



somerset **village** &  
**community agents**  
part of CCS

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## May Village Agent News

**The world is finally opening back up again!** We are really looking forward to being able to get back out in the community to see our clients!

Why not look up your local community centre, hobby or Carers group and see when they are active again? If you are not sure what is available in your local area give us a call on 01823 331 222 and we can connect you!

The re-opening of services will bring great relief to the many thousands of unpaid Carers in Somerset who have not had access to respite facilities for a considerable length of time.

Organisations such as Heads Up Somerset who provide day care for those with brain injuries, learning difficulties and dementia in the Wells area have reopened from April 1<sup>st</sup> - you can call them on 01749 670667 or visit <http://www.headsupsomerset.org.uk/>

There is also The Filo Project for Somerset residents The Filo Project offers high quality day care for small groups of older people that have memory loss or moderate dementia. You can call them on [0333 939 8225](tel:03339398225) or visit <https://www.thefiloproject.co.uk/>

We Hear You provides free therapeutic support to children, families and individuals in Somerset affected by cancer and other life-threatening conditions. Their face-to-face services are reopening and you can contact them on 01373 455 255 or visit <https://www.wehearyou.org.uk/>

If you are an unpaid Carer, please do get in touch – you may not feel you need any help and support right now, but we can just check in with you, so you know what's available if and when you feel you would benefit from further advice. Right now, we can help you with anything from finding a sitting service if you have a hospital appointment, a package of care if you or a family member are returning from hospital, or provide you with a little rest from cooking with our 'Carer Packs' - delicious pre-made meals for you and the person you care for. We can help make your everyday life a little easier, check you are receiving the correct benefits and look at the whole family support need, especially as we work closely with your doctor's surgery and adult social care. We have a freephone Carers Advice line you can call 0800 31 68 600 or text 'CARER' to 78070 and the Carers Advice line will call you back.

Whether or not you care for someone you may need a little extra help at home. From personal care, Carers respite to household jobs a micro-provider could be just what you're looking for!

Micro-providers are providers of very small, community based care and support services. A micro-provider has eight or fewer paid or unpaid workers and totally independent of a larger organisation. Examples of micro-services could include:

- Support to keep a person well, social and remain independent
- Support to people living in their own homes
- Short breaks and holidays
- Support to access employment, education and leisure
- Day support and help around the home.

As Village Agents, we can help connect you with the right micro-provider for your needs - and it may be that you have more than one undertaking different tasks for you, as many have different areas of expertise.

It's also a great career opportunity to become a micro-provider. It's very rewarding and worth considering if you want to start a new career or fresh challenge! You would be well supported starting up with the Somerset Micro-enterprise Project - <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/somerset-micro-enterprise-project/> - you can become an accredited provider, decide your hours and what areas of work you want to do – call Rhys on 07788350806 for more information.

**Hopefully next month we will have news of our Talking Cafes returning to venues across Somerset – but for now don't forget you can catch us live on weekdays at**

**[www.facebook.com/talkingcafesomerset](http://www.facebook.com/talkingcafesomerset) and we look forward to meeting you or seeing you again soon out in the community!**