

What's New for Carers

Carers
Information
Service

Events



Every month we offer a range of free health, wellbeing and social activities for carers. Come along, meet other carers and have fun!
You can find out more [here](#)



Share Your Views About Hospital Services

Do you have any experiences to share about using Croydon University Hospital? Healthwatch Croydon is keen to hear from carers about issues such as hospital discharge, complaints and praise. Come along on Friday 5 February, 10.30am - 12.30pm and tell us what CUH is doing well for carers and what could be better. No need to book, just drop in to the Carers Support Centre, 24 George Street Croydon.

Meet the Family Fund in the



Carers Café

If you are a parent of a child with a disability, the Family Fund may be able to help by giving grants for household items, holidays or days out. A member of staff from the Family Fund is available to help complete the application form and talk generally about caring for a disabled child. Next session is on Thursday 18 Feb, 10.30am-12.30pm. No need to book.



Help With Computers

Our IT Buddy is here for carers every other week to answer any of your questions about using computers, laptops or tablets. You can bring along your device, or use ours and have some expert one-to-one advice.

Email ruthlaws@carersinfo.org.uk to book a slot on Thursday 25 February, 10.30am-12.30pm.



New Debt Advice Clinic

South West Law Centres (SWLLC) is providing a monthly debt advice clinic at the Carers Support Centre to help with current debt issues, income maximisation and applications for Thames Water grants towards white goods and utility bill debts (if eligible). Email appointments@carersinfo.org.uk to book an appointment.

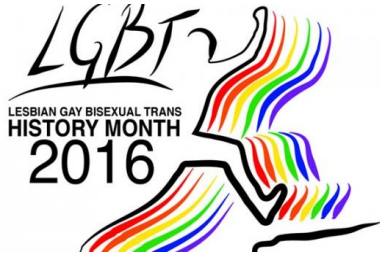


Carers Support Centre Membership Scheme

[Mayday Travel](#) offer our members fantastic discounts on their coach trips and you can view their latest brochure [here](#). To become a member of the Centre, email us at enquiries@carersinfo.org.uk



News and views from Croydon and around.



Croydon Celebrates LGBT History Month

There are a number of events being held across the borough to celebrate LGBT history ([read more](#)) and LGBT carers may find it helpful to contact the [Beyond Barriers Project](#) which supports LGBT carers and former carers in Croydon, Merton, Lambeth, Sutton and Wandsworth.

Talking about adult social care

A free
information event for
people who use Croydon
adult social services
and their carers

Transforming Adult Social Care

On Wednesday 16 March, 12-4pm at the Arnhem Gallery, Fairfield Halls, Croydon you can hear about adult care services in the borough and share your ideas and experiences with decision makers. There will also be information stands provided by local services and support organisations. Booking essential by emailing cassup@croydon.gov.uk. [Read more](#)



Croydon Dyslexia Association

Forthcoming open meetings for anyone with an interest in dyslexia include 'Dyslexia and Memory' on Tuesday 1 March and 'Creative, Successful, Dyslexic' on Tuesday 3 May. The organisation offers information and support to anyone affected by dyslexia, including parents and carers. The latest newsletter is available [here](#).



Confused about Education Health Care Plans?

Family Lives offer fortnightly drop in advice sessions at the Carers Support Centre for parents/carers of a child with special educational needs (SEN) as well as for young people with SEN, aged 16+ who would like to know more about the Education Health Care Plan process. [Read more](#)



A selection of relevant news items from across the country.



Court of Appeal Rules Against Bedroom Tax Case

Following an appeal by the grandparents of a disabled teenager, the Court of Appeal ruled that the decision to impose the bedroom tax on the family, because they had an extra room, was unlawful. This was because the room was used by overnight carers and should therefore have been exempt, as is the case where there is a disabled adult in the household. [Read more](#)



Government Announces Law Change for Carer's Allowance Recipients

The Government is to change the law to ensure that anyone receiving Carer's Allowance is exempt from the [benefit cap](#). The cap will apply to most working age households and limits the amount of income people can receive in benefits. This would have included Carers Allowance until the High Court ruled last month that this was unlawful. [Read more](#)



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Our mailing address is:

Carers' Information Service
Carers Support Centre
24 George Street
Croydon, CR0 1PB
United Kingdom

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The Carers' Information Service was set up by the Whitgift Foundation in 1997, and provides information, advice and support to Croydon's carers.

[Find out more about us.](#)



The Carers Support Centre is a partnership between Croydon Council and the Whitgift Foundation.

The Centre is open Monday to Friday, 10am – 4pm, and carers are welcome to drop in for information and advice on their caring role.

[Find out more about us.](#)

We also have rooms to hire for very competitive rates. For more information call Victoria Rivera on 020 8663 5600, or email victoriarivera@carersinfo.org.uk.