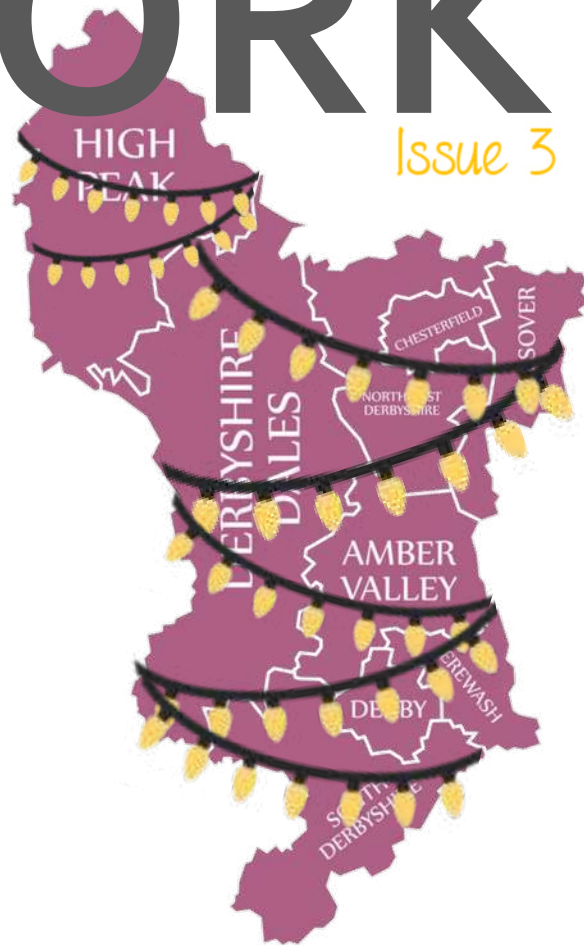


# NETWORK

HO HO HOME EDITION

Issue 3



# Hello

## Hello to all our friends and colleagues!

During these past 10 months an awful lot has changed. However, amongst all the challenges and trouble, one thing has remained the same - and that's the voluntary and community sectors ability to support, champion and connect with vulnerable people. As always, Derbyshire Voluntary Action are heading into a new year feeling proud to work with and on behalf of all the amazing voluntary organisations and community groups who constantly go above and beyond for those in need.

We wish you all a safe and magical festive season, and we look forward to continuing our work with you in 2021... hopefully in person!

*From all at Derbyshire Voluntary Action x*

## Derbyshire Voluntary Action welcomes Debbie Fennell to the team!

Debbie Fennell has joined Derbyshire Voluntary in the newly-created role of 'Social Connectedness Development Worker.'

Debbie joins the DVA team to play a key role in the 'Feeling Connected in North East Derbyshire and Chesterfield' project – an initiative to improve local approaches to tackling social isolation and reducing the impact of loneliness.

Debbie will be working out and about in communities across Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire, supporting residents and communities to create and take up opportunities to be better socially connected.

**If you have ideas about keeping your community connected this winter, Debbie would love to hear from you. Call her on 07547 342251, email [debbie@dva.org.uk](mailto:debbie@dva.org.uk) or find her on facebook: FeelingConnectedNEDC.**



## Derbyshire Voluntary Action welcomes Emma Holt to the team!

Emma Holt has joined the Derbyshire Voluntary Action team in a new role that will involve the ongoing volunteer coordination and support of the Community Response Unit. Emma will help to develop a pool of appropriately trained, well-supported volunteers ready and willing to step up to provide emotional support to others during the winter.

Along with this, Emma will be providing ongoing support and supervision to the existing pool of buddies and friendly call volunteers, and the new ones recruited. Emma is excited to recruit, welcome, induct and train the new befriending volunteers, whilst working collaboratively with and alongside internal and external colleagues to provide support for hyper-local community response to localised support needs.

For more information, email: [emma@dva.org.uk](mailto:emma@dva.org.uk)



## The opening hours of the Derbyshire County Council Community Response Unit over the 2020 Christmas Period are:

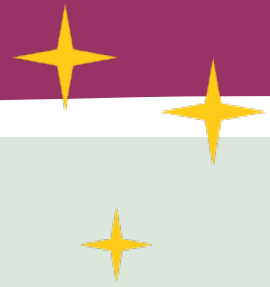
Day/Date	CRU Opening Time
Wed 23 Dec	9-5
Thu 24 Dec	9-4
Fri 25 Dec	Closed
Sat 26 Dec	Closed
Sun 27 Dec	Closed
Mon 28 Dec	Closed
Tue 29 Dec	9-5
Wed 30 Dec	9-5
Thu 31 Dec	9-4
Fri 1 Jan	Closed
Sat 2 Jan	Closed
Sun 3 Jan	Closed
Mon 4 Jan	9-5

The CRU is there to help if you have no family, friends or neighbours who can support you.

Visit: <https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/social-health/health-and-wellbeing/health-protection/disease-control/coronavirus/community-response-unit/if-you-need-help/if-you-need-help.aspx>

Or call: 01629 535091

# Be Inspired



*It's All About You!!*

**Community** Chesterfield

*Autumn – Winter 2020 Training Programme*

## **Tailored for You & Your Time**

Here at Community Chesterfield – the DVA project which ‘puts the Uni into the Community’ in Chesterfield – we love providing you with especially-funded free training to answer your needs.

Open to Health & Social Care Professionals, all staff and volunteers of Chesterfield Voluntary Sector & staff and students at University of Derby, there is an amazingly topical, timely and convenient range of training coming up!

‘**Training and Tea**’ is a series of 45 minute trainings scheduled conveniently at 9am – 9.45am led by Andrew Deighton of AWD Development Solutions. Find out more on our website: <https://www.communitychesterfield.org.uk/training> or book on with full information on: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/community-chesterfield-30163085884>

Topics include:

Wed Jan 13th **Working in and leading remote teams -**

Wed Jan 20th **Rebuilding and starting teams**

Wed Jan 27th **Getting staff back to work**

Wed Feb 3rd **Dealing with people as a team leader**

Thurs Feb 11th **Managing difficult Conversations**

Below you can see the Community Chesterfield team are all ready for Training and Tea with their cuppa! We have been asked if you can bring coffee instead, and after serious reflection.....we think that would be okay!!

## 'In Your Own Time' ....to fit round your schedule.....

Further free trainings we have made available are online 'in your own time' sessions. This series, funded-for-you by Community Chesterfield and provided by E-Learning At Work <https://www.elearningatwork.co.uk/> offer skills to help your organisation with legal compliance: for example data protection and safeguarding among many topics.

More information and a chance to book on is on our training page (scroll down to find 'Training In Your Own Time').  
<https://www.communitychesterfield.org.uk/training>

We love hearing your thoughts on our activities and of course are delighted to answer any questions. ✨

*Contact and follow us via*

Twitter/Facebook @comchesterfield or Instagram CommunityChesterfield ✨

Website <https://www.communitychesterfield.org.uk/>

Email  
[community@dva.org.uk](mailto:community@dva.org.uk)

Phone 01246 555908 to  
leave a message –  
voicemails are regularly  
checked.





## Penderels Trust: Responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic in Derbyshire



Penderels Trust is a non-profit organisation that specialises in giving people living with disabilities and long-term health conditions control over how they live their lives. We primarily assist people who receive a direct payment from their local authority, helping them become individual employers who recruit their own staff (personal assistants) for regular support. Since July 2019 we've operated in Derbyshire, providing direct payment advice and employment support as well as payroll and managed account services.

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented us with unique challenges. Our services normally involve face-to-face visits from our Independent Living Advisers but coronavirus restrictions, as well as the need for some people to shield, have prevented this. At the same time, many individual employers and personal assistants have requested crucial guidance on how the government's coronavirus guidelines impact them.

We responded quickly to these issues. In March we implemented our local Business Continuity Plan, which set out ways for us to maintain a full service whilst working from home. For example, we've adapted by offering support through remote channels, utilising software such as Zoom, Teams, Skype, FaceTime and WhatsApp – as well as email and phone calls – to keep in touch with people in the area. This way, our staff remain connected and are able to continue providing support. To make sure all individual employers and personal assistants have easy access to reliable information, we also host vital material on our website – including factsheets, resources for improving mental wellbeing, and regular updates on coronavirus guidelines in our COVID-19 FAQs. Our nationwide newsletters cover similar important topics.



Alongside this response, we've drawn on our existing systems. Our free PA Recruitment Centre and PA Finder services make advertising, recruiting and applying for a personal assistant role easy, with the entire process hosted online. Our staff have been able to give individual employers access to the platform throughout the pandemic, enabling them to continue recruitment whilst also providing local employment opportunities. With these procedures in place, we've had many success stories over the past few months. We have worked with an individual and their family to devise suitable interview questions for a personal assistant, who has since gone on to make an enormous difference to their lives. We have advised individual employers about the coronavirus guidelines, whilst explaining and facilitating key processes such as payroll support and Employers' Liability Insurance. We have supported people throughout the entire recruitment process, helping them to find personal assistants suited to their specific circumstances.

These services are crucial for the people we support, providing them with the foundation for independent living. We're proud to have continued this work throughout the pandemic and would like to thank everyone who has helped us in Derbyshire. This includes both Derbyshire County Council and Derbyshire Voluntary Action for their cooperation, and also all the personal assistants in the area – we're extremely grateful for your hard work and dedication.

For more information, visit:  
[www.penderelstrust.org.uk](http://www.penderelstrust.org.uk)

or email Artan Trota  
[atrota@penderelstrust.org.uk](mailto:atrota@penderelstrust.org.uk)

“  
I am just very  
grateful you are  
always there.  
”



# Be Inspired

## Message from Jo Peck, Project Coordinator, Feeding Derbyshire & Financial Inclusion, Rural Action Derbyshire...

*Would you be willing to help us get an extra £1000 for our Christmas School Holiday Fund? Ecclesiastical Insurance is giving £120,000 to good causes as part of its campaign. 120 different charities will receive an early Christmas gift of a £1,000 donation, with 10 winners announced each weekday from 7 to 22 December.*

*Ecclesiastical is now inviting people to nominate a registered charity to benefit from this festive financial boost, with a deadline of **21 December**.*

*Winners will be drawn at random, and **the more times a charity is nominated the more chance it has of being selected.***

***If we are selected we will donate the £1000 to our Christmas School Holiday Club appeal, to provide some Christmas treats to the food parcels over the Christmas holidays.***

***To nominate us, go to: <https://www.movementforgood.com/12days/>***

*You just need to put in your name and email address and where you are from and then put **Rural Action Derbyshire** as the charity name. If you need it, our charity number is 1061531.*





# Student Twitter Takeover

University of Derby Marketing students took over the twitter accounts of some of our DVA members. For 6 weeks during October and November students were tweeting on behalf of the charities with an aim to increase Twitter followers and to raise awareness with existing followers.

Charities had to apply to be involved and SAIL (Sexual Abuse and Incest Line), Chesterfield TimeBank, Derbyshire Alcohol Advice Service, Derbyshire Scam watch, Our Vision Our Future and Chesterfield Malayalee Association were just some of the organisations chosen to be supported by students.

One of the students Skye said “I worked with SAIL to help them promote their services by creating tweets and help their Twitter account become more active. It was important to promote the fact that SAIL’s services are still operating during the current pandemic. From the tweets that we’ve already posted there has already been an increase in followers and we’ve received feedback from SAIL saying they’ve been receiving likes from organisations such as Survivors Trust showing that our Twitter Takeover is making a difference for SAIL. We now plan to continue with tweeting feedback and support services as well as self-care tips to help people during the second lockdown”

Lecturer Tracey Powell commented ““The Twitter Takeover is a wonderful opportunity for students to support the local community, they’ve worked really hard and had success with engagement and following right from the start. The charities chosen really appreciated being included and for their Twitter profile to be raised and we hope that the impact will continue.”



SAILDerbyshire @SAILCounselling · Oct 23  
We're still operating our services to support you! We offer our services in #HighPeaks and #Chesterfield to people aged 18+ and welcome people from all backgrounds.



3 Retweets 3 Likes

Pinned Tweet

SAILDerbyshire @SAILCounselling

NATIONAL AND DERBYSHIRE SUPPORT SERVICES  
Here to give you the right support, whenever you need it



2:43 PM · Oct 30, 2020 · Twitter Web App

3 Retweets 1 Like

3 Retweets 1 Like

SAILDerbyshire @SAILCounselling · Oct 30

Replying to @SAILCounselling  
IF YOU ARE FEELING SUICIDAL

Call 999 in an emergency, your GP, NHS 111, or the Samaritans on 116 123

1 Retweet 1 Like

# Be Inspired

Dronfield Wellbeing Group is looking to connect with people who are aiming to improve their mental health and wellbeing through peer support.



COVID  
SECURE

## **New peer support group looking to connect with people who wish to improve their mental health and wellbeing**

The Dronfield Wellbeing Group was established in Spring 2020 with the aim of providing a safe environment to support people affected by mental health issues, whether Dronfield residents, or from further afield.

Our group is unique in that we aim to combine a physical meeting with an online video meeting. Our group currently meets in person at a central location in Dronfield, and also has a live video link enabling people to join us from the comfort of their own home if they prefer not to attend in person.

Peer support is about coming together to provide a listening ear to each other, sharing experiences and resources, and strengthening our coping strategies to improve our mental health and wellbeing. We provide a friendly and confidential environment for members.

**We are actively looking for new members**, regardless of where you live. The group currently meets every Monday (socially distanced) from 7:30pm at Gosforth Lodge (Cliffe Park), Dronfield, Derbyshire S18 2XP, and also has a live video link enabling people to join us via Zoom.

If you would like to join us for a meeting or would like more information please contact us by phone 07737 315211 or email [info@dronfieldwellbeing.org](mailto:info@dronfieldwellbeing.org)

Join us for a chat, meet new people, bring a brew. No commitment, no pressure, just come along and be yourself.

We are supported by the Derbyshire Recovery and Peer Support Service. For more information about our group, please visit our website [dronfieldwellbeing.org](http://dronfieldwellbeing.org)

Derbyshire Recovery & Peer Support Service

### **Covid-19**

Due to the ongoing pandemic, we have put social distancing measures in place to ensure our group remains a safe environment and is compliant with current legislation, more information about these can be found on our website [dronfieldwellbeing.org/covid19](http://dronfieldwellbeing.org/covid19) **As this is an ongoing pandemic, these measures may be subject to change.**

### *Supporting men's mental health: Mentell Signposting Link*

Do you think that a male client, family member or friend could benefit from a space where they can talk about and offload some of their worries?

If so, please visit the website below.

Mentell provides circles for men aged 18+ to talk in a safe and confidential space, free from advice and judgement.

**For more information, go to: <https://www.mentell.org.uk/>**



# Be Inspired



## Weston Park Cancer Charity is here, together at every step, for people in Chesterfield and North Derbyshire

Two of the region's leading cancer charities have announced that they will become one charity – in a takeover deal between Weston Park Cancer Charity and Nenna Kind.

From Monday 30th November Weston Park Cancer Charity will takeover operations at Nenna Kind, in a move which will see the Chesterfield based charity adopt the Weston Park Cancer Charity name.

Barbara and David Wallace set up Nenna Kind after their daughter Helen, affectionately known as Nenna Kind, was diagnosed with cancer. Through their personal experience they developed a cancer support service which has been an incredible support for people in Chesterfield and beyond.

Speaking of the takeover, Weston Park Cancer Charity's CEO Samantha Dixon comments; "It's an absolute honour to take over from Barbara and David who have decided to retire after years of voluntary service to the local community. Over the last ten years, they have worked tirelessly to support people affected by cancer in Chesterfield helping thousands of patients and their families during this time so it's a privilege to be asked to continue their legacy."

“Sadly, one in two people are affected by cancer – it’s a frightening statistic. Directly or indirectly we will all be affected by cancer. It’s the reason our work is so important and we are looking forward to working alongside new partners, including those at Chesterfield Royal, to grow the service and help more people than ever before.”

Weston Park Cancer Charity’s services and support are for patients and the family and friends close to them, helping everyone affected to live with and beyond cancer. The funds they raise also support vital, pioneering research and clinical trials led by the exceptional medical experts at Weston Park Hospital. The charity aims to care in every sense for patients and family members, with them at every step, for free.

For more information visit [www.westonpark.org.uk](http://www.westonpark.org.uk)

## Rhubarb Farm Christmas Hamper Appeal

Rhubarb Farm has launched a Christmas Hamper Appeal to try and raise £2000 to give the gift of a Christmas Hamper to people who we have been supporting since March. This includes people we have been providing food bags and hot meals to. They could be struggling financially, socially isolated or suffering from poor mental health.

For anyone wishing to donate, please go to...

<https://www.chuffed.org/project/rhubarb-farm-christmas-hamper-appeal>

For more information, visit: <https://rhubarbfarm.wixsite.com/rhubarbfarm>



# Be Inspired

## Mental Health and the Derbyshire Scamwatch project during the current pandemic.

**Scammers prey on people who are vulnerable**, lack confidence and feel very isolated and lonely. A perfect mix for scammers to flourish in the current lockdown, especially as the people who the vulnerable turn to, are not available, all working from home by telephone.

**How have Scamwatch dealt with the pandemic?** ... well firstly we always have a fluid approach to our work, we listen to what people say, research to see what is happening, liaise with partners of a same mind and put things into action.

### **Examples of our action...**

(Partnership working) Elderly person not getting enough food, desperate for contact with the outside world, calling a variety of tradesman out to help her get a telephone connection into her hallway where her phone was situated.

The concern was a vulnerable person, who could easily be scammed by a bogus trader and whose health was deteriorating.

Derbyshire Scamwatch was alerted by a fellow partner, the local PCSO, the person was not engaging. Derbyshire Scamwatch called the client, established she had full mental capacity, asked for permission to help her and share her details with our established partners. The immediate need was food, we spoke to the fellow partner at the local foodbank, a food parcel delivery was organised. A call to Adult Care and the Intake team was made and the local council keeping in contact scheme.

The Intake Manager went out to assess, food parcel delivered, arrangement made for phone connection to be put in. Client is now happily living alone, but with contact and back on her feet.



(All round care), the main thing that Derbyshire Scamwatch do differently, is goes above and beyond. We are happy to help with the smallest issue to highly sophisticated issues. We help the client from the very start, putting them at ease and starting the process of admission and getting back in control.

How have we managed this through the pandemic? Asking the public how is the best way for us to keep in touch, by letter, phone, email or a local rendezvous point. From the moment we take on a case, we will follow it through as far as we can.

How have we done this? For example a financial scam, very sophisticated. Initially Derbyshire Scamwatch spoke through a close relative due to the client feeling very vulnerable, this evolved to a conference call between Derby Scamwatch, the financial institution involved whilst the client was accompanied by the close relative.

What is the outcome? The client is now happy to talk directly to Derbyshire Derbyshire Scamwatch, the complaint procedure has been adhered too with the financial organisation involved, which was followed by a report to the Financial Ombudsman Service.

Derbyshire Scamwatch is funded by the Derbyshire Police and Crime Commissioner under the umbrella of Citizen Advice North East Derbyshire and can be reached by:

**Telephone: 01246 252341, 07925643050/Email:scamwatch@nedcab.org.uk**

**facebook.com/DerbyshireSW (also on twitter and Instagram).**

**IF IT LOOKS  
TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE  
IT PROBABLY IS!**



# Be Creative

## The Big Give with Junction Arts

Junction Arts is the driving force behind annual local events such as the Tapton Lock Festival and the Bolsover Lantern Parade. Their events give people the opportunity to come together, to support one another and celebrate their communities. In a year of increased isolation and loneliness, Junction Arts has worked throughout with schools, care homes and community groups to bring the opportunity of conversation and friendship when people have needed it most.

*“Now more than ever the arts have a crucial role to play in helping people’s health and wellbeing. Taking part in the arts activities with others is an opportunity to be social, escape reality, be creative, learn new skills, make new friends, feel part of a community.” Jane, Junction Arts Project Coordinator*

For one week only, starting on #GivingTuesday, the 1st December, Junction Arts started fundraising through their Big Give Christmas Challenge. For the whole week donations were doubled, increasing the impact made by donors for those most vulnerable at this time of year.



**ONE DONATION  
TWICE THE IMPACT**





The Big Give Challenge saw Junction arts raise an amazing £3100 from 78 donations. Some examples of what the donations mean to the community include:

**£10 pays for an at home family arts activity pack**

**£50 pays for a remembrance session at a care home who have not seen their family**

**£200 pays for an artist led online workshop and materials to a community group of isolating people**

Junctions Arts are excited to invest this money back into the community, bringing hope and new opportunities for 2021.

For more information, visit: <https://junctionarts.org/>

## Writing for Wellbeing

Derbyshire author **Leonie Martin** is offering a choice of two **January** dates on **Zoom** for her latest online **Writing for Wellbeing** workshop on the theme of **Beginnings**: Saturday 9th January 11:00-13:00 and Wednesday 13th January 11:00-13:00. Both workshops will include the same engaging writing activities and an opportunity to share your work within a safe and relaxing 'virtual' space. No previous experience is required, but you'll need access to Zoom along with your preferred writing materials. Early booking is advised as the number of places has been reduced to suit the online environment. Please contact Leonie on [leonie.martin@me.com](mailto:leonie.martin@me.com) with any queries.

To choose a date and book your place, please click on the link below:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/131451949319>

## Winter Top Tips Advent Calendar launches

**An online advent calendar has been launched, by Joined Up Care Derbyshire, containing winter top tips for Derbyshire residents, and health and social care staff.**

The calendar will feature 24 top tips on social media platforms, Twitter, Instagram and Facebook during December. The campaign aims to encourage residents and colleagues to take an active role in staying safe and well this winter against a backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic.

This has been an unprecedented year and we want the people of Derbyshire to be fighting fit this winter, observe the government's hands, face, space messages and seek help when they need it from the most appropriate NHS service, whether it's pharmacy, GP, Urgent Treatment Centre, NHS 111 or the Emergency Department (ED).

Residents and health and social colleagues are being encouraged to share the calendar with their friends and family to 'spread the word in Derbyshire' and to share their story and tell us how they're staying safe and well this winter.

Joined Up Care Derbyshire is a partnership of health and social care organisations in Derbyshire working together to improve care and services for Derbyshire residents.

**Follow Joined Up Care Derbyshire online at:**

[joinedupcare](https://www.joinedupcare.org/) / [www.twitter.com/JoinedUpCare](https://www.twitter.com/JoinedUpCare)

[joinedupcarederbyshire](https://www.instagram.com/joinedupcarederbyshire) / [www.instagram.com/joinedupcarederbyshire](https://www.instagram.com/joinedupcarederbyshire)

[joinedupcarederbyshire](https://www.facebook.com/joinedupcarederbyshire) / [www.facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/joinedupcarederbyshire)





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**Elm**  
Foundation.

The right to live life free from fear.

08000 198 668

[info@theelmfoundation.org.uk](mailto:info@theelmfoundation.org.uk)

[theelmfoundation.org.uk](http://theelmfoundation.org.uk)

## Free Domestic Abuse Awareness

Online Training Sessions for Voluntary/Charity sector workers/volunteers

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January 10-11.30am**

**Domestic abuse awareness**

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 12-1.30pm**

**Older victims of Domestic abuse**

For more information, email  
[helen.onion@theelmfoundation.org.uk](mailto:helen.onion@theelmfoundation.org.uk)

## Your Derbyshire Voluntary Action Team

Jacqui Willis	Chief Executive
Julia Cook	Business & Operations Manager
Rachel Bounds	Community Engagement Worker
Bryony White	Senior Administrator
Kim Grant	Finance Administrator
Charlotte Repton	Community Centre Manager
Alison Gibson	Community Development Worker
Kate Burns	Community Skills Coordinator
Susannah Brewer	Community Support & Marketing Officer
Debbie Fennell	Social Connectedness Development Worker
Emma Holt	Community Response Worker
Charlotte Higgins	Connect to... Community Coordinator
Natalie Evans	Connect to... Link Worker
Richard Colgrave	Connect to... Link Worker
Lisa Motais	Connect to... Link Worker
Helen Walker	Connect to... Link Worker
Jess Solly	Connect to... Link Worker
Pete Bird	Connect to... Link Worker

## Our Board of Directors

Heather Fawbert (Chair)	Amy Harris
Roland Brown (Vice Chair)	Julie Dixon
Robert Audis (Treasurer)	Ann Sullivan

**We must  
keep on protecting  
each other.**



**HANDS**



**FACE**



**SPACE**

**STAY ALERT CONTROL THE VIRUS SAVE LIVES**



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