

Jennie Falconer - a lady with caring at heart

Many will know Jennie from HaywardBefriending, others for 'Contact the Elderly' afternoon teas or from setting up the MHA 'Live at Home' scheme in Anlaby. She is also a volunteer for Silver Line, the charity set up by Esther Rantzen as a 'Childline' for older people, and for volunteering for Hull City of Culture. Now she is the Marketing Manager for the brand new Crown Care Home in Wingfield Way, Beverley which is scheduled to open in March. How does she manage to fit so much in? Just Beverley managed to squeeze into her busy schedule to find out!

Jennie has worked with older people for the past 30 years, in both paid and voluntary work. In fact, her days are devoted to ensuring older people enjoy their later years. She has a myriad of ideas, too, which she would like to get off the ground when she has the time!

One of the companies Jennie is involved with is HaywardBefriending, which is a growing service for the people of Beverley, and surrounding areas, who may be in need of a little support. One example of someone who has been helped is Beverley resident Joan. Joan injured her wrist and was struggling with shopping. She contacted HaywardBefriending who arranged to pick her up from home and take her to the supermarket, accompanied her around the supermarket, packed her shopping and returned her and her shopping back home. Joan now calls HaywardBefriending whenever she needs some support to do her 'big shop'. She also calls upon HaywardBefriending to do the jobs she struggles with, like defrosting the freezer and cleaning windows.

HaywardBefriending can also help take pressure off carers, by giving them some practical help or respite care. For example, Mary, who is her husband's carer, is not well herself and has been awarded funding from the local authority for help with housework; HaywardBefriending provides this service. Or there is Susan, who needed a break from caring for her husband, Robert, who has dementia, to visit other members of the family. HaywardBefriending visited Robert to check he had taken his medication, eaten his meals and spend some quality time chatting to him.

HaywardBefriending can also help with support with paperwork and correspondence, appointment transportation, pets and

computers. Contact them on **07834 491242** or email jennie@haywardbefriending.org.uk

Now Jennie is working at Claremont House, marketing the fabulous facilities which Crown Care is providing for people requiring residential, nursing or memory impairment care whilst enabling and promoting independence.

Jennie said: "I have set up a brand new extra-care retirement village in Lichfield in Staffordshire, as well as the 'Live at Home' scheme in Anlaby so promoting Claremont House fits well with my skill-set. Crown Care is a family business which has built several other care homes - their experience means Claremont House incorporates the latest equipment, styling and thinking in care homes. There are 73 luxury suites including several premium suites, all with private wet rooms and hotel-style beds, 3 restaurants, a roof-top café, a terrace, a licensed bar, a variety of lounges, hair and beauty salons and even a cinema!

"It is a lifestyle choice when you choose to move into a residential or nursing home so you deserve the best. For many people, it can mean opportunities to make new friends and enjoy new experiences as well as getting any care they may need. Our Manager and Deputy Manager are both highly-qualified nurses.

"Have I mentioned the food yet? It's amazing! All diets, tastes and nutritional requirements are catered for. We have a wide range of activities and social interaction sessions and encourage visitors of all ages to come and get involved in our community, as well as the relatives of our guests.

"We are actively recruiting staff in all departments - catering, nursing, caring, house-keeping, maintenance, beauty and hairdressing. Do get in touch if you would like to join us! Give me a call on **07833 291973** for an informal chat."

It is testament to Jennie's organisational and time-management skills that she does find time for her volunteering work, but looking out for older people is in Jennie's bones. She is particularly keen to expand the 'Contact the Elderly' Sunday Afternoon Teas which happen once-a-month. She is looking for hosts who can provide the tea and have the space to accommodate 6 guests and for drivers to



transport the guests to and from the venue. Hosts would only be expected to offer once a year.

Jennie said: "Sunday is such a long day for people who have no local relatives or friends; this scheme reduces social isolation and is a lovely way for anyone with the space to give something back. If you know of anyone who is lonely who might enjoy this type of thing, please give me a call on **01482 866868**. It's the same number for volunteers!

"A local hairdressing salon has offered to do the guest's hair before the next Afternoon Tea, for which we are most grateful. Anything like that which makes them feel that extra bit special is very welcome!"

We feel very privileged to have met such a dynamic, caring lady!



HAYWARD Befriending

Are you, or someone you know, struggling to maintain independence?

Do you need time-out from your role as carer?

HaywardBefriending can provide support for adults aged 18-65 and 65+

- Company at home
- Accompanied outings
- Shopping with/for you
- Handyperson service
- Support with paperwork
- Support with housework
- Appointment transportation
- Pet service



Contact Jennie for further details
Call: 01482 868166 or 07834 491242

www.haywardbefriending.org.uk