



Staff news:

- **St Luke's Hospice at Home team:** we welcome Claire who has joined as an HCA & we wish her well
- **Adult social care team:** Joleen, Community Carer, has recently left SPDNS. We welcome Ify, Community Carer, to the team and wish her well.

Please remember that Claire Chapman, our Registered Manager, is always available if there is anything you would like to discuss with her (extension 241). We are all here to support you and recognise how hard it has been over the last few months. Any ideas or suggestions you have are always welcome.

COVID-19 update

Thank you for continuing to work through the pandemic, it is really appreciated.

Most staff have now had their COVID-19 vaccine. If you haven't booked your second vaccine you can do this now. Please remember that if you are still unsure about having the vaccine we are here to talk this through with you and discuss any concerns you have. It is so encouraging that rates of transmission are greatly reduced. Rates will continue to fall with the more people who are vaccinated. **As a reminder:** The vaccine gives you a high level of protection. However there is still a risk of getting the virus, **meaning you can still pass the virus on. So please continue with all your PPE being worn at all times whilst at work with regular hand washing/hand sanitisation.** This is essential.

Home testing kits: All care staff have been issued with weekly COVID-19 home testing kits. **You still need to do these tests if you have had the vaccine.** We encourage you to do this test each week to protect you, your family and those you care for. If your test comes back positive you must self-isolate immediately and let us know. When you need more test kits please let us know, they can be collected from the office.

SPDNS Staff Newsletter

March 2021

SPDNS Intranet – update on training

We have now uploaded 12 power-point presentations on different conditions including end of life. Please have a look at these as you will find information that will help you understand the conditions some of your service users are living with. We plan to add more going forward. If there is anything specific you would like please contact Sue on ext:232.

Can we please remind you to complete your update training on the intranet, thank you. If anyone is having issues with this please contact Sue.

Compliments:

Please note we anonymise names and relevant staff have received copies of compliments

Adult social care team: *"I just wanted to send a formal note of thanks regarding the excellent management of my mother's care during the period of absence by her regular carer. The Care Manager has done a fabulous job maintaining the level of care and co-ordinating the shifts, even stepping in herself to cover gaps, for this I am very grateful. I would like to thank in particular two carers who have worked tirelessly to ensure that my mother's routine has been uninterrupted, always on time, always professional and kind. Rearranging other work to fit in around my mother's needs, and my own. All of this at short notice, without complaint and carried out their work to their usual high standards, in a difficult period, including a large snowfall!!! I would be very grateful if you could officially pass on my gratitude for this amazing service delivered in a timely and generous manner. They absolutely embody the essence of caring and are a credit to your company."*

Hospice at Home: *"We are incredibly grateful for the care and kindness shown to us as a family. Thank you for treating my father with such compassion. You are all "angels"."*

March

Ovarian Cancer awareness month: ovarian cancer is a disease that can disrupt the normal function of the ovaries. If it is left unchecked, it can affect other parts of the body too. To find out more visit: Target Ovarian Cancer

11th to 18th March Nutrition & Hydration week: As part of this campaign to raise awareness we are giving you an **SPDNS drinks bottle** – please use this to make sure you keep yourselves hydrated whilst at work.