



Alzheimer's Society Darlington Dementia Advice & Support Team

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Happy New Year! All of the team at Alzheimer's Society hope you had a peaceful festive season and wish you all the best for 2022!

The Alzheimer's Society Dementia Adviser and Support service in Darlington is bringing you this newsletter to update you on current local services.

Our Dementia Adviser and Dementia Support service is able to offer home visits where appropriate with all Covid safety measures in place. We provide information and support via telephone, video call, email and post but where suitable, can offer home visits. The Dementia Adviser service provides one-to-one support to people with dementia, carers and family members. It is a drop-in service so can support at any point from pre-diagnosis and assessment to the later stages of dementia. We accept all professional and self-referrals which can be made to **DarlingtonTeesValley@alzheimers.org.uk** or **01904 929444** (please see end of newsletter for more details).

Return to our Group Services

Dementia Support Worker Tony McFarland is leading our group services in Darlington which includes our Singing for the Brain and Dementia Café!

Singing for the Brain- Singing for the Brain brings people affected by dementia together to sing a variety of songs they know and love, in a fun and friendly environment. They also do fun vocal exercises that help improve brain activity and well-being. This group meets every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month, 1.30pm-3pm at the Woodland Wellbeing Hub (attached onto hospice), St Teresa's Hospice, 91 Woodland Road, Darlington, DL3 7UA. Car parking is available on site.

Dementia Café- For people living with dementia and carers to come together to meet, socialise and receive support. This groups meets on the 3rd Tuesday of every month 1.30pm-3pm at Bradbury House, Age UK North Yorkshire & Darlington, Beaumont Street West, Darlington, DL1 5SX.

<u>How to book</u>: Please email **DarlingtonTeesValley@alzheimers.org.uk** or call **01904 929444** to reserve a place. If it goes to voicemail, please leave a message with your name and number and one of our team will get back to you asap to confirm your place.

PLEASE NOTE: Both face to face group services have been suspended until further notice due to Covid guidelines. We are offering virtual Singing for the Brain- please contact us for more details.

Dementia Information Card NEW!

Alzheimer's Society have been working with Public Health to develop a one stop shop for all local services in Darlington. This Dementia Information Card includes services and contact details for information and advice, support and care in the community as well as carer support and local group sessions. This document is designed to support people living with dementia, people supporting a person living with dementia and health and social care professionals to know what is available in the Darlington area and have access to these services in one document. You can request an electronic version of this document which can be printed out or a hard copy by emailing DarlingtonTeesValley@alzheimers.org.uk.



Dementia Services Directory 2022

To complement the Dementia Information Card, Alzheimer's Society have also updated the Dementia Services Directory in Darlington to include local services who can support people affected by dementia. This directory is more comprehensive and detailed than the Dementia Information Card and is there to provide information on how local services can support people affected by dementia as well as all relevant contact information. To obtain a Dementia Directory, please email DarlingtonTeesValley@alzheimers.org.uk or visit https://livingwell.darlington.gov.uk/.



Raise Your Game for Dementia Awareness!

Dementia Adviser Kathryn Hardwick and Dementia Friendly Communities Coordinator Belinda Williams hosted a presentation on local dementia support services and becoming involved in Dementia Friendly Darlington at Pathfinder House in October! Staff at Pathfinder House organised the event to bring people together to play games to raise money and awareness for dementia. Thank you to all involved, it was a great afternoon!



Community Coffee Morning at Cockerton Club

Alzheimer's Society attended a new Pop-Up Community Event in Cockerton in November. Arranged through a partnership between Cockerton Club, Cockerton Community Business Group and the ward councillors, this is a new initiative to try and develop a community hub which will occur on the last Friday of every month. Ward councillors and other community services were present to offer a place to talk, share views and gather information and support.

The next scheduled community event will take place on **28th January 2022** between **10am-1pm** at the Cockerton Club, Woodland Road, Darlington, DL3 9AB. All are welcome to attend!



Older LGBT+ Social Group

Alzheimer's Society, Arcus and Age UK North Yorkshire & Darlington have come together to deliver a weekly social group for older members of the LGBT+ Community. This group is held at Bradbury House, every Thursday afternoon between 4-6pm. Refreshments are available, and it is a drop-in group, so no booking required. If you would like to know more, please call Arcus on **01325 978810**.

PLEASE NOTE: This group is suspended until further notice due to Covid-19 guidelines. We aim to resume all face-to-face groups as soon as possible.



Referrals to Dementia Adviser service

For professionals: Referrals should be made via your own organisation's secure email by completing and sending the attached referral form to <u>DarlingtonTeesValley@alzheimers.org.uk</u> or call 01904 929444.

For self-referrals: Please call 01904 929444 or email DarlingtonTeesValley@alzheimers.org.uk

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