

What's New for Carers

Carers
Information
Service

Events



Every month we offer a range of free health, wellbeing and social activities for carers: [See March What's On](#)



GP Carers Survey

Are you a carer registered with a GP in Croydon? The Carers' Information Service would like to hear about your experience using your GP. [Fill in the survey online.](#)

By sharing your experiences, you will help us get an overall picture of GP support for carers across the borough and campaign for better primary healthcare services for carers locally. [Take the survey now.](#)

The deadline for responses is **Friday 31 March 2017**. Paper copies are also available at the Carers Support Centre.



Gentlemen's Lunch Club

Calling all male carers - join us for fish and chips and meet other carers on **Tuesday 28 March, 1pm - 2pm**. Booking is essential - call Ruth Laws on 020 8649 6280 or email

ruthlaws@carersinfo.org.uk: [learn more](#).



Mind in Croydon mental health support

Are you caring for someone with a mental health problem? [Mind in Croydon Mental Health Carers Support Service](#) offers 60 minute appointments to Croydon carers at the Carers Support Centre every fortnight. The adviser can discuss any issue related to caring for someone with a mental health problem.

Our next sessions will be on **Thursday 9 and 23 March, 10.30am - 1.30pm**. Booking is essential - to book your slot, call 020 8663 5608 or email appointments@carersinfo.org.uk.



News and views from and around Croydon

Changes to Edridge Road Walk-In Centre from 1 April

From **1 April 2017**, the Walk-In Service at Edridge Road Health Centre will be



replaced by GP Hubs at four locations across Croydon, open 8am to 8pm, seven days a week. To access the GP Hubs, you will need to phone NHS 111 before you go (free to call from landlines or mobiles) to help you access the right care service. For further information and to find your nearest hub, visit www.croydongphub.co.uk.



Talking About Adult Social Care

Do you or the person you care for use adult social care services in Croydon?

Croydon Adult Social Services User Panel (CASSUP) is holding a Talking About Adult Social Care event on Thursday 9 March, 1.30pm - 4.30pm at Community Space, Bernard Weatherill House, 8 Mint Walk, Croydon CR0 1EA. This is your chance to hear more about local services and share your ideas and experiences with decision-makers. This year's theme is *Advocacy*.

The event is free but must be booked in advance - to book a place, call Rachel Pankhurst on 020 8726 6100 or email CASSUP@croydon.gov.uk.



Free online training for Croydon residents

Want to access training, but unable to get there in person due to caring commitments? You may find online training useful. Croydon Council and Me Learning provide free online training for anyone who lives or works in Croydon. Training topics include safeguarding, autism awareness, e-safety, mental capacity and the Care Act. Successful

completion of the training awards
learners with a certificate: [Learn more](#)



A selection of relevant news items from across the country



Department for Work & Pensions

Government announces plans to change to PIP rules

The government has [announced plans to change the entitlement rules for Personal Independence Payment \(PIP\)](#).

The new rules will:

- Make it harder for people with mental health problems to qualify for the mobility component
- Make it harder for people to qualify for PIP who don't get therapy but need help to both manage their medication and monitor their condition

The new regulations will come into force on **16 March**, and the government has said that the changes [will only apply to claims made after that date](#).

If you need more information regarding your individual benefits situation, [get in touch with us](#).

Contact a Family has more information on the changes: [Read more](#)

National disability and carers' charities ask government to halt



ESA cuts

Ahead of the government Budget this week, disability and carer organisations have joined forces in an 11th hour call for the Government to reconsider [planned cuts to the Work Related Activity Group \(WRAG\) of Employment Support Allowance \(ESA\)](#), which will see new claimants (not current claimants) lose out on £30-a-week, or £1500 a year. At a time when one in three households with a disabled member are living in poverty, £30 a week can be a huge loss in income.

Charities signing the open letter include Carers UK, the national carers' charity which the Carers' Information Service is affiliated to. [You can read the letter online.](#)

You can also ask your local MP to sign the Early Day Motion to cancel the change: [learn more](#)

Please note that this change will apply to new claimants only. For more information on how changes will affect your individual situation, [contact us.](#)

TARGET OVARIAN CANCER

Ovarian cancer - know the signs

March is [Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month](#). Spotting the early signs of ovarian cancer is crucial to tackling the disease, but less than a third of women in the UK are confident they know the symptoms. Know the signs: [Learn more.](#)

National survey for carers of someone with dementia



Do you care for someone with dementia and live in Croydon? If so, the University of York would be interested to hear from you.

About the research

The study is being conducted by the University of York in partnership with Dementia UK, who run the Admiral Nursing service. The findings will then be fed back to the government and published widely so that the people who plan and provide services for people affected by dementia have better evidence about how to support them.

Take part in the survey

[You can fill in the survey online.](#) We will also have paper copies available at the Carers Support Centre.



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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.](#)

Contact us

Call: 020 8649 9339, option 1
Email: info@carersinfo.org.uk
Website: www.carersinfo.org.uk



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 bookings@carersinfo.org.uk.

The Carers' Information Service is part of The Whitgift Foundation. The Whitgift Foundation has a charitable commitment to provide education for the young and care for the elderly in the Borough of Croydon: [learn more](#)

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