already raised more than £700 from the sale of donated items.

Some of our loot has included a TV, model ship, bedroom furniture, office chairs, and climbing shoes. But did you know that you can sell items on our behalf through your own eBay account? Simply click on sell for charity and type in our name.

**For more information, email [ericka.hill@sccccc.co.uk](mailto:ericka.hill@sccccc.co.uk)**

## Successful garden themed fundraiser at The Botanist



We recently held a fundraising evening at the stunning Botanist Restaurant at Leopold Square. Appropriate to the theme of the venue, the evening blossomed with a question and answer session led by Sheffield City Council's Ian Turner, Curator of Sheffield Botanical Gardens.

After an introduction to the history of the gardens, guests were able to ask any horticultural questions they had in the private dining room before heading up to the restaurant and its magical interior full of flora and fauna.

The evening was enriched by musician Alastair L who performed in the beautiful bandstand housed in the heart of the restaurant and ended with a charity raffle and auction to raise much needed funds to help us flourish in the future.