



Carers 4 Carers

Finding support through supporting each other

March 2015

Welcome to this March edition. I expect you are like me, longing for some warm spring days which make us all feel better and life a little easier.

On April 1st, the 2014 Care Act comes into effect and you may be aware of a flurry of announcements on the radio and in the newspaper. It is not possible to cover the contents of the Care Act in this two-page newsletter but I've attempted to outline some of the aims on the back page. I plan to invite a speaker who will be able to give us a better overview later in the year. This quote from the Care Minister, Norman Lamb, goes some way to explain why the new Act is needed. No wonder we were all so confused!

“Until now it's been almost impossible for people who need care, carers, and even those who manage the care system, to understand how the previous law affecting them worked. Over nearly 70 years it has been added to again and again and is out of date and confusing. The Care Act has created a single, modern law that makes it clear what kind of care people should expect.”

Please pass on to anyone you know with a concern about dementia that the March meeting is open to non-carers. The more people we can reach out to, the better.

Finally, I hope to see as many of you as possible at our fundraising Afternoon Tea on 17th April. Tickets will be on sale from next week and available for those of you able to get to the meeting on 27th March. Alternatively you can buy them from Flower Thyme or leave a message on my phone.

OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS

Carers 4 Carers' monthly meetings take place on the **fourth** Friday of the month. We meet at the Kinton Village Hall, Mill Street, Kinton, CV35 OLB between 10.30 and 12 noon. We always start with time for coffee and chat and then, if a speaker or workshop is scheduled, this will usually begin at about 11 o'clock. Come when you can and stay for as long as you are able.

March 27th—Louise Gillard-Owen from the Alzheimers Society will be our guest and we are opening this meeting to the general public. Louise will outline the different forms of dementia and discuss ways in which we can

help those living with it, both patient and carer. She will bring along a selection of assistive aids and allow time for questions.

April 24th—we will have no speaker this month and so have more time for talking, sharing experiences and enjoying some of Anita's lovely therapeutic massages.

May 22nd— Cat Rowe from AdvoCATE Services will talk about independent advocacy, what it is and who can benefit from it. Access to advocacy will be a right under the new Act for those less able to speak for themselves.

Carers 4 Carers is one of a network of Omega Care for Life Meeting Point Support Groups

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Care Act 2014 - an overview of some of the key points

The new act aims to achieve:

- Clearer, fairer care and support
- Address the physical, emotional and mental wellbeing of both the person needing care and their carer
- Put people in control of their care
- Prevent and delay the need for care and support

The new emphasis on individual wellbeing is the underlying principle of the Act and the driving force behind care and support.

Local authorities will be required to make sure that everyone has access to information and advice on care and support and independent advocacy must be arranged if a person is unable to participate in or understand the care and support system.

There must be a smooth transition for young people moving to adult social care.

Anyone—and that includes carers—who appears to be in need of care or support, is entitled to an assessment. There will be a national eligibility threshold that will be applied to decide whether an individual has eligible needs.

The Act strengthens the rights of carers in the social care system, for the first time giving them a clear right to receive services.

The Care Act covers adult social care in England . The Children and Families Act 2014 includes new duties for the assessment of young carers and parent carers of children under 18.

We're putting on the Ritz

Join us for *Afternoon Tea*

Friday 17th April 3—5 p.m.

Kineton Village Hall



On the menu

Dainty sandwiches

Scones with jam and cream

Fancy cakes

Raffle

Craft Stall

Tickets: £5 per person or £8 for two from
Flower Thyme, Kineton or phone 01926 640203
In aid of Carers4Carers

What better way to spend the afternoon than drinking tea (or coffee) with friends and enjoying delicious dainty sandwiches, scones and cakes? Where else could you find all that for £5 ? At the same time you'll be contributing towards the group's funds. Go on, put the diet to one side for the afternoon and come along and join us.

We would also welcome offers of help from those of you who feel able. We need cake and scone makers, items for the raffle and a couple of extra pairs of hands in the kitchen.

This is the first time we have had a major fund-raising event, although we have raised funds in other ways since our inception. Let's make it a real success.

We now have a page on the new Kineton Village website. It includes up-to-date details of our meetings. Go to www.kineton.info and click on "Clubs and Groups".