

NEWSLETTER

October 2022

01543 418432



AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

Hello to all of our lovely customers of Tamworth, Lichfield, Nuneaton and North Warwickshire. Our Autumn newsletter is packed full just for you, featuring our recent new starters, Carers awards and recognition and lots of updates on what we have been up to since May 2022.

We hope you all had a wonderful summer and are now ready for the cosiness and comforts of Autumn.

Thanks for your continued support,
Martin & Deborah Lahert.



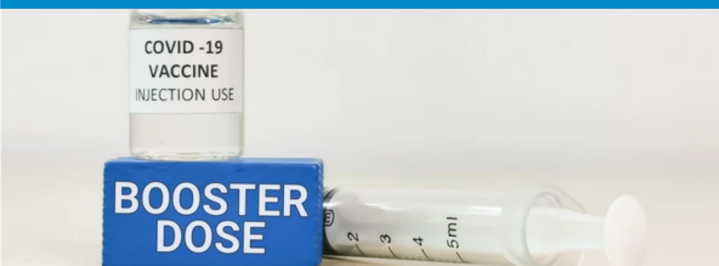
STAFF UPDATES

Since our last update we have had some new members join our wonderful team of Care Assistants. Some of you may already know them. Welcome to Caroline, Emily, Fenella and Sadie.

We have also welcomed the return of some familiar faces so welcome back to Lindsey, Bev and Kaitlin!

COVID UPDATE

At this time, whilst the prevalence of COVID-19 is relatively low and due to the recent change in Government guidelines, our Carers no longer have to conduct regular weekly asymptomatic testing for COVID-19. Therefore, our Carers will only perform a COVID test if they are experiencing COVID symptoms or have had close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. While we have stopped our weekly testing, we continue to wear full PPE during visits including the use of masks, gloves, and aprons. This is to ensure the maximum safety for everyone.



From September 2022, people over the age of 65 years old are now eligible for an Autumn COVID booster vaccine and can book this online via the NHS website or alternatively you could give your GP surgery a call to see if they are providing the booster jabs. If you need any assistance with booking your vaccine or getting to and from having the booster done, please contact the office on 01543 418432 to see if we are able to help with this.

ARE YOU LONELY?

The Silver Line Helpline is a free, 24-hour telephone service for older people across the UK. They offer friendship, conversation, and support for older people, especially those who may be experiencing feelings of loneliness and isolation. If you are interested please call them free on 0800 4 70 80 90.

**The Silver Line**
helpline for older people

STAFF RECOGNITION



LONG SERVICE TO BLUEBIRD CARE

In August 2022, one of our Care Assistants, Kit, celebrated her 10 YEAR working anniversary to Bluebird Care. Kit has worked for Bluebird Care for 10 years and is still caring and supporting our customers with such passion and dedication. I'm sure you will join us in congratulating Kit on this amazing anniversary. Well done Kit, we hope you continue to work for us for many more years to come.

We also have two other staff members celebrating long service awards this year.

Angela - 9 YEARS

Isabelle - 8 YEARS



Well done both and thank you for your hard work over the years!

DIGNITY IN CARE AWARDS

Back in July, Hannah from the office team and Jenny, one of our Care Assistants attended the Staffordshire Dignity in Care Awards ceremony. The Dignity In Care Awards recognises individuals who care for the most vulnerable of us, and who treat everyone with dignity, kindness, respect and compassion.

The office team had nominated Jenny for an award in the Community Service Dignity Champion category, which focuses on recognising an

individual who is involved with the paid support or care of Staffordshire adults. The individual will have gone above and beyond to promote dignity in all they do.



Unfortunately our Jenny didn't win but we thoroughly enjoyed our day out and even had a little surprise performance from Elvis Presley!



CARERS OF THE MONTH

ISABELLE - MAY

MICHELLE - JUNE

LUCY - JULY



WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TOO

LICHFIELD COMMUNITY GRANT OF £250.00

Following the success of our first community grant, you may remember recently we have been looking for another local community to help out with again. This time we have awarded our community grant to a local community group in Lichfield called Men's Shed Lichfield.

Men's Shed Lichfield is a registered charity focussed on combating loneliness, isolation in the older population of Lichfield. They are currently at the point of moving to new premises to allow them to increase the scale of their services. The community grant has helped assist them to make the move and expand their space which in time will allow more people in need to join and make a bigger impact on the local community.



Our first community grant was donated to a local charity in March 2020 called MHA Lichfield and District Live at Home. They are a charitable scheme that enables older people to maintain their independence and live fulfilled lives. As I'm sure you will agree both community groups are more than worthy of the community grant and we know this grant will be used effectively and will benefit the local community of Lichfield and surrounding areas.

If you would like information on how you can join Men's Shed Lichfield please give them a call on 01543 524321.

WE HAVE BEEN ACCREDITED A LIVING WAGE EMPLOYER!

Did you know that nearly three quarters of social care workers do not get paid a real Living wage? Not here! We have committed to pay the real Living Wage to reward our employees with a fair day's pay in return for a hard day's work caring for people in our local community.



Martin Lahert, our director, said: "We are very pleased to have been accredited as a Living Wage Employer. We are delighted to reward those who work with such care and dedication for our wonderful clients with fair wages. We are fully committed to doing right by our staff and believe that offering a fair and competitive wage and benefits, job stability, and career progression does exactly that."

We now join many small businesses and household names such as Burberry and Barclays paying the Living Wage as we recognise that paying the real Living Wage is the mark of a responsible employer and we believe a hard days work deserves a fair day's pay!

For the full article please visit our website www.bluebirdcare.co.uk/tamworth-lichfield



LIVE-IN CARE

LIVE-IN CARE SERVICES

We currently provide Live-In care for two of our lovely customers and would love to be able to help and support more customers with Live-In care.

WHAT IS LIVE-IN CARE?

Live-in care is a type of home care service and is sometimes called '24-hour care at home'. The difference between Live-in care and home care is that your care assistant lives in your home with you rather than only visiting at specific times when care is needed. Although the carer lives with you in your home this does not mean that they are working for 24 hours every day, but instead they are usually actively working for around 10 hours per day with regular breaks within that working time both daily and weekly. If care is needed during these break times or during the night other arrangements can be made.

Every Live-in care package is bespoke to the needs and wishes of the person receiving the care, based on an initial assessment in your home. Your Live-in carer will consistently provide personalised one-to-one care along with your care plan being regularly updated.

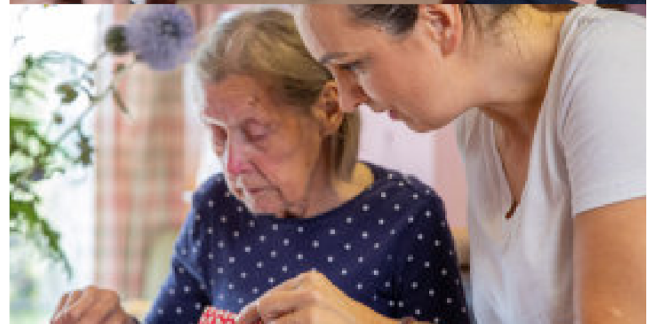
Your Live-in carer can help and support you with personal care, meal preparation, handling medication, maintaining a clean and tidy home, support you to keep up with your chosen hobbies, companionship and specialist care if required.

Why choose Live-In Care?

Are you considering care for yourself or a loved one and not sure which path to go down?

Here's some points to consider when choosing between Live-in care or Residential care.

- Your care is on a one-to-one basis
- No need to move out of your own home
- Your care plan is personalised to you and your home
- Your privacy and independence are maintained
- You can maintain your lifestyle, hobbies, and routines
- You don't have to sell your home
- Family and friends are able to visit at your leisure
- You can build a great rapport with your carer
- Consistent care
- Couples can stay living together
- Familiar surroundings which can prevent the acceleration of conditions such as dementia
- You may be far less likely to contract infections / viruses.



If you would like more information on our Live-In Care services please contact the office team on **01543 41843** who will be happy to help or visit our website www.bluebirdcare.co.uk/tamworth-lichfield