

December 2016

# NEWSLETTER



All the latest news from Age UK Cheshire East

## Age UK Cheshire East chosen as Charity of the Year

At a prestigious awards evening at the Mere Hotel Golf and Spa Resort, Age UK Cheshire East was awarded the North East Cheshire Business Awards Charity of the Year award

**NORTH EAST  
CHESHIRE  
BUSINESS AWARDS**

**2016 GOLD WINNER**

The Charity was hugely proud to receive recognition from the business community for its work for older people, by being awarded the North East Cheshire Business Award 'Charity of the Year' award at the awards ceremony on 17 November. As winner, we will become NECBA's beneficiary for 2017.

Damon Taylor, the Charity's Chief Executive (pictured right with Stef Underhill, the Fundraising & Campaigns Manager at the event) said on receiving the award "We are delighted to receive this award which recognises the vital; and important work we do for older people across Cheshire East. We

now look forward to working with the Chamber of Commerce and local companies to further raise our local profile and help even more older people address some of the many challenges they face in later life."



## Celebrating Christmas with BARCLAYS

Annual Christmas celebration takes place at Radbroke Hall organised by Barclays

Barclays hosted their annual Christmas Party for older people for the 5<sup>th</sup> year running.



Over 120 guests were invited to Radbroke Hall for a fun-filled day of bingo, quizzes, raffles, name the reindeer and fantastic performances from pupils at Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School

Staff at Barclays held a cake sale and tombola a week earlier which raised over £1,500 for our charity, funds raised will go towards supporting services for older people in Cheshire East

We'd like to thank Barclays staff for hosting this fantastic event again and for their continued support and commitment to improving the lives of older people in their community.

Mrs Walker, a guest at the event said "Everyone enjoyed the party, it's really put them in the Christmas

*spirit. I've been to all five parties but this year felt the most special. The performance from the school was fantastic, it's clear how hard all the pupils work."*

Stef Underhill, Fundraising Manager at Age UK Cheshire East said "We can't thank Barclays enough for once again hosting this magical event. Staff are always so friendly and passionate about giving their guests the best time possible, everyone went home with a smile on their face! "

# Bringing joy to older people's lives at Christmas

Generous donations ensure older people will get some joy this festive period

A kind-hearted local woman has gone above and beyond to bring some joy to older people this Christmas.

Jessica Finney has been collecting food and gifts to make up over 30 Christmas hampers for vulnerable and lonely adults in the community.

The generous donation to Age UK Cheshire East came after Jessica overheard an older man explaining Christmas was a particularly difficult time for him.

Jessica said: "My grandad has been quite poorly over the last year and I often visited him in hospital. There was an older gentleman lying in the bed opposite saying 'I have nothing to look forward to, Christmas is just another day where I'm by myself'. It made my heart break and I had to do something to bring Christmas cheer to people like him.



People have been so generous; you couldn't actually get in my mum's dining room as it was like a food bank! It's worthwhile knowing what a difference this will make and I'm sure I'll now do it each year. I think you should always help the people around you where possible and having grown up in Cheshire East, I chose to work hard to help the people in my area."

The Christmas hampers have been a real treat for older people who may otherwise see no one over the Christmas period. 150,000 people aged 60+ in the North West feel lonelier at Christmas time, with those who are single, separated or widowed feeling it the most.



Stefanie Underhill, Fundraising and Campaign Manager at Age UK Cheshire East said "We are so grateful for Jessica's thoughtful donation in the run up to Christmas. Loneliness is a huge issue that affects people all year round, however we know that the festive season can be a particularly difficult time.

We don't believe loneliness should be an inevitable part of growing older and the hampers will help spread the Christmas cheer to older people in Cheshire East"

One man receiving the hamper said "I have been so lonely since my wife passed away. It means a lot that someone I don't know was thinking of how lonely people like me get at Christmas and made such a kind gesture. It has gone some way to restore my faith in human kind."

Thanks also go to Nicola Makepeace who also made a tremendously generous donation of 50 hampers for distribution to local older people.



# New 'iace' service supports carers

## Cheshire East Council funded project launched

**iace** is a new service commissioned by Cheshire East Council, which provides easy access to accurate, relevant information and advice which enables people to understand their options relating to; all aspects of care and support, health and disability conditions, resolving issues, making choices and accessing services.

The service is for anyone who has queries about adult social care issues including people with illnesses and disabilities, carers and young people in transition from children's to adult services.

Issues we can help with include:

- The Care Act
- Peer social support and leisure activities
- Accessing care and support services
- Paying for Personal Care
- Condition specific information
- Adaptive technologies and independent living aids



The iace service is provided by a consortium of local, quality assured, information and advice providers including; Citizens Advice Cheshire East (CACE), Age UK Cheshire East, Age UK Cheshire, Disability Information Bureau (DIB), Citizens Advice Cheshire North (CACN) and the Deafness Support Network.



The service can be accessed by calling our Social Care Helpline (with 24 hour answering facility) on **01260 288353**



or emailing: [iace@infoadvicece.org.uk](mailto:iace@infoadvicece.org.uk)



Our website: [www.advicece.org.uk](http://www.advicece.org.uk) has a wealth of information about social care issues as well as other useful topics and self-help tools.

## Information & Advice Team helps prevent eviction

### Quick action by our team keeps man at home this Christmas

Our charity has an Information and Advice Team which is currently funded by the Big Lottery. Their role is to provide clients with a wide range of free information and advice to address a whole host of issues which they may face in later life. Our staff and volunteers work closely with clients to try and get the best outcome possible, and often work with other agencies in achieving this. The brief case study below is a great example how we can achieve some life changing results for older people, working with agencies across the local area.

*A client of Age UK Cheshire East recently contacted our Information and Advice team in connection with his imminent eviction from his home. Formal possession proceedings were underway and a court hearing arranged.*

*The client was extremely distressed and anxious about not only facing the loss of his home but also potential homelessness. The client had no family support and was struggling to accept and respond to the situation.*

*The client struggles to engage with 'formal' organisations due to a profound suspicion and lack of trust in those organisations. With the client's consent, Age UK Cheshire East contacted a number of agencies to establish his housing position and have assisted in arranging legal representation.*

*Age UK Cheshire East was able to work with the client and their landlord to ensure that the landlord was able to comply with their duty to maintain the property. The possession proceedings have now been suspended and the threat of eviction lifted.*



If you or anyone you know needs free advice and assistance with a particular problem, then please contact our Information and Advice Team on **01625 612958**.



Alternatively, a wide range of leaflets are available on the national charity's website at [www.ageuk.org.uk/publications/age-uk-information-guides-and-factsheets](http://www.ageuk.org.uk/publications/age-uk-information-guides-and-factsheets)

# Dressing up to raise vital funds for older people

Staff & Volunteers take part in Jazzy Jumper Day



Each year, staff and volunteers at Age UK Cheshire East don their jazzy jumpers for a day. Not only does it provide a little light hearted relief for the day, but also raises vital funds for the charity, as each person wearing a jazzy jumper makes a donation to the cause at the same time.

At the end of the day, the Charity's fundraising manager, together with the Chief Executive, voted on the best outfit and awarded the wearer a bottle of fizz! This year, the 'best dressed' prize was awarded to our Corporate Support Manager, Hazel Salter, seen here being awarded her well earned prize from the Chief Executive (who incidentally had been wearing a jazzy jumper earlier in the day!)

This year, we are delighted to report that Thorneycrofts Solicitors, Calrom Ltd and RBS are holding Jazzy Jumper days with their staff to raise funds for us.



If you or your organisation are interested in raising funds for Age UK Cheshire East, please contact our Fundraising & Campaigns Manager, Stef Underhill on 01625 660520 or by email on



[fundraising@ageukcheshireeast.org](mailto:fundraising@ageukcheshireeast.org)



**Happy Christmas to all our service users, volunteers and partners**



## About us...

We are a local charity, providing a wide range of services to older people in Cheshire East. All the funds we generate are spent on delivering services locally. Our aim is to improve the later life of the people of Cheshire East. The main focus of our work is:-

- Support for people living with dementia
- Tackling loneliness
- Free Information & Advice
- Lifestyle support
- Men in Sheds
- Help in the Home



01625 612958



[enquiries@ageukcheshireeast.org](mailto:enquiries@ageukcheshireeast.org)



[www.ageukce.org](http://www.ageukce.org)



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