Way Up Code of Conduct

Introduction

The Way Up online forum is a support group for peer-to-peer discussions among members. All members have been widowed. It is a place to share experiences, ask questions, vent emotions and find others who understand. The site owner, management and administrators are all members – and all volunteers.

1. Purpose of Way Up online forum

- the purpose of this site is to provide a safe and confidential forum to share experiences and help each other with the challenges of widowhood

- there are no formal site moderators, but threads are monitored as much as possible

- whilst the site aims to facilitate peer-to-peer support, it should not be used as a substitute for professional advice e.g. medical or legal. Users are encouraged to consult professionals before making decisions that could affect themselves or others

2. Conduct Expected of Users

- by logging on to the forum for the first time you will be committing yourself to abide by this Code of Conduct throughout your membership. This includes the need to maintain total confidentiality regarding the content of the discussions. You agree not share any content with family, friends or other interested parties

- participation in the site is at the user's own risk

- all views and information posted are individual and not the views of the

site owner, management or administrators. By using the site you acknowledge that content is the sole responsibility of the person posting it

- the use of the site for gathering information for research purposes, articles, surveys etc. is prohibited, unless permission has been given by the forum management

- all users agree not to engage in any malicious or mischievous behaviour which has the potential to cause damage to Way Up or its online forum or any computer systems hosting the forum

- by using this site, you agree to this Code of Conduct

- any user who does not comply with the Code of Conduct will have their membership terminated

3. Posting and Messaging

- all content that is posted to the site or transmitted via the private messaging system must adhere to these conditions, as should your chosen user name

- users of the forum must not post material which:

    a. is, or likely to be perceived as, discriminatory, hateful, false, inaccurate, threatening, libellous, defamatory, abusive, obscene, indecent, seditious, offensive, pornographic, harassing, profane, sexually orientated, invasive of a person's privacy, liable to incite racial hatred, menacing, scandalous, inflammatory, blasphemous, in breach of confidence, or which may cause annoyance or inconvenience or otherwise be a breach of the law

    or

    b. is copyrighted material unless the copyright is owned by the user or unless the user has all necessary licences and/or approvals

or

c. would constitute or encourage conduct that would be considered a criminal offence, give rise to civil liability, or otherwise be contrary to the law of or infringe the rights of any third party, in the UK or any other country in the world

or

d. constitutes an advertisement, chain letters, pyramid schemes or any other form of solicitation (see also Way Up Advertising Code)

or

e. would be technically harmful (including, without limitation, hacking, the introduction of computer viruses, logic bombs, Trojan horses, worms, harmful components, corrupted data or other malicious software or harmful data)

- posts or messages containing personal contact details (name, address, telephone numbers etc.) are not encouraged for reasons of confidentiality and safety

- when you use the Way Up forum, you are voluntarily sharing information which could include personal data. This is viewed by other members. We advise members to take care with the nature of information shared and reserve the right to remove any data that we feel is inappropriate or puts the user at risk. Users of the forum agree to respect the privacy and wishes of others, and will not pass on details to third parties without permission

- Way Up is not responsible for the content of any external websites that posts refer to and may remove links to these if deemed inappropriate

4. Monitoring of use

- although not obliged to do so, the Way Up forum management do monitor a proportion of the messages and information posted using this forum to ensure that this code of conduct is being complied with

- Way Up management has the ability and the right to remove objectionable messages and information posted to the Way Up website and will make every effort to do so in a timely fashion

- if you consider that any posting breaches our code of conduct, the Way Up management should be emailed at help@way-up.co.uk. Gaynor Williams or Richard Lowdon will determine whether removal is necessary and act accordingly

- contacting of a poster directly to object to a post they have made is neither encouraged nor allowed. Any contact in this instance shall be made by the site owner or a manager only. Contacting the poster in a situation such as this either by one or multiple persons could be construed as bullying and will not be condoned under any circumstances

5. Disclaimer

- the sensible exchange of views and ideas between users of this forum is encouraged

- forums are real-time bulletins and the Way Up forum owner and management do not warrant the accuracy, completeness or usefulness of any information posted using the forum facilities nor do we accept any responsibility for the contents of any message. Any message posted expresses the views of the author of that message only and not necessarily the views of Way Up management

6. Conduct at Way Up meets

- it is expected that all members adhere to this code of conduct when attending any meets that have been organised via the Way Up forum. Please also see the formal 'Meets Guidelines', which is available in the Files section.

- the safety and security of our members is of paramount importance

- anyone meeting another member is advised to do this in a busy, public place and to inform a third party of where they are going, with whom and for how long

- all meets are organised and attended on the understanding that it is the responsibility of the individuals concerned, not the personal responsibility of the Way Up forum owner and manager

- **7. Way Up Facebook page and Way Up Flickr Account (photos)**

  - this Code of Conduct applies equally to the Way Up Facebook group page as well as the Way Up Flickr photo account

8. Exclusion of liability

• Way Up hereby excludes all and any losses, liabilities, claims, damages, expenses or costs (whether as a consequence of its negligence or otherwise) arising in connection with:

  - your use or inability to use the Way Up forum

  - any unauthorised access to or alterations of information provided by you

  - your use of any third party websites (including without limitation those that may be connected by hyperlink to this site)

  - any arrangements entered into with any third party in connection with any information provided by or in connection with this site

     – the inaccuracy, incompleteness or tardiness of any information supplied

9. Definitions

- "Way Up owner" refers to Gaynor Williams and Richard Lowdon
- "Way Up management" refers to Gaynor Williams
- "Way Up administrator" refers to a member who has been formally appointed by Way Up management to assist with the admin of the site
- "site" or website" refers to all Way Up internet pages at https://way-up.co.uk or the online forum at https://forum.way-up.co.uk

- "Way Up" includes any person or organisation involved in any part of the management, development, operation, promotion or other similar aspects of this site
- "user" and "you" refer to any person viewing or interacting with this site
- "widowed" - a widow is defined as anyone who has suffered the loss of a 'life' partner or spouse whatever the circumstances, regardless of race, religion, gender or sexual orientation.
- "content" refers to any text, photograph or other image presented on this site to users by either Way Up or by user members
- "messages" includes all private messages, posts on the main forum and in sub-groups, as well as user profile listings

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