

Winter 2023

SOLIDARITY

The quarterly newsletter of One Fund For All

Parish Councils to the Rescue!

**GRASSMOOR, HASLAND
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PARISH COUNCIL**



DUWC Re-opens Three Outreaches Thanks to Grant Funding

Derbyshire Unemployed
Workers' Centres
1 Rose Hill East
Chesterfield
S40 1NU

Tel: 01246 231 441

Email: info@duwc.org.uk



duwc.org.uk



[@derbyshireuwc](https://twitter.com/derbyshireuwc)



[@derbyshireUWC](https://www.facebook.com/derbyshireUWC)

Brand New DUWC Outreaches

The Henry Smith Charity

Derbyshire Unemployed Workers' Centres are delighted to announce that we have reopened three outreaches that have been closed since the pandemic. When the elected members of the Conservative administration at North-East Derbyshire District Council decided to withdraw their grant funding to DUWC in 2019, it became untenable to keep outreach offices in Clay Cross, North Wingfield, and Grassmoor open. Now, thanks to new funding from the Henry Smith Charity and grant funding from the parish councils of Clay Cross, North Wingfield, and Grassmoor, DUWC have been able to return to all three locations to provide much needed, and much missed, support and representation to local people.

Despite having been open (at the time of writing) for just a week, the number of local residents that have come to the outreaches demonstrates the clear need for the services DUWC provide, a need that has been ignored for too long by the local Conservative council. Our thanks go out again to Henry Smith for enabling us to return to NE Derbyshire.

Clay Cross (top photo)

The outreach at Clay Cross has moved to the Social Centre on Market Street and will run on Mondays from 10.00 to 13.00. Our advisor Keran Gladders will be primarily running the Clay Cross outreach.

Grassmoor (right)

The outreach at Grassmoor has returned to the same venue as before, in the Community Centre on New Street. The session runs on Friday mornings from 9.00-11.30, and will primarily be staffed by our advisor Jon Jarvis.

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North Wingfield

The outreach in North Wingfield is based in the Community Resource Centre on Whiteleas Avenue, and runs on Tuesday afternoons from 13.00-15.30 and will be primarily staffed by our advisor Brigit Shipman.

With all three outreaches, there is no need to make an appointment, just come and see us during the allotted hours and we will be happy to help! As ever, if you are unsure where your nearest DUWC outreach office is, or if you want to check anything with us over the phone before attending in person, you can do so by calling 01246 231441 Monday to Friday, 8.00-16.00.

The full list of our outreach centres and opening times can be found on the final page of this newsletter.



CISWO Funding and Job Vacancy

In even more positive news for Derbyshire Unemployed Workers' Centres, we are pleased to report that CISWO—the Coal Mining Charity—have agreed to provide DUWC with a grant of nearly £40,000 to enable us to support former mineworkers and their families across Derbyshire and maximize their incomes during the ongoing cost of living crisis.



DUWC will use the funds to hire a full-time advice worker to provide this service. We are currently advertising this post, with a closing date for applications of 7th February 2022. If you are interested in making an application, please visit the link below. You can discuss the role informally with Colin Hampton by calling 01246 231441.

duwc.org.uk/job-opportunity-wra

DUWC—Claim All You Are Entitled To!

Over the winter months, DUWC has been running a campaign to raise awareness of Attendance Allowance, a massively under-claimed benefit which we estimate thousands of local residents may be entitled to. We have spoken at luncheon clubs, coffee mornings, and have leafleted hundreds of Derbyshire residents to encourage people to come forward and check if they are eligible.

This had had a huge impact and we have seen a big increase in the number of Attendance Allowance cases we have supported people with since the campaign began.

In December, Assistant Coordinator Matt Hunt spoke to Bolsover TV about Attendance Allowance, highlighting the relative simplicity of the claims process and the quick response time claimants tend to get from the DWP. You can watch Matt's full interview via the link below:

<https://vimeo.com/781407303>



If you are not currently claiming Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payment you may be entitled to **Attendance Allowance**

Remember: Attendance Allowance is worth more than £60 per week and *is not* means tested, nor affected by income or savings.



Derbyshire Unemployed Workers' Centres
Call 01246 231441 weekdays 8am – 4pm
or visit www.duwc.org.uk

Remember that Derbyshire Unemployed Workers' Centres can offer free, independent and confidential advice on all aspects of your benefit and credit entitlements. We can carry out benefit checks, help to fill in claim forms and help challenge decisions made by the Department for Work and Pensions right through to Social Security Appeals Tribunal if necessary. No appointment is needed, please contact us and we will always help.

Christmas Collection for the CWU

At DUWC's Christmas Party in December, attendees generously raised £400 for the Communication Worker's Union, in an expression of solidarity with striking postal workers. Just before Christmas, DUWC Coordinator Colin Hampton did his own postal round, delivering boxes of chocolates to the CWU to be distributed to the households of striking postal workers with young children, spreading some festive cheer at what has been, and continues to be, a difficult time for postal workers. Solidarity!



DUWC—Support for Refugees

Since the war in Ukraine started, DUWC got involved in regular help for Ukrainian refugees with the support of our wonderful volunteer Elina Whittington, who is always ready to help with translations. For some of our Ukrainian clients, six months of living with British families under the Homes for Ukraine scheme came to an end and for different reasons some of them decided to move and start living in independent accommodation. We continue providing help with challenges connected to house renting, energy providers and bills payment. We also got involved in organising the donations of furniture and appliances for their new start.



There are still new arrivals from Ukraine and we continue to help with basic benefits for a start. Some of them lack any knowledge in connection with British law such as housing or employment and we are working closely with the Derbyshire Law Centre to rectify this.

DAST

Everyone at Derbyshire Unemployed Workers' Centres is sad to see the departure of Joanne Gordon, the Coordinator of the Trade Union Safety Team and the Derbyshire Asbestos Support Team. Joanne has been instrumental in the success of both TRUST and DAST and will be a huge miss to all of us. Here are Joanne's reflections on her time with the organisation.



TRUST

It is time to say goodbye after working for the Trade Union Safety Team for over 20 years. I joined the organisation as Assistant Co-ordinator in 1999 working alongside the then Co-ordinator, John Knight, taking over his role when he left in 2003. I joined the organisation at a very busy time. TRUST was involved with two major projects.



Firstly, we were undertaking a rolling programme around miners' welfares in Derbyshire, offering diagnostic tests for vibration white finger, industrial deafness and chest disease for former miners to underpin civil compensation claims, working closely with Graysons Solicitors.

Secondly, we were also undertaking important research into the range and incidence of ill-health amongst former plastic chemicals workers from Vinatex. The work was important because it was 'barefoot' research meaning it involved the former workers who steered the project. We were also instrumental in extending the prescriptions for Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit to include Raynaud's Phenomenon for former plastic chemical workers. Raynaud's is a condition which causes whitening of the finger ends resulting in numbness.

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DAST

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TRUST also established the Derbyshire Asbestos Support Team in 2002 when it became evident that an organisation dedicated to helping and supporting people with asbestos-related conditions was vital.

Since that time, DAST has grown, branched out and carried out innovative and creative campaigns to raise awareness about the dangers of asbestos and I have been proud to be a part of that organisation for the past 20 years.

I will always remember the event in 2012 when we highlighted the deaths of 125 people from mesothelioma by projecting their names on the side of Derby Cathedral. Over 400 people attended and the poignancy was reflected in the silence as we watched the names scroll down.

I am proud to have worked alongside Trade Union members who have been fighting for

awareness and change including former Co-ordinator, John Knight, DAST Treasurer, Colin Hampton and our Chair, Dave Trigg. Dave will also be stepping down as Chair of DAST but will remain a Trustee.



I am also proud of our small dedicated team at DAST who work hard offering support on a daily basis and ensuring that the organisation runs efficiently and effectively with sufficient funds to offer a

good service. I have met so many wonderful people diagnosed with asbestos related diseases, although I am sorry to have met them in such difficult circumstances but have been inspired by their acceptance and bravery. However, I feel the need to move on as well as spending more time with family. If there is one thing that this job teaches you, it is to live in the moment and to cherish each day.

Thank you for your support.



Where to get advice

| | | | |
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| <p>ALFRETON Alfreton House High Street</p> <p>Tues, Weds 9.00am— 12.00pm 1.00pm-4.00pm Thurs 1.00pm-4.00pm</p> <p>01773 832237</p> | <p>BELPER Strutt Centre Derby Road</p> <p>Thursdays 1.00pm-3.30pm</p> <p>01773 832237</p> | <p>BOLSOVER Library Church St</p> <p>Tuesdays 1.00pm—3.30pm</p> <p>01623 748161</p> | <p>BRIMINGTON Community Centre High Street</p> <p>Mondays 9.00am-12.00pm</p> <p>01246 231441</p> |
| <p>CLAY CROSS Social Centre Market Street</p> <p>Mondays 10.00am-1.00pm</p> <p>01246 231441</p> | <p>CLOWNE Community Centre Recreation Close</p> <p>Wednesdays 1.0pm—3.30pm</p> <p>01623748161</p> | <p>CRESWELL Limestone House Elmton Road</p> <p>Thursdays 1.00pm -3.30pm</p> <p>01623748161</p> | <p>GRASSMOOR Community Cen- tre New Street</p> <p>Fridays 9.00am- 11.30am</p> <p>01246 231441</p> |
| <p>HASLAND Hasland Work- ing Mens Club</p> <p>Wednesdays 1.00pm— 3.30pm</p> <p>01246 231441</p> | <p>HEANOR Buxton Room Heanor Town Hall</p> <p>Thursdays 9.00am—11.30am</p> <p>01773 832237</p> | <p>NEW HOUGH- TON Community Hub Rotherham Rd</p> <p>Thursdays 10.00am— 2.00pm</p> <p>01623 748161</p> | <p>NORTH WING- FIELD Community Cen- tre</p> <p>Tuesdays 1.00pm-3.30pm</p> <p>01246 231441</p> |
| <p>PINXTON Church Hall Kirkstead Road</p> <p>Mondays 9.30am— 12.00pm</p> <p>01773 832237</p> | <p>SHIREBROOK 54 Patchwork Row Mon, Tues, Weds 9.00am- 11.30am and 1.00pm—4.00pm Thurs, Friday 9.00am— 11.30am</p> <p>01623 748161</p> | <p>SOMERCOTES Parish Hall Nottingham Road</p> <p>Mondays 1.30pm—4.00pm</p> <p>01773 832237</p> | <p>STAVELEY Library</p> <p>Monday and Thursday 9.30am—12 noon</p> <p>01246 231441</p> |

CHESTERFIELD 1 Rose Hill East

**Mon—Fri
9.30am—1.00pm**

**or
Call**

**01246 231441
Mon-Fri
8.00 am—4.00pm**

Don't Forget...

To remember Derbyshire One Fund For All in your will, or to ask for donations in lieu of flowers at your funeral.

Let our future be your

Co-ordinator

Colin Hampton
colin.hampton@duwc.org.uk

Assistant Co-ordinator

Matt Hunt
Matthew.hunt@duwc.org.uk

info@duwc.org.uk
www.duwc.org.uk