

Paperweight Perspective

The coming storm



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I recently joined Paperweight ... it felt like standing precariously on the edge of a dormant volcano,

peering into its vast reaches to reveal, way below, a roiling, swirling, hidden subterranean world – alive with constant motion and endless depths.

... Many ask 'What does Paperweight do', a more apt question is 'What does Paperweight not do'. While it sprang from modest foundations it now has helped thousands, who talk of the transformative nature of Paperweight's intervention. In fact, it should be wearing a huge billowing cape with a big S on its vest!

But, if you think those driving Paperweight are resting on their laurels, think again – they are constantly striving to expand in scope, serve more people, solve more complex issues and continue fighting for social justice.

In those early weeks, I kept meeting

more and more delightful people - can there be that many amazing folks in any one organisation? The answer is no! Because, while strictly speaking one entity, in reality it's a sprawling network of vibrant individuals, hailing from all walks of life, each bringing their unique strengths to the cause, connecting and coalescing together to form a stronger, more dynamic whole, which is Paperweight.

Paperweight's current remit goes way beyond offering guidance on finances and household administration, and will gladly join you in battling legal entanglements, debt issues and any real-life crises that feel crushing and overwhelming.

Paperweight guides and counsels all who feel powerless, mired in mess and who need a hand to haul them back onto

their feet where they can regather, breath and face life again with renewed hope, optimism and empowerment.

I'm sure there are many among us who, during previous recessions, thought 'Oh it won't affect me, I'll be fine'. Well, not any more ...

... This coming storm will mark us all, one way or another and, as the economic crisis bites harder and gnaws longer, none of us will emerge unscathed. Everyone is under attack and, as winter beds down, our financial pressures are only going to soar, as surely as our hearts sink at the prospect.

At Paperweight, we stand alongside you, understanding that such times strike terror in people's hearts, but please realise you're NOT alone. Take comfort knowing you have someone to turn to offering a firm footing and reassuring practical help – just a phone call away.

While Paperweight exemplifies professionalism, its approach is deeply personal. Every caller is warmly welcomed

by an Assessor who compassionately takes details - with complete confidentiality a sacrosanct principle underlying everything - to forward to one of our specialist Caseworkers who contacts them directly, helping from that point on.

Our caseworkers come in all shapes and sizes but all nurture a fierce commitment to social justice. They may be working or retired, a professional or from a business background, or come from a life of service with a wellspring of experience still to give.

Throughout a client's journey, Paperweight offer respect and dignity, knowing people come to us at a low ebb, from a point of pain. We'll aim to lift them through kindness and practical help, when perhaps no one else has the time.

So, while I've known Paperweight but briefly, I've discovered that it embodies all we would wish for from a welfare charity lying at the heart of our community.

And, I further believe, while each and every one of us needs support now more than ever, we can all rest a tad easier because, despite the coming storm, Paperweight has us covered.

Helpline: 0330 174 4300

Email: info@paperweight.org.uk

Website: paperweight.org.uk

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**We can't
take away
the grief,
but we can help
with some of
the chaos that
comes with it.**



After a bereavement, whatever your administrative, legal or financial problems, our caseworkers, based in London, Manchester and Gateshead, have the expertise to help. And it's all free of charge.

To access our services, or to make a donation to support our work, call 0330 174 4300 or visit paperweight.org.uk

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