

On Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December, the South Area Carers and Staff met for an Informal Support Group and Christmas Lunch in the Colebrook Community Centre in Plympton. The event was really well attended with over 50 carers and some pre-schoolers attending during the three hours that the event ran. A buffet lunch was very well received, as was the opportunity for carers to partake in making some felted figurines, a crafting activity very kindly provided by Emma Roberts, one of our carers. It was a great opportunity for carers from all over the south area to meet each other – some from the ‘far north’ (Teignmouth!) had never met those from the deepest south (Salcombe) and west (Tavistock)! All those who attended seemed to thoroughly enjoy the event; we’ve had some really positive feedback since and another is already booked for next year – although we think we may need a bigger hall!

It is really great to see all our carers responding to the activities that are being put on in all the areas currently. Carers in South will attend a day at Dartmoor Zoo, kindly organised by one of our Peer Guides, Katherine Page on 17<sup>th</sup> December and many are eagerly anticipating the Panto in January! It was great to have Luke Chapman with us; giving him chance to meet carers face to face and talk about some of his hopes for the coming year.

Many Thanks go to all who made the event possible – with special “Thank-You’s” to the lovely Fran and Sharon, who with all their hard work in the administration and booking of carers and caterers made the event the success it was. We were joined by our partners in the CPST, Matt and Graham, who carers really appreciated meeting and also staff from other areas of the service and other geographical areas. It was great to see so many smiling faces! See who you can spot that you might know in our mugs gallery!



