

Caring Matters

Nov/Dec 2013 Issue

Bolton Carers Support Seasonal Opening Hours

Please note:

The Information and Advice Drop-in will be held on 18 December then, due to how the Bank Holidays fall this year, will be closed for the following 2 weeks. It reopens Wednesday 8 January.

Monday 16 December Carers Helpline open 11 am - 3 pm Tuesday 17 December Carers Helpline open 11 am - 3 pm Wednesday 18 December Information drop-in 11 am - 1 pm Thursday 19 December Carers Helpline open 11 am - 3 pm Monday 23 December Carers Helpline open 11 am - 3 pm **Tuesday 24 December** CLOSED Wednesday 25 December **CLOSED Thursday 26 December CLOSED** Monday 30 December Carers Helpline open 11 am - 3 pm Tuesday 31 December Carers Helpline open 11 am - 3 pm **CLOSED** Wednesday 1 January Thursday 2 January Carers Helpline open 11 am - 3 pm Normal service resumes Monday 6 January

The Children and Families Bill

An amendment to The Children and Families Bill, announced by the government on 8 October 2013 signals the start of a new era of support for 160,000 children in England caring for their parents, siblings and family members.

For too long, young carers have not been receiving the help they need.

For more information see:

http://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-vote-office/October%202013/8-Education-YoungCarers.pdf

Bolton Carers Support Opening Hours *Helpline (01204 363056) & Drop-in Hours:*

Our helpline is open from 11am to 3pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

Our Information Drop-in where you can speak to a member of staff is open 11am to 1pm on Wednesday. Drop-ins at any other times are *by appointment only*.

Friday 29th November 1 - 4 pm ... Carers Rights Day

Carers Rights Day is about making sure carers understand their rights and get access to good quality advice that can support them to care

Each year Carers UK organises Carers Rights Day to:

- Increase the take up of benefits it's estimated that millions of carers' benefits aren't claimed each year.
- Make sure carers know their rights every year, more than 2 million people become carers, many don't identify themselves as carers and miss out on support. Even those who have been caring for years sometimes aren't aware of their entitlements.
- Guide carers towards practical support it's not just about benefits. Carers often do not realise practical support is available, like replacement care to give the carer time off, help with lifting and bathing, equipment and home adaptations that can be vital in protecting carers' health.
- Raise awareness of the needs of carers Carers Rights Day raises awareness of the needs of carers with the public, decision makers and professionals.

Bolton Carers Support is hosting an event for Carers Rights Day
Friday 29 November 1 - 4 pm at the Thicketford Centre, Thicketford Road, BL2 2LW

The event will include: free refreshments, benefits advice, information on useful services. There will also be 'Meet your MP' sessions where you can talk to your Parliamentary representative about any issues of concern.

Places are limited and must be pre-booked by phoning Bolton Carers Support on 01204 363056.

Setting the scene...do you know that...

- ◆ There are 30,649 carers in Bolton (based on figures from Census Day 27 March 2011), which equates to 11.1% of the population in Bolton (this is slightly higher than the national average of 10.3%). Almost 8,000 of these carers (7,937) are providing 50 or more hours of unpaid care each week.
- A staggering **166,363 children** in England are caring for their parents, siblings and family members (based on Census data released in May 2013).

Carer quote...

"Thank you too for your friendship and for arranging events—I thoroughly enjoyed those I have been able to attend."

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