

february



Hello from Alzheimer Café Isle of Wight!

Welcome to our February Newsletter!

Despite the cold snap this week, it feels as though spring is just around the corner. The evenings are getting a longer, the mornings are brighter, and we've even spotted some bluebells on the ground!

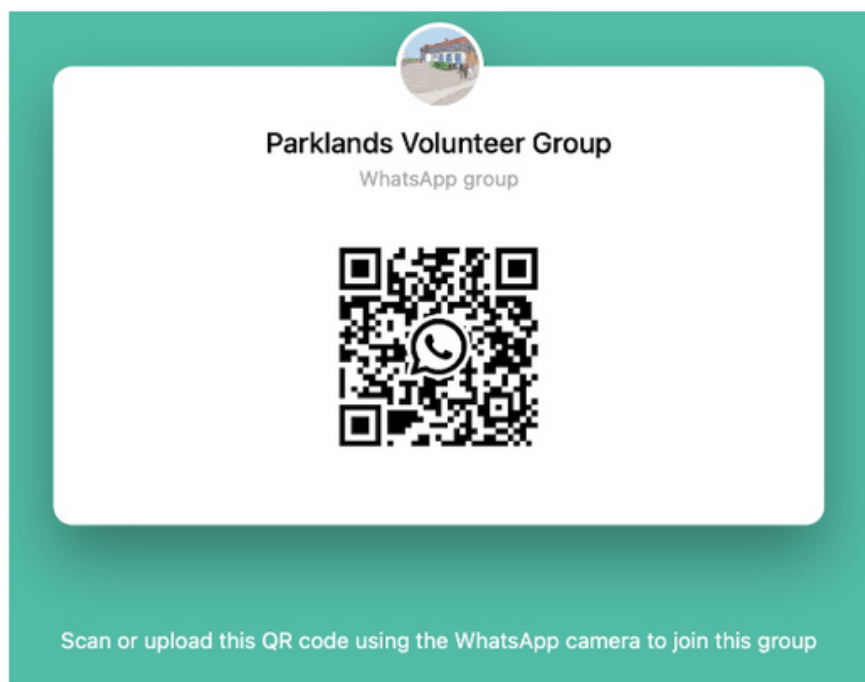
The other very exciting thing about spring 2024 is that we're opening our doors at Parklands! Our team of volunteers have been working harder than ever for our grand opening, and the progress is quite amazing!

We'll be adding a full Parklands update to our website next week so keep your eyes peeled!



We're always looking for more hands on deck to help with getting Parklands ready for the big day. Our volunteer days are **Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays** and as the date for the grand opening draws ever closer, we're putting in some elbow grease at the weekends too! If you're interesting in helping, you can join our volunteers WhatsApp group to stay up to date!

Scan the QR code below!



Introducing Donna White



We are incredibly excited to officially introduce the Executive Manager of Parklands, Donna White. Donna is professional mental health OT who has also been the registered manager of a residential care home with huge experience of supporting older people with dementia and other health and social care support needs and their families. Donna has been in post for almost a month and is doing an incredible job making sure Parklands is ready to open its doors very soon!

Out and About!

We were lucky enough to be invited by Medina Foodservice to attend an event at Tapnell Farm this week. We met so many lovely people, and received some incredibly generous prizes for our upcoming raffle!



Tickets for our raffle will go on sale at Parklands soon and we'll be adding a list of prizes to our website over the next few days.

We'd like to say a huge thank all of the businesses who contributed prizes for our raffle. The kindness and generosity of local Island businesses and the whole community has been quite overwhelming!

Spotlight: **The Newport Café**

The Newport Alzheimer Café, which is run by joint co-ordinators Maggie Bennett (CEO, Alzheimer Café IOW) and Louise Jones, was established in 2009 and is our longest running café.

The Newport café has had a couple of moves over the last 14 years and recently found a 'new home' in the **Newclose County Cricket Ground Pavilion**. The Pavilion is a fabulous and spacious location which looks out over the cricket ground, has a large onsite car park, and a bar to boot!

At our cafés, presentations are given each month on a dementia related theme - see our 2024 programme for Newport below. We welcome anyone who has an interest in dementia, or would like to find out more about dementia. We offer informal education about dementia, information, signposting to other services, and have regular visits from other professionals, i.e., Carers IW and Age UK who are able to offer their support and guidance.

You don't need to book in advance for any of our cafés, just come along and you will be given a warm welcome.

At our Newport Café, a light supper is provided, along with a listening ear and the chance to chat with others who are 'all in the same boat!'

Vote for us at Tesco!



We are excited to share that our Parklands project has been put forward to a customer vote in Tesco stores. Voting will commence in store from the first week in April 2024 until the end of June 2024. If we win, we will receive £1,500 towards Alzheimer Café @ Parklands. You can vote for us at the following stores:

Ryde (Tesco Extra) PO33 1QS
Wootton Bridge PO33 4LX
Lake (Sandown Road) PO36 9EH
Ventnor High Street PO38 1LT

Thank you in advance for your support and your votes!

Thank you for taking the time to read our February newsletter. We really enjoy bringing you news of what we've been up to, and welcome you to share our updates with anyone you think may be interested!

Remember, you can always [check our website](#) for more Parklands updates plus all Alzheimer Café Isle of Wight news and events!