

Newsletter May/June 2015

Dear friends,

Newsletter time again – the sun is shining and the weather is warming up nicely, just in time for our visit to Springfields.

Our Trustees, **Heather Gilling**, **Pauline Horrocks**, **Kim Lowery** and **Pat Johnson** have been working very hard on policies and procedures that are now required by the Charities Commission. There will be more about this in Pat Johnson's newsletter. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Trustees for all they have done to get DSSL on track.

Kate Marshall
Memory Health Worker

Dates for your diary

May

Support group/coffee mornings

As always these will run on the **2nd Friday** of the month at **Stamford Health Clinic** on Ryhall Road, **3rd Monday** of the month at **Deepings Community Centre** and **3rd Wednesday** of the month at the **Bourne Corn Exchange**. These social gatherings run from **10am-12pm** and everyone is welcome to come along and hear about what has been going on, catch up with old friends and make some new ones. If you'd like more information, please contact me by telephone on **01778 440153** or by email at k.marshall18@btinternet.com (as below).



Tai Chi and Art for All

Tai Chi continues to be very popular and we are always pleased to see new faces. We meet at **Wake House** in **Bourne** on **Wednesday afternoons** between **2-3pm**. We are in the middle of the latest 6 sessions of **Art for All** which again meets at **Wake House** on **Mondays** between **11am-1pm**. Please ring me, on the number at the bottom of the page, if you would like to join either of these activities.

To mark **Dementia Awareness Week** (18-22 May) on **Tuesday 19 May**, **The Cedars Care Home** in **Bourne** is putting on their second '**Sponsored Wheelchair Push**' around **Memorial Gardens**. We helped them with their first a couple of years ago and it was a lot of fun. After the sponsored walk, which will leave from The Cedars at **2pm**, tea and cakes will be served back at The Cedars. Please contact me if you'd like to join us. Money raised will be shared between the care home's resident fund and our charity.

This year our **AGM** will coincide with the Bourne group on **Wednesday 20 May**. The business part of the AGM should only last half an hour. The way we manage Dementia Support South Lincs is changing. This will make no difference to the support and advice you receive, the group meetings, or other activities you take part in, but we have drafted a new constitution along with policies and procedures to ensure we are "fit for purpose" and operating legally and safely within the framework required by the Charities Commission. We will need to carry out some formal business at the beginning of the gathering on 20 May – but will then revert to our usual coffee and chat format.

The Lincolnshire Careers and Young Carers Partnership will be holding their annual review at **The Venue**, Grantham Road, Navenby, LN5 0JJ on **Friday 22 May**. I will be attending to represent DSSL because the Partnership has a big input into carer support services in Lincolnshire. If anyone would like to join me, please let me know. It will be an all day event.

June

In June our **support group/coffee mornings** will take place as usual except that on **Wednesday 17 June** we will have an unusual activity at the **Bourne group** which I hope you will come and sample. Greg, a young Australian man whom I met at an NHS workshop about a year ago, will be bringing his didgeridoos along for some **Sound Therapy**. I was asked last week "Will it be as much fun as Monkeybongos?" and I'm sure it will be. See you there for a very different coffee morning!

Upcoming dates for your diary...

Margaret Taylor tells me there are still some seats left on the coach for the day trip to **Skegness**. We have quite a crowd already signed up from DSSL, but please let me know if you'd like to join us for a day at the seaside on **Monday 6 July**.

It's that time of year again when we are invited up to **Grimsthorpe Castle** in **Bourne** for afternoon tea and a wander around the gardens. Ray Biggs, the estate manager, has invited us on **Tuesday 21 July**. We will arrive about **1pm** to tour the gardens and be served a cream tea at about **3pm**. Please don't be put off if you are unable to drive yourself there. We will be car pooling and will have plenty of room. Please ring **Kim Lowery** on **01778 591195** as soon as possible if you would like to come as Ray only has room for 30.

Take note...

In last month's newsletter I talked about having a **Carer Assessment** and putting an **Emergency Plan** in place. One thing I forgot to mention was how important it is to keep the Emergency Plan updated. If there are any changes, however small, you must let the Carers Team know. You should have the number of your Trusted Assessor but if not you can contact the **Carers Team** on **01522 550015**.

Finally...

Well, that seems to be it for this newsletter, except I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helps me behind the scenes to keep DSSL going. Without the support of the committee, the trustees, the volunteers at the coffee mornings and our fundraisers, things would never go as smoothly as they do. I really appreciate everything you do and certainly could not do it all without you.

If I haven't been in touch with you lately and you would like to have a home visit, please ring or email me so we can arrange a date. Remember, I am here to support you in any way I can, so please don't hesitate to ask.

If you would like to be taken off our mailing list and no longer wish to receive this letter or Pat Johnson's newsletter, please let us know.

Buckles' legal corner

NHS Continuing Care Funding

For an individual who is in receipt of care (whether that is care in a care home or otherwise), there is the possibility of that care being entirely free of charge – regardless of the wealth of the individual – if the care being received is primarily for nursing needs. This is known as "NHS Continuing Care Funding". NHS Continuing Care Funding pays for all care and accommodation costs, and so comes at great expense to the NHS. It is therefore not publicised as much as it should be, and is often refused when it should in fact be granted. If advice and assistance is needed in this complex area – whether to arrange for an appropriate assessment to be carried out, or challenge an assessment which incorrectly refused the funding – then please do ask.

Please contact **Stephen Duffy** (01733 888879, stephen.duffy@buckles-law.co.uk) for more assistance.