

## CARING TOGETHER IN WOODHOUSE & LITTLE LONDON



### NEWSLETTER

# *Good News Special!*

## Caring Together appoints a new Activities Organiser

Following the excellent news from the Henry Smith Charity, and 3 years funding to appoint a new Activities Organiser, we now have a new worker!

Over the Summer, we advertised this Caring Together post and had an overwhelming response. We received 48 applications for the Activities Organiser post and interviewed 5 candidates on 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

We are delighted to have appointed Sara Allkins, as our new Activities Organiser and she will take up her new job with Caring Together on 17<sup>th</sup> October. Sara has all the skills, experience and enthusiasm that we are looking for, to deliver interesting activities and events for our members.

Commenting on her new job, Sara had this to say:

Hello. My name is Sara and I'm the new Activities Organiser. I've worked with community groups in & around Leeds for 15 years now, organising events and activities from tea parties to theatre productions.

I couldn't be more pleased to be joining the team at Caring Together and can't wait to get started. I've heard loads about the groups and the lovely things that Pauline made happen; so as soon as I start in October I'll be coming into the groups to meet you all and find out what you like doing now and what you'd like to do in the future.

Looking forward to meeting you soon

Sara



**We offer a great big welcome to Sara and look forward to her starting work with us**

## **Zurich Community Trust – Local Partnership**

Following a short application process, we are thrilled to have been chosen by Zurich Community Trust as one of their local partners in Leeds

Our Charity will receive 3 years funding towards our essential running costs and, in addition, Zurich employees will offer their time to us, in a voluntary capacity. We are very grateful for this wonderful support.

We have been very pleased to welcome Tracey Noble to our organisation. Up until recently, she was a Zurich employee and is now working in a voluntary capacity, to help us carry out a consultation exercise with the older people we work with.

**\*\*Watch out for the Caring Together questionnaire and please do your best to fill it in and return to us. We are very keen to have your views, about the way we work with local older people.**

## **Sainsburys (Merrion Centre) adopt Caring Together as their local charity 2011/2012**

Imagine our astonishment when Joanne Brown, Manager at Sainsburys (Merrion Centre), phoned Cherril and told her that their customers had adopted Caring Together as their charity of the year!

Following a meeting with Joanne, and her colleague, Jane, lots of good things are planned and including raising funds, sponsored events, employee volunteering and help with printing and distribution of our newsletter. They also hope to help us with Christmas food parcels for our oldest members.

A great big thank you to our local Sainsburys and their customers.

### **Woodhouse Methodist Church Final Collection**

We were delighted and deeply touched, when Woodhouse Methodist Church gave their final church collection to Caring Together.

A princely sum of £450 was donated to us.

We remain sad about the closure of Woodhouse Methodist Church but will always keep fond memories of the strong links between us and the church

### **Pauline's new Knee!**

We are pleased to report that Pauline has had her knee replacement operation and is recovering, with help from her devoted husband, Bill.

Pauline is determined to convalesce quickly and return to us as a volunteer, as soon as possible

## Skippko invite us to have "A Nice Cup of Tea"

Caring Together are very happy to have been chosen for Skippko Arts Project's, 'A Nice Cup of Tea' initiative.



A small group of our members, volunteer and staff are enjoying this 15 week project and getting messy with paint, glue and other interesting material. There is also lots of laughing and two great young artists, Rozi and Sarah, helping us find our creative side.

We have worked successfully with Skippko in the past. We were involved with the 'We made our own fun' scheme

and produced a brilliant tapestry and then a few years later, 'Tall Tales' a wonderful cloth book depicting parts of Woodhouse & Little London and pastimes and jobs

We have every confidence that another 'work of art will be produced on the theme of 'A Nice Cup of Tea'.

### ***Year One of our Capacity Building Support Project***

It seems unbelievable that Lisa has now been working for Caring Together for 12 months and what a difference her work has made, funded by the Big Lottery Fund.

We are now able to recruit excellent volunteers, offer them regular support and training and match all these brilliant volunteers, with all aspects of our work with older people. In addition, Lisa has established a fantastic intergenerational computer project, for a steady procession of Caring Together members, ably assisted by some of our own volunteers, CALM student volunteers and City of Leeds School.

If that's not enough! She has also set up an innovative reminiscence group 'Memoirs' and, in partnership with Valerie, runs regular Healthy Living sessions and FeelGood Days.

For more information about any of our group activities, phone us on ☎243 0298

### **Soroptimists Christmas Food Collection comes to an end**

After 16 years, the Soroptimists will be unable to organise the M&S food collection this December. We would like to put on record, our sincere thanks to all the lovely Soroptimists, who stood outside Moortown's M&S store in all weathers and collected lovely foodstuffs for our oldest members. We are trying to find an alternative way of organising this initiative

## Caring Together Party



Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2011



2.30pm to 5.30pm - Jubilee Club, Woodhouse

Please find enclosed, your invitation to the Caring Together annual party 2011.

If you want to join us, and we hope you will, please return the tear-off slip as soon as possible. We need to know the numbers to cater for and to arrange transport for our more disabled members.

The party promises to be lots of fun. Hilary Benn MP and the Lord Mayor have promised to attend. Horizon will perform and there will be a fab raffle and a tasty buffet meal

### Caring Together Allotment!

From the beginning of September Caring Together will have access to four raised beds within Woodhouse Allotment on Woodhouse Moor. This is a wonderful opportunity that we could not pass up and a small group of our lovely volunteers have agreed to look after this project.

This plot will be open to all members. The project is in the very early stages at the moment so we will keep you informed.



Watch this space!

### Update on building works at Woodhouse Community Centre

At the time of writing, building work seems to be progressing well at Woodhouse Community Centre. Oblong have told us that we might be able to move back there in November 2011. They have asked us to choose the colour of our office carpets!

In the meantime, we are perfectly settled at 6 Holborn Court and we have made lots of new friends, amongst the local residents. We will keep you informed, when we do move back to Woodhouse Community Centre



THE HENRY SMITH CHARITY



the Tudor trust