



Working to improve the lives of carers

Carers News

Open consultation Blue Badge scheme: consultation on eligibility

The Blue Badge scheme plays a vital role in allowing 2.4 million disabled people in England to maintain their independence through special national parking concessions. The badges are important in helping to prevent social exclusion and isolation, and they contribute to the ability of their holders to secure and maintain long term employment. Without the scheme, 75% of badge holders have said that they would go out less often.

The government believes that the Blue Badge scheme should not discriminate between physical and non-physical disabilities. The current rules embrace all conditions, physical or otherwise, but it has become clear that the regulations and guidance are not clearly understood by local authorities. People with hidden disabilities may be finding it difficult to access badges, even though their condition causes them very significant difficulties when undertaking a journey. The department of health has accordingly committed to look again at how the scheme works for people with hidden disabilities, to ensure that the rules and guidance are clear and that those with the greatest needs have access to a Blue Badge.

The consultation document discusses the key issues involved, and presents ideas for improving the rules. The challenge will be to ensure a scheme that is both sustainable and works for all who are eligible for it, whatever their disability. Anyone with an interest in the blue badge scheme can help to shape the ideas in the document and assist the department of health by responding constructively to this consultation. Closing date 18th March 2018

Get involved online at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/blue-badge-disabled-parking-scheme-eligibility-review>
Gov.uk/Blue badge scheme eligibility review

Emergency Back Up Plans

Do you worry about what will happen to the person you care for if you had an emergency? The emergency back-up plan scheme aims to help carers put together a plan of support for the cared for person if the carer is involved in an emergency such as illness or hospitalisation.

If you would like to know more or would like to set up an emergency back-up plan,

please contact our office on 01422 369101

If you already have a Back-up plan in place, but need to make amendments please contact us so we can update the plan.

Your Carers Support Groups

Please ring Janet at Calderdale Carers before attending for the first time. All speakers must register with Janet.

 <p>Halifax Group VAC Resource Centre, Hall Street, Halifax, HX1 5AY</p>	<p>1st Tuesday of the month 1pm - 2.30pm</p>	<p>6th March 3rd April 1st May 5th June</p>
 <p>Lower Valley Group Brighthouse Library Halifax Road Brighthouse, HD6 2AF</p>	<p>1st Thursday of the month 1.30pm - 3pm</p>	<p>1st March 5th April 3rd May 7th June</p>
 <p>Todmorden Group Todmorden Health Centre, Halifax Road, Todmorden, OL14 5RN</p>	<p>2nd Tuesday of the month 11am - 12.30pm</p>	<p>13th March 10th April 8th May 12th June</p>
 <p>Sowerby Bridge Group St Paul's Church, Tower Hill, Sowerby Bridge HX6 2EQ</p>	<p>3rd Wednesday of the month 1.30pm - 3pm</p>	<p>21st March 18th April 16th May 20th June</p>

Sitters & Transport

If you cannot leave the person that you care for we can often arrange and pay for a professional agency to come and sit for them to enable you to attend the group or any of activities that we organise.

These will be clearly marked with the tick above.

We do require a minimum of 10 days notice.

We can also pay for transport and /or parking if you are unable to use public transport.

Please note we do not carry cash and normally pay expenses by bank credit

Thank You!

A big thank to everyone who has kindly made a donation to Calderdale Carers Project

These donations have gone towards providing transport for carers to attend our events

Thank you again for your generosity.

Healthy Minds have moved!

**1 King Street, Halifax HX1
1SR**

(1 King Street is on the corner opposite
Woolshops car park.)

There is limited parking to the rear and lots of
parking on-street or in public car parks nearby

Phone us on **01422 345154**

Email us:

info@healthymindscalderdale.co.uk

Our Services to You

Calderdale Carers are here to support you as a carer, offering a person centred service to support you in your caring role and empower you through self management. We have a dedicated young adult carer service for carers aged 18-25, monthly support groups, emergency back-up plans, regular newsletter and carers needs assessments. Please get in touch on 01422 369101 if you would like to know more about these services.

We also want to make sure we are not contacting carers who no longer wish to be contacted.

If you no longer wish to be registered with us please call 01422 369101

National Insurance – Protect your record... Deadline 5th April 2018

Carers may be missing out on future state pension entitlement because they are unaware that they can claim Carer's Credit. **This is not a benefit payable to you but can affect your future State Pension entitlement if you are not already in receipt of it.** Carer's Credit can help to fill gaps in your national insurance record if you have not been in paid work (and paying NI contributions) or claiming a relevant benefit, e.g. Carers Allowance. These gaps may include time you have had a break from caring, or you or the person you care for have been in hospital. You may also be able to claim it if someone else is claiming Carers Allowance for the same person.

To claim Carer's Credit you need to be looking after someone for at least 20 hours a week. They should be getting one of the following benefits:-

- middle or higher rate care component of Disability Living Allowance
- the daily living component of Personal Independence Payment
- Attendance Allowance or Constant Attendance Allowance
- Armed Forces Independence Payment.

You may still be able to get Carer's Credit if the person you care for doesn't get any of these benefits. You will need to complete a Care Certificate with your application and get a health or social care professional to sign it for you. This is something that Calderdale Carers can help you with.

You can only claim for the previous year, therefore, if you want to claim for the 6 April 2017 to 5 April 2018 tax year you need to claim before **5 April 2018**.

For more information contact Carer's Allowance Unit on 03456084321

or online at www.gov.uk/carers-credit/how-to-claim

or ring Geraldine or Lydia at Calderdale Carers on 01422 369101.

Please note the views or opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily the views of Calderdale Carers but of individual contributors.

What's On in Calderdale!!!

Have fun, learn new skills, make new friends



**TO A YOUNG HEART,
EVERYTHING IS FUN.**
Charles Dickens

Spaces now available Saturdays and
Sundays
£15 per day including transport, 2 course
lunch, refreshments, activities and
entertainment

Call 07825 429034 to find out more



Our Place is a project of VAC. VAC is the operating name of Voluntary Action Calderdale, A Registered Charity No 1087518 and Company Limited by Guarantee registered in England No 4115224.

Daisy's
—Cafe—

DEMENTIA FRIENDLY TODMORDEN

CAFE DATES 2018

TODMORDEN HEALTH CENTRE. 11-1:30PM

January 6th

February 3rd

MARCH 3RD

APRIL 7TH

May 5th

June 2nd

JULY 7TH

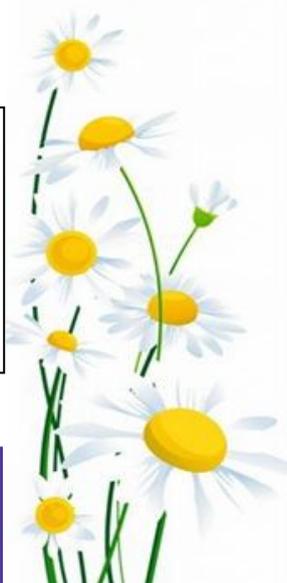
August 4th

September 1st

OCTOBER 6TH

NOVEMBER 3RD

DECEMBER 1ST



Memory Lane Café Halifax

- Crafts
- Advice
- Support
- Games
- Conversation
- Music
- Activities
- Information

Maurice Jagger Centre
(opp Halifax Bus Station)
Lister Street
Winding Road
Halifax
HX1 1UZ

Every 1st & 3rd Wednesday
from 2.00pm - 4.00pm
£2 including refreshments

2017
Nov...1 and 15
Dec...6

2018
Jan...3 and 17
Feb...7 and 21
Mar...7 and 21
Apr...4 and 18
May...2 and 16
Jun...6 and 20
Jul...4 only
Aug...1 and 15
Sep...5 and 19
Oct... 3 and 17
Nov...7 and 21
Dec...5

Our Dementia-Friendly Cafe

Contact June on:
01422 706373
07920 549131
contactmemorylanecafe@gmail.com

Memory Lane Café Sowerby Bridge

- Crafts
- Advice
- Support
- Games
- Conversation
- Music
- Activities
- Information

St. Paul's Methodist Church
Tower Hill
Sowerby Bridge
HX6 2EQ

Every 2nd & 4th Saturday
from 1-30pm - 4-00pm
£2 including refreshments

2017
Nov...11 and 25
Dec...9

2018
Jan...13 and 27
Feb...10 and 24
Mar...10 and 24
Apr...14 and 28
May...12 and 26
Jun...9 and 23
Jul...14 and 28
Aug...11 and 25
Sep...8 and 22
Oct...13 and 27
Nov...10 and 24
Dec...8

Our Dementia-Friendly Cafe

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