

Omega News Media Release

Monday 23rd January 2017



On Wednesday the 18th of January, the Mayor of Shrewsbury Councillor Ioan Jones presented a large gift hamper on behalf of two local charities to Mrs Julie Davies of Ditherington, Shrewsbury. Julie was chosen to receive the hamper by Omega care for life and North Shrewsbury Friendly Neighbours.

The two charities work closely together to support clients in need of practical help, information and emotional support. This is just one example of how Omega care for life and North Shrewsbury Friendly Neighbours share the caring. Both organisations have seen a sharp increase in client referrals. Sadly, the number of more complex cases involving clients in crisis is increasing too.

The Omega Chatterbox Action Against Loneliness and Crisis Support Programme complements the equally valuable face-to-face service delivered by the North Shrewsbury Friendly Neighbours, which includes help with befriending, shopping, transport to appointments and help with form filling. Omega Chatterbox has helped clients from local authority areas across the West Midlands and beyond.

Omega's Kylie Robson-Lee (Coordinator, Leadership and Development, Omega Chatterbox) said: "Hardworking volunteers are the backbone of the essential services we deliver. Like North Shrewsbury Friendly Neighbours, we recognise that the only way we can meet ever increasing demand is by recruiting even more enthusiastic volunteers with the mix of skills we need. We thank the Mayor and Shrewsbury Town Council for helping us to promote our key message that caring is everyone's business."

Speaking on behalf of both charities, Julie Thomas (Coordinator North Shrewsbury Friendly Neighbours) agreed and said: "The strength of our organisations lies in the quality, kindness and compassion of lots of hardworking volunteers."

Julie Davies, whose sight is severely impaired, said she was: "Very pleased to have been chosen this year" and thanked the Mayor for agreeing to present her hamper, which included an annual subscription to the Omega Lottery.

The Omega Chatterbox team are always keen to find new telephone befrienders. If you would like to join the Chatterbox team, call Kylie or Carole on 01743 245 088 or email chatterboxleader@omega.uk.net. To find out more about North Shrewsbury Friendly Neighbours call Julie or Lesley on 01743 235 505 or email juliethomas@nsfn.org.uk.



L-R: Mayor of Shrewsbury Councillor Ioan Jones presenting a hamper to Julie Davies, accompanied by Julie Thomas, Coordinator, North Shrewsbury Friendly Neighbours

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Instagram: www.instagram.com/omegacareforlife

Donate

To donate by text, send a message to 70070; type the code omeg01 followed by a space and the amount you want to give from the following: £1, £2, £3, £4, £5, £10. You will receive a text receipt and the change to add Gift Aid. Every penny of your donation will go to Omega; there are no running costs with JustTextGiving. To donate by card or cheque, go to www.omega.uk.net and click the 'Donate' button on the homepage.

To subscribe to the Omega Lottery visit: <http://www.omega.uk.net/omega-lottery-p-200.htm>

Ends

Notes for Editors

Omega care for life (Omega, the National Association for End of Life Care) is an end of life charity; Registered Charity No.1120322, Registered Company No.6196052. Omega provides befriending and bereavement support and works with caring families looking after people suffering from long-term or life-limiting conditions and socially isolated individuals. Omega encourages self-help and peer support, delivers community learning activity and facilitated group sessions and hosts lively outreach and information sharing events. Omega also maintains contact with family care-givers and former carers through the Omega Network, comprising dynamic groups which allow unpaid family carers to meet informally. Omega works collaboratively with a range of delivery partners including successful businesses, Third Sector not-for-profit groups, local authorities and organisations within the NHS. Omega works with patients suffering from motor neurone disease, and their families, across the country to share information and develop innovative, high impact, non-clinical, easily-affordable support. The Charity is also the home of the Chatterbox Action Against Loneliness and Crisis Support Programme. For further information about Omega's work, please contact Development Director Tom Memery; email thomas@omega.uk.net.