



VOLUNTEER BULLETIN

Welcome to your Volunteer Bulletin! This bulletin is all about keeping you connected with everything happening across Durham County Carers Support. Inside, you'll find updates on festive Christmas events, upcoming training opportunities, helpful resources, and a heartfelt message from one of our own volunteers. Whether you're looking to stay informed, get involved, or simply feel part of our wonderful volunteer community, this bulletin is here to bring it all together. Thank you for everything you do, we couldn't make such a difference without you!

Celebrating 10 Years of the Volunteering Kitemark!



We're thrilled to share that Durham County Carers Support has once again been awarded the Volunteering Kitemark — marking an amazing 10 years of being recognised for providing a high-quality, supportive volunteering experience.

This achievement is a testament to you, our incredible volunteers; whose time, care, and commitment make such a difference to Carers across County Durham. We'd also like to give a warm shout-out to Andrea, Jessica, and Jade for helping ensure our volunteers feel welcomed, supported, and appreciated every step of the way.

Thank you for everything you do. We're proud to celebrate this milestone with you!



You're Invited: Christmas Lunch!



Team Christmas Get Together – You're Invited! 🎄

We're excited to invite all our wonderful volunteers to this year's Christmas lunch, a festive get-together to celebrate staff & volunteers and the amazing difference you make throughout the year. Join our staff, making it a lovely chance for everyone to connect and celebrate together.



Wednesday 10th December



Bishop Auckland Football Club



11:30am – approx. 2:30pm

The afternoon will include:

- A fun Christmas activity kindly organised by Alison Dixon
- Long Service and Fun Awards
- Plenty of festive cheer — and Christmas jumpers are very much encouraged! 🎅 ✨

Lunch Ordering:

Please click the link below to choose your lunch by Friday 28th November:

[Pick your lunch here](#)



Options



Great North Run — Tickets Coming Soon!

We're excited to share that Great North Run charity places will be going on sale soon. If you'd love to take part and run in support of Carers across County Durham & Darlington, now's the perfect time to get involved!

Register your interest here and we'll make sure you're first to hear when places become available.

Lace up... it could be your year!

Register your
interest

We will help you with fundraising tips and advice, social media posts to share on your pages and advice and tips to keep you on track.



Christmas

SING - A -
LONG

with Lily

BOOK NOW



Light refreshments included

£2 booking
fee

Tue 25th Nov

10AM - 11AM

Four Clocks, Bishop Auckland

Wed 3rd Dec

10AM - 11AM

Shotton Old Salvation Army Building

Tues 9th Dec

1:30 - 2:30PM

St Teresa's Hospice, Darlington

Wed 17th Dec

10AM - 11AM

Bullion Hall, Chester-le-street

We'd Love Your Help Testing Our New Virtual Carer Centre! ✨

Our brand-new Virtual Carer Centre is now ready for its first round of testing, and we'd really value your support in trying it out.

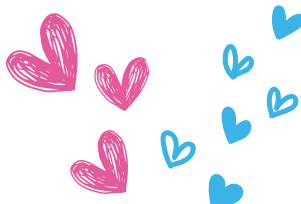
The centre has been created to give Carers easy access to information, support, and resources online. Before we roll it out fully, we want to make sure it's user-friendly, clear, and working just as it should, and our volunteers are the perfect people to help us check.

How you can get involved:

- Create a login
- Explore the site at your own pace
- Share your feedback on what's working well and what could be improved

Your insight will help us fine-tune the experience and ensure it truly meets the needs of Carers across County Durham & Darlington. If you're able to take part, we'd be incredibly grateful.

Virtual Carers Centre



Share your feedback



Volunteer Vacancies

Carer Champion

- visit events
- distribute leaflets
- talk about us
- Help at support groups

Benefits Support

- Fill in benefit forms
- learn new skills
- talking to Carers

Kit Project

- Making calls
- talking to Carers
- learn new skills

You can have more than one role!

- All Training Given
- Fully Supported by the team
- Give as much time as suits you
- Help unpaid Carers



Congratulations, Jill! 🌟



We're delighted to share some wonderful news from one of our volunteers, Jill Routledge. Jill said:
"I will be starting my new job in November as a Customer Advisor for Newcastle Building Society. I have never worked in a bank/building society before but have many years experience in Customer Service throughout my working life. However I believe the volunteering I do with Durham County Carers supporting parents/carers, either face to face or over the telephone to complete DLA forms and the elderly to complete AA forms has put in a positive light and been a huge benefit in me securing my new role"

We're incredibly proud of Jill and so grateful for the support she has been able to give to Carers. Please join us in wishing her the very best in this exciting new chapter!

New Carer Pin Badges Now Available!

We're pleased to share that our brand-new Carer Pin Badges are now available to buy online for just £3.50, including postage. These badges are a gentle reminder that not all disabilities are visible and these badges can help raise awareness, spark conversations, and encourage greater understanding in the community.



Wear your badge with pride and help spread the message that compassion and understanding make a real difference.

£3.50 INC POSTAGE



Training Dates

We are looking for volunteers to complete benefit forms for Carers. This is a very rewarding role and can have a massive impact in Carers lives.

Disability Living Allowance

Jan 23rd 10am - 12midday

27th March 10am - 12midday

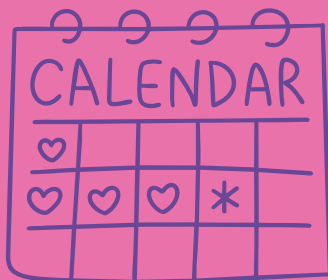
Attendance Allowance

Feb 27th 10am - 12 midday

To book a place email:

Jessica.howarth@dccarers.org

or call: 01833 600576



Suicide Awareness

10 places available first come first served

Wednesday 18th February
2026 9.30 - 12.30 at our office

To book a place email:

andrea.maughan@dccarers.org

Volunteer get together

Come along to our next volunteer get together online to hear about some of our fabulous successes, ask any questions you may have and have an update on whats happening at Durham County Carers Support.

21st Jan 1pm - 1:30pm

To book a place email: Jessica.howarth@dccarers.org or call: 01833 600576



Only £1 per month!

- ✓ Easy to sign up
- ✓ Supporting Carers
- ✓ 3 Cash prizes every month



JOIN NOW

