

Press Release
January 22 2009

Support agency's roadshows help to raise awareness of its services



Care & Repair Torfaen has been supporting the Welsh Assembly Government's Keep Well This Winter campaign all this week by holding a series of roadshows in Torfaen.

The support agency visited venues all around Pontypool this week to advise pensioners and disabled homeowners of the adaptations it could offer them to make it easier to live independently in their own homes.

George and Iris Palmer from New Inn visited the Care and Repair Roadshow at Pontypool indoor market to find out how they could benefit from the agency.

Iris recently fell down the stairs in her home and, at the roadshow, she discovered that she was eligible to receive support services from the agency. She said: "I'd heard about Care and Repair Torfaen before, but I hadn't realised that I could benefit from its services. I was told that I'd probably be eligible for a hand rail to be installed by my stairs and new taps fitted. The hand rail in particular would be a great help to me as it'd not only offer me protection from falling, but peace of mind too."

Joanne Davies, a Care & Repair Torfaen administrator, said: "We're here to make life easier for people. We can help them find funding, obtain quotes

from approved contractors, oversee building work and inspect completed work. Many people don't know we exist, so that's why these roadshows have been so beneficial. We've had a lot of interest so far and we hope that roadshows next week are just as successful."

The roadshows next week will take place at the following venues:

- **Monday January 26** – Carreg Wen Surgery, Blaenavon – **9am - 11:30am**
- **Tuesday January 27** – Woodland Road Social Club (annexe) – **2pm - 4pm**
- **Wednesday January 28** – B & Q, Cwmbran – **10am - 2:30pm**

The local Torfaen agency helped more than 1,181 people continue to live independently in their own homes last year.

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Photo caption:

- George and Iris Palmer found out that they were eligible for support from Care & Repair Torfaen after visiting the agency's roadshow.

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Notes to editors:

- Care & Repair Torfaen is funded by the Welsh Assembly Government, Torfaen County Borough Council, Torfaen Local Health Board and Melin Homes.
- The Agency exists to enable older, vulnerable or disabled home owners or private tenants to remain in their own homes, within their own communities, living as independently as possible. This is achieved through the improvement of their housing conditions and consequent improvement in their level of comfort, health and security.
- Care and Repair Cymru is the national body for Wales which promotes, develops and supports Care & Repair Home Improvement Agency Services for older and disabled people.
- Keep Well This Winter is a national campaign aimed at helping people aged over 65.