



NEWSLETTER

Welcome from Claire Rintoul, CEO

Welcome to this Autumn edition of our newsletter. Here at Sheffcare our values as a charity are incredibly important to every single one of us.

I recently had the chance to see them in action when I spent a day at Midhurst Road shadowing the Team Leaders and a day at Knowle Hill shadowing the two Deputy Managers. I saw so many examples of kindness, dignity, respect, independence and choices which is what we believe makes truly good care.



Valley Wood Achieves Two Star Gold NaDCAS Accreditation

Valley Wood has been awarded Two Star Gold accreditation by the National Dementia Care Accreditation Scheme (NaDCAS), which recognises excellence and drives improvements in dementia care.

The Heeley home is the only one of Sheffcare's nine homes that provides care exclusively for people living with dementia. Following a series of assessments, NaDCAS reported that the home had been transformed, led by a team fully engaged with residents and their individual needs.

"The team really worked on their engagement and deep understanding of each resident," the report noted.

Claire Rintoul said "Dementia care is a vital part of our services and is central to everything we do at Valley Wood. We are delighted that NaDCAS has recognised the hard work and dedication of the Valley Wood team. The expertise developed in Heeley also helps us improve care across all our homes as our teams share knowledge and best practice."



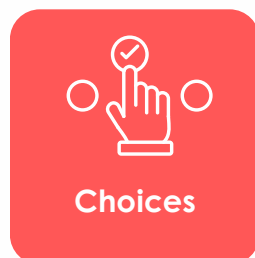
Summer Fun Raises £1,000 for Knowle Hill

Residents and staff at Knowle Hill Care Home enjoyed a fun-filled summer fête, featuring a bake sale, tombola and games which raised over £1,000 for the residents' comfort fund.

Manager Michelle Wright said, "Our Summer Fête is always one of the most popular events of the year, and to raise this much is a fantastic achievement. A big thank you to everyone who came along and made it such a success."



Our Values



Positive Audit Results for Sheffcare

We are pleased to share that our final annual audit report was very positive. Our auditors had to look very closely to find anything to suggest for improvement, which shows how strong and effective our financial processes are.

A big thank you to our finance team, supported by HR, administrators and receptionists for all the hard work that went into this year's audit. Preparing for an audit is a lot of detailed and intensive work, and this result is a testament to their dedication.

Following our finance policies is a responsibility shared by everyone at Sheffcare. It helps us manage our funds responsibly, protect the charity from fraud and ensure that resources are used effectively to support the people in our care.

This excellent result is a real team effort and reflects the commitment and professionalism of everyone involved.

A Special celebration at Housteads

At Housteads, resident Janice recently experienced a very special day when she was baptised at the home. During an activity, Janice asked if it was too late for her to be baptised. Activity worker Kay listened carefully and responded in a way that respected Janice's personal wishes, demonstrating Sheffcare's commitment to our values.

Janice shared that she had never been baptised, felt that life at Housteads had given her a second chance and valued her daily spiritual practices. Acting on this, Kay involved Fr Keith to arrange a service at the home, making it a first for both Fr Keith and the team at Housteads.

Janice and Kay invited family and friends, and staff prepared the room and refreshments for the occasion. The day was fully focused on Janice, providing a meaningful, person-centred experience that she could share with her loved ones.



Supporting Our Community: The Positive Impact of Deerlands and Springwood Day Centres

Our day centres at Deerlands and Springwood provide invaluable support to individuals and families within our community. They offer a safe, welcoming environment where people can engage in meaningful activities, maintain independence and promote social interaction.

Both of our centres have their own minibuses, making it easier for people who might find it hard to get out and about. This transport service means that anyone who wants to join in at the day centres can do so, no matter their mobility or travel challenges. It's all about making sure everyone feels welcome and supported.

In addition, the centres offer vital respite for families and carers. Knowing their loved ones are cared for in a safe and supportive setting allows carers to take a necessary break, helping to reduce stress and improve their own wellbeing.

Deerlands and Springwood play a key role in community outreach, strengthening connections and supporting people to lead fulfilling lives. We are proud of the positive difference these centres make every day.

If you would like more information, please call us on the following numbers:

Deerlands: 0114 221 3258

Springwood: 0114 232 5472

Dementia Awareness Sessions

Sheffcare is committed to supporting families and friends of our residents living with dementia. We are pleased to share that Kathryn Rawling, our Dementia & Wellbeing Manager, continues to hold regular Dementia Awareness sessions across all Sheffcare homes. These sessions have proven to be very helpful for many who have attended, offering valuable insights and practical advice.

These free training sessions provide a safe and welcoming space where you can learn more about dementia, its effects, and the best ways to support your loved one through each stage of their journey.

Here's what you can expect to gain from the sessions:

- A deeper understanding of dementia and its different stages
- Communication strategies to help improve interactions
- Techniques for managing challenging behaviours with compassion
- Information about resources and support available

If you're interested in attending, please speak to your home's Care Plan Co-ordinator to book your place. We encourage all families and friends to take advantage of this valuable opportunity.

Celebrating Black History Month



In September, our Burnt Tree Croft residents and team in Netherthorpe came together to celebrate Black History Month in true Caribbean style!

The day was filled with the sights, sounds, and flavours of the Caribbean, featuring homemade Caribbean and Zimbabwean dishes, vibrant dancing, and an incredible classic reggae set by Radio Sheffield Live's Robert Wellington.

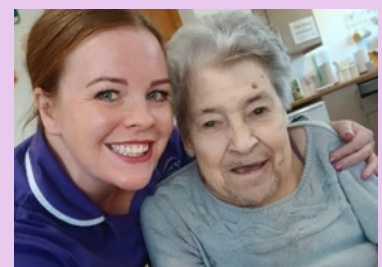
It was a joyful celebration of culture, music, and community — made even more special as we were joined by friends from other Sheffcare homes. A huge thank you to everyone who helped make the day so memorable. What a fantastic way to come together and celebrate!



To mark Black History Month, our Springwood residents enjoyed a lively celebration full of music, creativity, and conversation.

The day included sing-alongs to Motown, reggae, and jazz, colouring African patterns, guessing Caribbean flags, and sharing Maya Angelou's powerful poetry. Residents also learned fun facts about Black artists, and enjoyed memories and laughter over slices of homemade Caribbean rum cake with a glass of punch or sweet tea.

It was a joyful day celebrating culture, creativity, and community — a truly memorable way to honour Black History Month!



Board of Trustees Update

At the September Board meeting, we said farewell to Trustee Carole, who has retired after nine years with Sheffcare. Many will know Carole for her visits to our homes and her passion for delivering great care and she will be greatly missed.

We were pleased to welcome Simon Bladen as Deputy Chair of the Board. Simon, who joined Sheffcare in 2023, brings strong financial expertise and works with boards and leadership teams to strengthen governance, improve efficiency, and add real value.

We are also delighted to welcome two new Trustees to our Board: Fiona Richards and Steph Wardell, who joined us in July.



Simon Bladen



Steph Wardell



Fiona Richards

Welcome to Liz Salmon, our new Quality Improvement Partner

We are delighted to welcome Liz Salmon to Sheffcare as our new Quality Improvement Partner. Liz brings extensive experience in social care, having worked across statutory, regulatory, and charitable sectors as a social worker, social work manager, CQC Inspector and Head of Quality and Co-Production.

Liz has a strong track record in quality assurance, regulatory compliance, and person-centred care, having developed and implemented quality strategies, audit frameworks, and governance tools to improve outcomes and support services in achieving high standards. She is passionate about ensuring that everyone receives high-quality, compassionate care and about celebrating successes while sharing learning across teams.

Familiar with Sheffcare's services, Liz will be working closely with teams to provide support and challenge, helping us maintain and enhance quality and compliance across all our services.

Joe Hughes Appointed as Registered Senior Manager

We are delighted to announce that Joe Hughes has been appointed as our new Registered Senior Manager. During the internal interview, Joe performed exceptionally well, demonstrating the skills, experience, and leadership needed for this important role.

Joe has been with Sheffcare since 2009, starting out as a Care Support Worker. Over the years, he has developed a wealth of experience and a strong reputation for his commitment to quality care. He has a particular passion for Quality Assurance and dementia care, always striving to ensure that residents receive the highest standards of support and compassion.



In his new role, Joe will continue as Registered Manager at Grange Crescent while providing additional senior support across all homes — especially those facing specific challenges and at Housteads and Midhurst, which now each have four S2A (Somewhere to Assess) beds which help alleviate bed blocking in local hospitals.

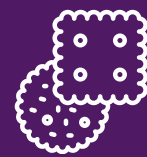
This strengthened leadership structure reflects our ongoing commitment to high-quality care, continuous improvement, and strong governance across all Sheffcare homes, supporting both residents and staff to achieve their best.



Our staff have completed **7800** eLearning courses since the 1st of April 2025



In the last 12 months over **6,000** purchase invoices, from food to furniture, were processed by the finance team. That's on average **500** per month



Our resident eat on average over **51,000** biscuits each month!