

NEWSLETTER

Welcome from Claire Rintoul, CEO

Welcome to our Spring edition of the Sheffcare newsletter.

You can read about achievements such as Midhurst Road's Dementia Accreditation, national recognition for our Dancing with Dementia programme, and the vital contribution of our volunteers. We're also sharing examples of how we're working with partners, researchers and other organisations to improve care, strengthen the workforce and share learning beyond Sheffcare.



Thank you to everyone—residents, families, staff, volunteers and partners—who continue to make our homes supportive, welcoming places to live and work. I hope you enjoy reading about the people and projects that make Sheffcare what it is.

NaDCAS Accreditation for Midhurst Road

We are pleased to share that Midhurst Road in Foxhill has been awarded a 1-Star Dementia Accreditation through the National Dementia Care Accreditation Scheme (NaDCAS) framework. NaDCAS is an independent, specialist accreditation that recognises care homes committed to delivering high-quality, evidence-based dementia care, assessed by experienced dementia professionals.

We are very proud of this award that recognises Sheffcare's ongoing commitment to providing safe, supportive, person-centred care for people living with dementia. It reflects the dedication of the team in creating an environment where residents are treated with dignity, respect and compassion every day.

The accreditation process looks at how well services support the quality of care, staff understanding, and the overall environment of people living with dementia. Achieving this recognition highlights the progress being made and the strong foundations already in place at Midhurst Road.

Congratulations to the team at Midhurst Road for their hard work and continued focus on improving the experience for residents and their families.

Learn more about the NaDCAS framework here: www.nadcas.org



Celebrating Community Project of the Year Award Win at the Move More Sheffield Awards

Sheffcare and Dancing for Health have been recognised with a major accolade, winning 'Community Project of the Year' at the 2026 Move More Sheffield Awards for their innovative Dancing with Dementia programme.

The award was presented to our Dementia and Wellbeing Manager, Kathryn Rawling, and Tracey Barnes, Director of Dancing for Health, at a ceremony held at Sheffield's Crowne Plaza Royal Victoria Hotel.

Kathryn first partnered with Dancing for Health CIC, a non-profit organisation that uses dance to improve physical, emotional and social wellbeing for older people, individuals with disabilities and those living with long-term health conditions. Together, they secured funding to launch Dancing with Dementia, a unique programme combining music, movement and specially choreographed seated dance sessions.

Initially delivered as a 20-week pilot at Valley Wood, our specialist dementia care home in Heeley, the project has already demonstrated significant benefits for residents. It also formed part of a research study conducted by the University of Sheffield.

Following its success, the programme is now being rolled out across all nine Sheffcare homes, equipping activity teams with the skills and resources needed to continue delivering sessions in the future.



Kathryn said: "This award means so much to everyone involved. By working closely with Dancing for Health, we've created something truly special that enhances the physical and mental wellbeing of residents living with dementia."



Sheffcare Opens its Doors to the National Care Forum

As a not-for-profit charity, we are proud to be part of the National Care Forum (NCF), a network of values-led organisations working together to strengthen and champion the social care sector. We recently welcomed Honor Westlake and Liz Jones to Sheffcare and enjoyed showing them what's happening across our homes.

On the day of the visit, there was plenty going on. At Midhurst Road, residents were spending time in the garden, enjoying ice creams, a music quiz and each other's company. Over at Springwood Residential Home, residents had taken part in a chair-based exercise session, shared lunch together, and later headed out to the local pub to sit in the beer garden.



Sheffcare Recruitment Process Earns National Recognition in Skills for Care toolkit

We've been working with Skills for Care to show the benefits of our centralised recruitment process. Our approach has been recognised as a good example and included in their latest recruitment toolkit.

Recruitment can be challenging in the social care sector, but our centralised process helps make things simpler and more consistent. It improves the experience for candidates, helps us find people who share our values, and makes the whole journey smoother and more supportive.

By managing recruitment centrally, our Registered Managers can spend less time on the process and more time focusing on providing excellent care and supporting their teams.

This recognition from Skills for Care highlights the positive work happening across Sheffcare and shows our commitment to improving the way we recruit, welcome, and keep talented colleagues.

A big thank you to everyone who helped develop and put this approach into practice.

To read more about Sheffcare's recruitment approach, visit:

<https://www.skillsforcare.org.uk/Support-for-leaders-and-managers/Practical-approach-toolkits/Practical-approach-Centralising-recruitment.aspx>

Supporting National Research in Care Homes with the VIVALDI study

Sheffcare is proud to continue its participation in the VIVALDI Social Care study, a national research programme led by The Outstanding Society, Care England and University College London.

The study helps improve understanding of infections in care homes, improve resident safety and supports better infection prevention management across the sector. It uses existing information already collected in care settings to build a clearer picture of infection trends and support safer, higher-quality care for residents and staff.

By taking part, we are helping to shape evidence that will improve practices both within our homes and across the wider care home community.

All Sheffcare residents are automatically included in the VIVALDI programme. Data is securely and confidentially linked using NHS numbers, and all information is encrypted and managed in-line with strict data protection and governance standards to protect privacy at all times.

We fully respect individual choice. If a resident or their representative does not wish to take part, they can opt out at any time by speaking to their Registered Manager, who will support the process and ensure preferences are recorded.

For more information about the Vivaldi study, head over to <https://theoutstandingsociety.co.uk/vivaldi-social-care/>



Celebrating Easter across Sheffcare

Easter is a time for togetherness and across all our homes this sense of community is something we see and experience every day, not just on special occasions.

This Easter, we celebrated the people, moments and community that make Sheffcare a place where every day can be a good day.



Day Centres at Deerlands and Springwood

Our Day Centres at Deerlands and Springwood offer a space to stay connected, active and independent for people who live at home, but who would benefit from extra support during the day.

They give the opportunity to build friendships and take part in a range of activities, or rediscover old hobbies in a supportive setting.

What to expect from the Day Centre

Each Day Centre provides a relaxed and welcoming environment where people can take part at their own pace. They run different activities to suit all interests and abilities, including arts and crafts, gardening, quizzes, music sessions and gentle exercise. There are also visits from Therapy Ponies and Therapy Dogs, which many of our visitors find enjoyable and calming.

We also provide a freshly prepared lunch each day, giving our visitors the chance to enjoy a social mealtime if they wish and we can offer additional services such as hairdressing and chiropody, for that extra pamper and convenience.

Both Deerlands and Springwood have their own minibuses and can provide transport to and from the Day Centre. This makes it easier for our visitors to attend, even if they have mobility or travel challenges and also allows us to organise regular outings, such as trips to local parks, shops and cafés, as well as seasonal events and special outings. Taking part in these trips helps our visitors stay connected to their community and enjoy everyday experiences.

Support for families and carers

It's not only our visitors who benefit from our Day Centres, but their families and carers too. Knowing a loved one is safe, supported and enjoying their day can give them the peace of mind to rest, or focus on other responsibilities.

We encourage anyone interested to try a session to see if it feels right for them. There are different ways to fund a place, including local authority funding, direct payments or self-funding, which helps make the service accessible to a range of people and circumstances.

The Day Centres at Deerlands and Springwood play an important role in supporting individuals and families in our community and helping people to stay independent and connected. If you would like more information, please call us on the following numbers:

Deerlands: 0114 221 3258

Springwood: 0114 232 5472

Midhurst Road Celebrates Volunteer Award Win for Linda

A dedicated Sheffcare volunteer has received national recognition for her outstanding contribution to residents at Midhurst Road care home in Foxhill.

Linda Clayton first became involved with Sheffcare while regularly visiting her mother, Barbara, during her time at Midhurst Road. After Barbara sadly passed away, Linda found herself missing the home and the friendships she had built. Encouraged by the activities team, she decided to return as a volunteer.

Since then, Linda has become a valued member of the Midhurst Road community, offering support to staff and companionship to residents. Her kindness, warmth and commitment have now been recognised with an award from Room to Reward, a charity that celebrates inspirational volunteers across the UK.

Midhurst Road Manager Helen Gibson said: "Linda is incredibly efficient, approachable and compassionate. She has a natural ability to connect with everyone and brings comfort and reassurance to our residents.

"For residents living with dementia, especially when they are feeling confused or upset, Linda's calm and caring approach is invaluable. Her positive impact on both residents and staff is truly remarkable."

If Linda's story has inspired you and you would like to make a difference in the lives of people living in our homes, visit www.sheffcare.co.uk to explore current volunteering opportunities and discover how you can get involved.



Our Values

