



Compassionate Brereton and Ravenhill

Brereton and Ravenhill Village in Staffordshire endorsed as Compassionate Community in 2022, the first place to go through the Compassionate Communities UK endorsement programme supports a wide range of community activities to support residents. The community experienced a number of deaths during COVID and the impact of that is still felt by the community today. With the community leadership of Brereton Million the community rallied around and supported each other, including sitting alongside people who were dying.

All of the activities are supported by local volunteers and business, including:-

- Vysions Youth Group
- Craft groups
- Edible gardens
- Shopping and prescription collecting
- Bereavement buddies
- Walks
- Community Shop
- Community Cafe
- Befriending and respite for people who are seriously ill or who are supporting those that are

As part of being a Compassionate Community the team host additional activities specifically targeted at raising death literacy in the population.

In 2023 a week of activities called "Getting Your Affairs in Order" ran with support from organisations including funeral directors, probate/wills, dementia friends, bereavement charities, hospices etc. In addition there were presentations on various elements such as advance care planning, digital legacy, power of attorney and in particular WHY it is so important to get your affairs in order for those we leave behind.

Residents completed the Death Literacy Index and in comparison to another UK area, the results seem to indicate a higher confidence rating that local people know what support groups are available to them and that they can talk about bereavement.

The 2024 event is going to be a Day of the Dead celebration to target other residents who may not yet have engaged. The market place event during the day will target areas in the death literacy index that scored lower e.g. access to equipment, day to day care and palliative care service.

The death literacy index will be repeated in 2026

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