JUNE / JULY 2023 NEWSLETTER HARROW CARERS





CEO'S MESSAGE

Dear Carers,

Hello and the sunniest welcome to our June / Julu edition of the Harrow Carers newsletter. I hope this finds you happy, healthy, and positive as we head into beautiful Summer. We have plenty of activities coming up over the next couple of months, including a very important week for us, Carers Week 2023, which is all about you and connecting communities. We will be out and about talking to members of the community throughout the week, about the services we offer and how we can support unpaid carers. We will be ending the week with our big Family Fun Day celebration on Friday 9th June - don't forget to tell your friends and family, all welcome. Please refer to page 6 for further information.

We are always here for you, so please do get in touch with us.

Thank you for reading our newsletter.

Charmian Boyd C.E.O



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Information on other services we provide; Young Carers update, Home Care and Homeshare





Friday 9th June 2023 2-6pm Old Lyonians Ground, 74 Pinner View

ACTIVITIES

ZUMBA with Marina

Get grooving and moving with this versatile fitness class combining all elements of fitness - cardio, muscle conditioning, balance and flexibility, boosted energy and a serious dose of awesome each time you leave class- includes bhangra!

Every Wednesday at Old Lyonians Sports Ground 10.15AM – 11.15AM

Elevate

A self-supporting group open to all Unpaid Carers.

Every Tuesday 11am -12:30pm. Alternating weeks between Zoom and face-to-face. Next meeting is on Tuesday 30th May 2023 at Harrow Carers Office

Friendship Cafe

Old Lyonians Sports Ground every 1st Wednesday of the month 1.30PM - 3.30PM

Sewing Classes*

at Harrow Carers Office Our sewing classes are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month 1.30PM - 3.30PM

*Please bring along some cotton material, a needle & thread, scissors, pencil and paper

Pilates

Sometimes our bodies crave gentle and relaxing movements and this is the perfect Pilates workout for those days. Beginners and improvers welcome

Every Wednesday at Old Lyonians Sports Ground 11.30 AM - 12.15PM

Yoga

A gentle and steady-paced class suitable for absolute beginners, the focus on simple movement to encourage more body awareness and physical mobility including breath and meditation.

Every Monday at Old Lyonians Sports Ground. 10:30AM- 1:30PM

Qigong

Qigong coordinates flowing movement and breathing to develop the mind and body holistically, with a guided visualisation to promote health and enhance internal energy levels. Please wear comfortable clothing, bring along a water bottle and aim to arrive 5 minutes early to get ready for the session.

> Every Friday at Old Lyonians Sports Ground 1:45PM- 3PM



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*If you would like to join any of the activities please contact wellbeingeharrowcarers.org 020 8868 5224 x 214 for joining instructions.

SUPPORT GROUPS



Community Hub

Old Lyonians Sports Ground everyThursday of the month 11AM - 3PM

Venue Addresses

Old Lyonians Sports Ground, 74 Pinner View HA14QF

> Harrow Carers Office 376-378 Pinner Road HA2 6DZ

Mental Health Support Group

Do you care for someone with a mental health condition? If so, join us from 1.30pm to 2.30pm every **2nd Friday** online using the following link:

https://zoom.us/j/99301850653?pwd=anhEdnB6M0tHTDhOSTAySjBoSHdUZz09 Meeting ID: 993 0185 0653 / Password: 905117

Or, join us in person at Harrow Carers office in North Harrow from 1.30PM-2.30PM every 4th Friday of the month - it is a drop-in group so no registration/booking is required.

*If you would like to join any of the activities please contact *wellbeing@harrowcarers.org or* 020 8868 5224 x 214 for joining instructions.



B

YACs Workshop on eating disorders and self harm

We will be hosting a workshop for Young Adult Carers on Wednesday 21st June at 6pm, to raise awareness on eating disorders and self-harm. We hope to inform and educate our YACs on these significant topics and discuss them in a safe and non-judgmental environment. The workshop will be carried out by our Psychological Wellbeing Practitioner, Disha Patel. For more information, please contact <u>disha.pateleharrowcarers.org</u>





Elevate Carers meet every Tuesday 11am-12.30pm. We alternate weekly from Zoom and (after a break due to restrictions) now back in person, in the Harrow Carers meeting room. This is a forum where unpaid Carers offload and support each other with our issues. We are primarily self-sufficient with Harrow Carers staff setting up the zoom platform or meeting room.

All unpaid carers are welcome

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES



YOU DECIDE!

We are in the process of booking our September-October CREATE workshops and we need your opinion on which one to book.

If you are interested in attending any of the following please email wellbeing@harrowcarers.org and we will endeavour to book the most popular course.

The choices are:

★ Painting and Drawing

- 🛨 Dance
- 🔶 Animation
- 🛧 Sculpture
- 🛨 Drama



Stop & Grow

Harrow Carers have a new opportunity to be part of a Gardening Project on The Ridgeway in West Harrow/Rayners Lane.

The Stop and Grow Project is run by Harrow Council. It aims to help improve mental health and wellbeing, encourage physical activity, and reduce social isolation through gardening and horticulture as part of a supervised group. If you would like to be referred over to the project please email wellbeing@harrowcarers.org or telephone 020 8868 5224.





Krishna (left) the first carer we have referred to the Stop & Grow Project and Melinda Wright who runs the Stop & Grow project.

The Creative Writing Workshop Starts in JUNE!

Connect, find and develop your writing skills

We have the excellent CREATE returning in June with 6 weekly Creative Writing & Poetry workshops.

The workshops take place on Thursdays from 10.30am – 1:30pm at 74 Pinner View, HA1 4QF

We welcome carers of any writing ability or none - it is open to all who apply.

Sessions are on Thursday 15th, 22nd and 29th of June, Then on Thursday 6th, 13th and 20th of July.

Please email <u>wellbeing@harrowcarers.org</u> asap to book your place on the 6 week course.

"Meeting other carers helped me feel more confident and supported and prepared on what to expect in the future", Carer quote

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

FIND YOUR VOICE - SING FOR LIFE

We are currently working to secure 10 weekly choir sessions hosted by a professional choirmaster.

Delivering sessions on posture, heart health and breathing. Enabling health and wellbeing benefits of singing as a group. We welcome all adult carers to join us to find your voice!

Currently, we expect the 2-hour-long workshops to take place on Fridays, sometime between 10 and 1pm – TBC.

Please email <u>wellbeing@harrowcarers.org</u> to express an interest – we can facilitate up to 30 carers so please come forward and get involved.

STRENGTHEN AND BALANCE WORKSHOPS

By popular demand we have secured another 6 sessions lead by a professional Occupational Therapist with 40 years' experience!

The Strengthen & Balance workshops build up your core strength and help to prevent future falls.

We recommend you come to all 6 if you can.

Monday 19th June 12 – 1pm Monday 26th June 12 – 1pm

Monday 10th July 12 – 1pm Monday 24th July 12 – 1pm

Monday 7th August 12 – 1pm Monday 14th August 12 – 1pm

Please let us know if you would like to attend by emailing <u>wellbeing@harrowcarers.org</u>

Upcoming at the Community Hub

On the 22nd of June we have a representative from Harrow Electoral services visiting our Community Hub at 12.30 to speak about the upcoming changes taking place when registering to vote .

VOTE





Join our WhatsApp for carers which will be used to provide updates on events and reminders. Please text '*join whatsapp group*' to **07736 923 442**

with your full name and carer card number. You will then be sent an invitation link to join.

Visit the Financial Assessors from Harrow Council

We are happy to announce that we will have Financial Assessors from Harrow Council returning, which you are welcome to book in to see on any of the following times and dates:

29/06/202310am - 14:00pm27/07/202310am - 14:00pm31/08/202310am - 14:00pm28/09/202310am - 14:00pm26/10/202310am - 14:00pm

Please let us know when you would like to attend, with a brief outline of the type of support you need, by emailing: wellbeing@harrowcarers.org



FIND YOUR

SPECIAL EVENTS







Could your business sponsor or contribute towards our event? We are also looking for raffle prizes. If anyone would be kind enough to donate a prize, no matter how big or small, please get in touch – this will help us with raising funds. For more information, please email

rehna.tanna@harrowcarers. org or call 0208 868 5224

Carers Week 5-11 June 2023

Carers Week 2023 is right around the corner. This year's campaign will run from 5-11 June with the theme of **Recognising and supporting carers in the community**. It's all about communities coming together to recognise the huge contribution unpaid carers make to society.

This year we have some very exciting events planned, so please save the dates!

Monday 5th June – Harrow Carers Centre and North Harrow High street

Tuesday 6th June –Pinn Medical and Elliott Hall Medical Centre (please call us for exact timings)

Wednesday 7th June – We will be at Northwick Park Hospital from 10am-3pm

Thursday 8th June– We will be at the Conversation Cafe in Harrow Town Centre

Friday 9th June – Family Fun Day 2pm-6pm at Old Lyonians Sports Ground. Let's celebrate carers in the community with a fabulous fun-filled day of family fun.

Friday 9th June – Family Fun Day 2-6pm Let's celebrate carers in the community with a fabulous fun-filled day of family fun. We will have food, children's entertainment and much more...



Conversation Café lead by Allie Brice Carer Lead, Harrow Council

Bringing unpaid Carers and the people they care for together to have direct face-to-face support from adult social care. Held at different locations in Harrow, Allie and her team will be supporting us throughout Carers week taking the Conversation café to all

events and sharing Social Care info and advice during the week. please email carers@harrow.gov.uk to receive updates from Allie.

Support unpaid carers while boosting your skills and meeting new people

We are looking for volunteers to help us make a difference to the lives of unpaid carers in Harrow over Carers Week. Fantastic opportunity to develop and enjoy new experiences. You'll connect with your community, meet new people, learn new skills and share what you know.



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We are holding an information session for carers to highlight our volunteering opportunities at Harrow Carers on Thursday 1st June 2-4pm at Old Lyonians. Contact rehna.tanna@harrowcarers.org for more information



YOUR HEALTH

We currently have a few places available on our next 5-week Dementia programme commencing on the 11th of July 2023.

Please contact Roshanthi.Pereira@harrowcarers.org, if you are interested in joining this programme or would like to know more about the Dementia Carers Support Project

Important Update - No Friendship café in June due to Carers week.

Dementia Awareness Event.

Harrow Carers worked in partnership with Harrow Council, Bentley House, and Millman's Day centre.

The focus of the day was to raise awareness on Early diagnosis and inform our carers about what support is available for carers who are supporting someone with Dementia. Our carers supported us and spoke to carers about what support is available. A big thank you to all our carers who attended on the day. It was a great success. We spoke to 30 carers throughout the day and one of our carers spoke to 5 carers who spoke Gujarati.

If you are caring for someone with memory issues it is important to get an early diagnosis so, can you receive the right level of support.

We will have representatives from Bentley House and Millman's Day centre coming along to our final event at Old Lyonians on Friday 9th June 2023. Why not pop along and have a chat with them?





At Old Lyonians Sports Ground, 74 Pinner View HA1 4QF from 1.30 pm -3pm. MORE INFORMATION **Roshanthi** Pereira Dementia Team Leader Tel: 020 8868 5224 Email: roshanthi.pereira@harrowcarers.org





Roshanthi.pereira@harrowcarers.org

Remember to tell your GP that you are an unpaid carer

Let your GP know that you are a carer and ask if this could be registered on your medical record. All GP practices will have a carer registration form.

Harrow Carers

ADVICE AND BENEFITS

Our services are available to anyone who provides care and support for a friend or relative in the community, regardless of the amount of care you provide. Please call us to speak to one of our specialist advisers (Radha or Anne) on 020 8868 5224 for specialist support and guidance.

Get Support 205

A free and easy-to-use Benefits Calculator and Grants Search tools to check what benefits you might be able to claim and what grants you might be able to apply for. One really helpful website is <u>https://grants-search.turn2us.org.uk/</u>



Hospital Discharge Team

Our Hospital discharge service has extended their hours until 5pm Monday to Friday. We support patients to go home from hospital. Our team visit patients on the ward and will carry out an assessment and then will take you home in a taxi. This service is free of charge.

State pensioners with arthritis or joint pain could get an extra £101 each month Millions of pensioners are missing out on a Government benefit that could add £407 every four weeks to one's income.

There are around 56 health conditions that could qualify someone for financial support. State pensioners with one of these 56 conditions could claim Attendance Allowance - visit <u>www.gov.uk/attendance-allowance</u>. As the cost of living crisis continues, Carers are urged to check if they qualify for extra cash.

Your donations help us improve our services and help us reach and support more unpaid carers, when they need it most.

Do you have a contingency plan?

A contingency plan is a course of action designed to help in responding effectively to a significant future event or situation that may or may not happen.

Harrow Carers, Harrow Council and Unpaid Carers have developed a contingency plan for carers in the event that they are unable to provide care at short notice Please click to download your free copy for self-completion or contact us to have one sent to

you in person

<u>Click here to download Carer</u> <u>Contingency Planning for</u> <u>children with a disability under</u> <u>the age of 25</u>

<u>Click here to download Carer</u> <u>Contingency Planning for an</u> <u>Adult</u>



NOTICE BOARD

CARERS GOT TALENT

IN CELEBRATION OF CARERS WEEK 2023 WE ARE LOOKING FOR CARERS TO TAKE PART IN OUR 'CARERS GOT TALENT' EVENT

Are you a Carer? Do you have a hidden talent? Sing a song, read a poem, read a story. Sign up for a 5 minute slot and come and share your talent. Slots are limited and allocated on a first come first-serve basis. All welcome.

> To register, please email Roshanthi.pereira@harrowcarers.org

> > FRIDAY 9th June 2023 OLD LYONIANS GROUND 74 Pinner View, Harrow, HAI4QF

DO YOU HAVE A HIDDEN TALENT?



Health Wellbeing and Craft Fair

Harrow Carers

SATURDAY JUNE 3RD 11-6PM JOHN LYONIAN SPORTS GROUND PINNER VIEW HA1 4QF

40+ Arena of stalls for Arts and Crafts, Jewellery, Crystals, Personalised Gifts, Fairy Wreaths, Homeware & Accessories, New Age, Candles, Clothes, Pet Products, Eco, Chamak Craft much more!

> Entry £2.00 Under 12 years Free Cash only on gate

Special offer Harrow Carers go free - please present your Carer Card at the gate.

SELENITE SOUL PRESENTS

SPIRIT OF SUMMER Health Wellness & Craft Fair SATURDAY 3RD JUNE

11AM-6PM

40 + ARTS & CRAFTS ARENA JEWELLERY * CANDLES * CRYSTALS HENNA * NEW AGE * GIFTS * NATIVE CRAFT

HOLISTIC THERAPIES * BOWEN * MASSAGE ACCESS BARS * YOGA * PSYCHIC * PALM * READINGS * AURA PHOTOGRAPHY AND MORE

CHILDRENS ZONE * RIDES * FACEPAINT ING

SOUL JAMMING*SOUNDBATH MUSIC

HILLINGDON ARTISTS ART WORKSHOPS ALL DAY

STREETFOOD * REFRESHMENTS * SWEET TREATS

OLD LYONIAN SPORTS GROUND 74 PINNER VIEW

ENTRY £2.00 CHILDREN UNDER 12 FREE HARROW HA14QF







CHARITY UPDATE







From left - Charmian Boyd, CEO Harrow Carers, Allie Brice, Carers Lead Harrow Council & Christine Bushell, Advances Nurse Practitioner at St Peters Medical Centre

Implementing the Borough's Carers Strategy 2023 - 2026

The borough partnership (an alliance of health, social care and the voluntary sector) has now launched its' strategy for Carers in Harrow. Now we are moving on to the implementation phase. This means translating the fine words into actions that make a difference to you. The implementation group meets regularly to take forward different parts of the strategy online fortnightly or monthly – usually on a Weds at 3pm – 4pm

We are seeking up to 4 more Carers from different backgrounds to help us oversee the implementation of the strategy. There are a number of key performance indicators which we will be tracking, and we will be seeking updates from relevant organisations and helping them make plans where necessary. Volunteer Carers will be asked to read the information before each meeting and scrutinize the work that is being carried out, holding responsible bodies to account by asking questions and seeking assurances. We are seeking volunteers who have experience in caring and are used to being part of a group that works collegiately and effectively.

Please contact charmian.boyd@harrowcarers.org if you are interested.

CLICK HERE TO READ THE FULL STRATEGY

HEALTH CAMPAIGNS

COMMUNITY HEALTH

LEAD ON CO-PRODUCTION

ENGAGEMENT & ACTIVITIES

We Care Feedback Survey

There is still time to have your say The survey is for all carers being supported by Harrow Carers.

It is completely anonymous unless you would like to be identified, so we can respond to something you have said, in which case you can add your name. It takes less than 10 minutes to complete.

Here is a link to complete the survey online.

Click here to complete the survey

If you would like a paper version of the survey to complete you can get one by contacting us.

Thank you for your time





Lead Community Health Champion

Taking the lead in raising awareness of diabetes and hypertension in the local community.

Are you passionate about engaging with communities and helping people to make positive changes to their health and well-being? We would love to hear from you. For more information visit https://harrowcarers.org/job_opportunities

 £22,500 PA

 PENSION SCHEME

 21 HR WEEK FOR

 17 MONTHS

 THE ROLE

 • RECRUIT AND TRAIN

 COMMUNITY HEALTH

 CHAMPION VOLUNTEERS

 • ORGANISE & LEAD

 COMMUNITY

FULL TRAINING PROVIDED

Expressions of interest or any questions please email :

Colin.Powell@harrowcarers.org

CHARITY UPDATES

Thank you to our friends and supporters!

Our achievements have been made possible thanks to the many friends we have worked with over the last 26 years. Together, we have worked on to make sure thousands of carers and their families in Harrow can have a better everyday life and a brighter future. As we look forward to the next 26 years, we would like to thank everyone who has been part of this journey so far.



We wanted to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to the wonderful Janet Mote, former Mayor of Harrow. A true inspiration and a tremendous supporter of Harrow Carers. Thank you for choosing Harrow Young Carers as one of your charities of the year and for your continued support for our carers.

We would like to congratulate the new Mayor of Harrow: Cllr Ramji Chauhan and wish him all the best in his Mayoral role.



We would also like to thank the amazing women of Harrow on the Hill Women's Institute for choosing Harrow Carers as their Charity of the year.

The institutes energy, fundraising efforts and compassion for unpaid carers of all ages is truly appreciated by all at Harrow Carers.

As part of saying thank you to HHWI for their tremendous support and fundraising efforts, we carried out two evenings of introductory archery.

The evenings were great fun and opened up the world of archery to some who had never used a bow and arrow before. The women were "on target" and we could definitely see budding, future archers in the making!

Free, fortnightly, Thursday afternoon archery sessions take place at 74 Pinner View HA1 4QF.





WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! YOUR LIVES, YOUR STORIES.... Maybe you've got a cleaning tip, a recipe idea, a useful piece of advice or a funny story? Whatever you want to get off your chest, put it to paper or email and send it to us

SERVICE UPDATES

YOUNG CARERS



All services and activities are free for young carers 17 years of age or younger:

- We offer drop-ins at schools, helping your school understand about your role as a young carer and providing practical support and advice in a confidential environment
- We offer monthly outings, activities and educational events to give you a break from your caring role and introduce you to other young carers who may be going through something similar
- During half-term breaks and summer holidays, we offer residential trips, fun activities and educational events.
- 1 to 1 support according to your need
- We offer family support including home visits where appropriate

And much more...

If you feel you are a young carer call us on 0208 868 5224 (ext. 226). Alternatively, email us at youngcarers@harrowcarers.org Follow us on Instagram: @Harrow.YoungCarers for updates and pictures from events!

Adult Services Update by Karen Gilchrist, Adult Services Manager



We have had a busy couple of months within our Adult Services for unpaid carers. We introduced our strength and balance classes with Meenaxi Shah which were very successful with 15-20 carers attending each session. In the feedback on these sessions our carers asked for these to continue and we have now introduced an ongoing program on Mondays for these sessions.

Our Warm Hubs which take place every Thursday will be changing into community hubs, we are looking for volunteers to help at our Community Hub. If you know anyone who would like to volunteer, please email me at <u>Karen.gilchristeharrow.org</u>

Our Create groups will be starting again in June. More information is in this edition of the Newsletter. We will look forward to seeing you all during Carers Week. We will be out and about across the borough raising awareness on what support is available for unpaid carers. If you would like to get involved, please get in touch.

If you would like to get in touch and let me know what you think of any of our services or have any ideas on what else we should provide please let me know.

In the coming months, I will be working closely with Bentley House and Millman's centre to support carers more. I will also be working closely with G.P Practices and Care homes.

YOUNG ADULT

Finance Workshop starting 31st May and 7th June 2023

GOOD DEBT VS. BAD DEBT INVESTING FOR BEGINNERS © CREDIT SCORE THE EVOLUTION OF MONEY MONEY MANAGEMENT S.M.A.R.T GOAL SETTING



BECOME ABT CREDITED IN EYELASH EXTENSION for 16-25 years 6 week course starting 28th June - 2nd August 2023

Contact kevin.lema@harrowcarers.org

SERVICE UPDATES

ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT HOME CARE

It can be difficult thinking about arranging care at home. Alongside practical and financial issues there's the emotional impact and many carers report feelings of guilt and loss and not knowing where to turn for information.

Harrow Carers Home Care service provides individuals and unpaid carers with help and support with tasks according to individual needs. Affordable, personalised quality care provided in your own home, from hourly, daily, night, or weekly care visits, right through to the dedicated support of a 24-hour live-in carer

Contact us today for more information and to book your free, no-obligation telephone consultation or pop in for a cuppa to discuss your needs and how we can help.

https://harrowcarers-homecare.org 03300 882224 / homecare@harrowcaeres.org





COULD YOU BENEFIT FROM HOMESHARE?



We have had an exciting month with some great referrals for new clients who are now enjoying the benefits of having a homesharer living with them, and enjoying nutritious dinners cooked by our homesharers.

How does it work?

We match Homeowners with potential Sharers using a thorough vetting process that starts with getting to know both well. Having an in-depth understanding of what a Homeowner's needs are means we can match them to the right Sharer. It's important to us to get it right, the first time. For full details of the process, please give us a call.

Novus Homeshare brings together people with spare rooms with people who are happy to chat and lend a hand around the house in return for safe, secure, affordable accommodation.

If you know someone who may benefit from this service, please let us know or ask them to give us a call on 03300 88 2225 or visit <u>https://www.novus-homeshare.org.uk</u>

FINAL NOTES



Are you looking for a venue for your event?

Then we have the perfect place for you. Situated on beautiful, lush grounds, indoor and outdoor space available - ideal for the perfect event! Old Lyonian Sports Ground, 74 Pinner View, Harrow HA1 4QF Speak to Colin for more information.



Leave a gift in your will

By choosing to make a gift in your will to Carers UK you can affect change for unpaid carers long into the future. Leave a lasting legacy today.

Caring will affect all of us at some point in our lives, that's why including a gift in your will to Harrow Carers is so important. Your gift will enable us to keep working towards a society in which carers are respected, valued, and supported.

Please give us a call for further information



We have lots of exciting plans for the week – more information will be coming soon, so watch this space!

<u>Stay in touch</u>

If you use email, make sure you're signed up to receive our monthly e-mail news bulletin. Every month we'll send you up-to-date, useful information for carers. Subscribe by contacting

us at: admin@harrowcarers.org or 020 8868 5224

Please let us know if you need a large-print version of our postal newsletter.

Counselling Services

Our counselling service offers a safe place for you to be listened to, without judgment, to help you understand your thoughts and feelings. We can help you make sense of what you're going through and support you with the difficulties you're experiencing. Please give us a call on 0208 868 5224 or email talk@harrowcarers.org for next steps.



USEFUL LINKS & CONTACTS

<u>Getting help from the NHS</u> : the NHS urges the public to get care when they need it..

<u>Samaritans</u>: if you need to talk to someone.

<u>Mind in Harrow:</u> Top tips on managing your mental health.

<u>GOV.UK</u>: What you need to know about coronavirus

Harrow Council: Council updates.

<u>Carers UK</u>: Expert advice, information and support

O<u>k Rehab</u>: Specialise in addiction treatment.

OUR NEWSLETTERS WILL NOW BE ISSUED EVERY 2 MONTHS AND JAM PACKED WITH MORE INFORMATION AND ACTIVITIES