

# Newsletter

Open Mon-Fri  
11-3pm

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Free Sign Classes in  
Motherwell.

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SPAEN—

Self Directed  
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Tom Douglas tells  
us about his  
volunteering  
experiences.

## Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007: Part 1

### What is the purpose of the Act?

The Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007 (the Act) was passed by the Scottish Parliament in February 2007. The Act introduces measures in relation to adults who are at risk from the many forms that harm can take, whether this is physical or psychological harm, neglect, sexual abuse or financial exploitation. The intention is to help identify and to support "adults at risk" and to achieve an appropriate balance between the rights of individuals to live their lives as they wish, to provide support to them when they need it, and to provide the means to reduce the risk of harm to adults.

### Who is affected by the Act?

The Act affects several groups of people, including:

- **adults at risk** and their families/carers;
- health and social work practitioners and managers, whom the Act confers a number of powers and duties on;
- police, who have a role regarding protection orders and any attached powers of arrest;
- courts - Sheriffs have powers and duties relating to the granting of protection orders;
- public bodies with powers of investigation or with a duty to co-operate with investigations;
- providers of advocacy and support services;
- holders of financial information, for example, banks, who may be required to produce the financial records of an adult at risk at the request of a council officer.

### Who are adults at risk?

The Act defines adults at risk as individuals, aged 16 years or over, who:

- are unable to safeguard themselves, their property, rights or other interests;
- are at risk of **harm**; and
- because they are affected by disability, mental disorder, illness or physical or mental infirmity, are more vulnerable to being harmed than others who are not so affected.

**More information on this Act can be found at [www.scotland.gov.uk](http://www.scotland.gov.uk) or call 0131 244 3287 to speak to their Adult Protection Legislation Team.**

**Lanarkshire Deaf Club**

Lanarkshire Deaf Club are situated within our office space, they have recently set up basic sign language classes for any member of the public or organisations to attend. They have had a huge response, overwhelming in fact so we hope this will lead to great things for them. They have a social night every Saturday in Motherwell's Daisy Park Centre and this is open to anyone, so if you have a loved one, friend, relative who is hearing impaired then this may be what they need please contact Ian Galloway either on 01698 275710 or email [lanarkshdeafclub@btconnect.com](mailto:lanarkshdeafclub@btconnect.com) for more information.

Due to the high demand please call to book on 01698 275710.

**Lanarkshire Helplines:****Mental Health**

North Lanarkshire Mental Health Information – 0800 073 0918

Lanarkshire Links - 01698 265232 or 265254

**Deaf and Hearing Impaired**

Lanarkshire Deaf Club – 01698 275710 [lanarkshdeafclub@btconnect.com](mailto:lanarkshdeafclub@btconnect.com)

**Blind and Sight Impaired**

RNIB -0131 311 8500 (Edinburgh Head office)

**Children and young people with disabilities**

Partners in Play – 01698 230130

**Carers**

North Lanarkshire Carers Together – 01698 404055

**Elderly**

Voice of Experience – 01236 758855

**Disabled Access Information**

North Lanarkshire Disability Access Panel – can be contacted through North Lanarkshire Disability Forum 01698 275710

**Did you know you can apply for a Passport to Leisure if you are a North or South Lanarkshire resident, eligible group are listed on their website but if you would like to know more please call us on 01698 275710 OR call 01236 812371 for North Lanarkshire Council's Creative Service Dept. Also your carer can get a passport to leisure if they receive Invalid Care Allowance or have a Princess Trust Carers Card.**



## Self Directed Support North Lanarkshire



SPAEN is a membership organisation and its members are all people who have made the transition from having their care needs organised by the state to taking over the management and control of their own assistance. We can carry out enhanced disclosure checks on behalf of Personal Assistants Employers who require their potential P.A.s to be checked against the relevant registers. We also offer Training Programmes for P.A. Employers: Coaching and Development Programme and The Working in Partnership Programme for Organisations and Individuals.

**The role of the Self Directed Support Worker** is to offer information and support to people in the North Lanarkshire Council area who

- a) require assistance starting their own independent living packages
- b) currently are on Self Directed Support (Direct Payments)
- c) are transferring from the old ILS Scheme, or
- d) are part of the In Control pilot project .

If you have had a care assessment and receive support from the local authority, or are in the process of this you may choose to receive funding from the council and organise your own care. You can do this by becoming an employer or contracting with an agency. Being in receipt of Self Directed Support and using this money to employ your own workers can be a very daunting prospect. I can assist with preparation of Job descriptions and adverts for personal assistants. I can advise on insurances you would require as an employer. I can also give you details of who can help you with payroll calculations which covers tax and national insurance deductions.

The benefits to people receiving their care this way is that choice, control and flexibility is given back to you. You can decide who comes into your home to assist you, when this happens and for how long. If a change to your daily routine is required, as happens more often than not, you are in control of the arrangements that need to be made **to suit you**.

SPAEN are hosting an **Information Day on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May** at the Dalziel Building in Scott Street, Motherwell. Further details will be available from the website: [www.spaen.co.uk](http://www.spaen.co.uk) Please contact Linda Towler, Self Directed Support Worker on 01698 250280 for further information.

My name is Tom Douglas and I have been an admin volunteer with the North Lanarkshire Disability Forum since February 2009. I worked full time up until 2 years ago till a back injury forced me to give up working. As a result of my physical health, my mental health deteriorated and I became unwell and ended up in hospital.

I turned to volunteering as I wanted to meet new people and looking at options at becoming involved in community work and trying to raise my self esteem and confidence.

Through working with the NLDF I feel that the work is really interesting and diverse and allows me to try and help other people by raising more awareness of the issues facing people that suffer from all disabilities.

I am also an active participant in community action groups that want to make positive changes and contributions on behalf of people that have disabilities and who live and reside within North Lanarkshire.

Through working as a volunteer for the North Lanarkshire Disability Forum has given me the chance to meet other people who have similar disability issues and are trying to change the general public's view/ attitudes regarding people that have disabilities.

Too often people see the disability rather than the person who has so many valuable skills, qualities and attributes. I have found volunteering for North Lanarkshire Disability Forum very helpful and self rewarding.

You can contact us at 41-42 Civic Square, Motherwell, ML1 1TP. TEL: 01698 275710. EMAIL: [lorraine@nldforum.plus.com](mailto:lorraine@nldforum.plus.com)