

Interested in volunteering?  
We urgently need your help



We are a small Wirral charity who provide transport, shopping and friendship for older people and those in need of a little support.

Whether you can spare a few hours per week, or a couple of days per month, you can help make a real difference to someone's life.

Call now to find out more:

0151 648 3322

[www.helpink.org.uk](http://www.helpink.org.uk)

**Make a difference. Volunteer Today**

Charity Number: 1141283



## Local charity calling on residents to help combat social isolation across the Wirral



Jo O'Donovan

A Wirral charity that provides practical help and friendship to elderly and vulnerable people in our community has issued an urgent plea for volunteers.

The charity HelpLink began in Heswall 22 years ago as a 'Good Neighbours' Scheme' and supports local residents who are finding life a little difficult. Volunteers perform a range of tasks, such as shopping, taking clients to medical appointments or social engagements, and offering friendship to those who are alone. Many clients have no family or friends close by to help, and so the charity is literally a lifeline.

HelpLink desperately needs more people who can spare a couple of hours a week to keep up with the growing demand for their support.

Jo O'Donovan has been a volunteer at HelpLink for seven years, and says it is the most rewarding thing she has ever done.

Jo says: "One of my regular clients is in her 80s, is disabled and housebound, with no family or friends in the area. I shop for her and when I drop off her shopping she is always dressed smartly – she is amazing. She lives alone in her bungalow and the only time she leaves the house is to go to hospital appointments via ambulance. Without us, I honestly don't know how she would get food and I am the only person who comes to the house for a chat each week.

"My clients always tell me how grateful they are, as they don't know what they would do without me – which makes me so sad on one hand, but so very glad I can help on the other. What I do for my clients, they also do for me – I can't tell you how many hugs I get and give each week!"

In the past year, HelpLink's volunteers have given 37,500 hours of support to over 750 elderly clients, but there are so many more vulnerable people on the Wirral who desperately need our help.

**If you do feel you could help, please call HelpLink on 0151 648 3322 or email [helpink@btconnect.com](mailto:helpink@btconnect.com)**