

CHATTY NEWS

Two Brews, One Newsletter

We hope you're enjoying our updated newsletter schedule! We've been trialling a new format that combines two Chatty Brews in each issue. This change aims to provide you with a more substantial read, packed with valuable information. We believe this approach will enhance your experience, and we welcome your thoughts on it! As always, feel free to share your feedback at communications@ageukiw.org.uk

Happy reading!

April and May's Chatty Brews

We've had two wonderful Chatty Brews over the past couple of months, and as always we're kicking off this Chatty News with a recap of where we have been.

In April, we made our first trip to Ocean View Hotel, set against the stunning backdrop of the sea. Local supermarkets contributed an array of Easter eggs for our raffle, ensuring we could mark this our Easter meet up.

A special shout-out goes to Shannon, our Just About You Care Co-ordinator; her mum kindly spent the morning baking a delicious cake for us to enjoy; homemade treats are essential for any gathering after all.

In May, we returned to one of our most popular locations: the Isle of Wight Bus and Coach Museum. We're incredibly grateful to the museum, who generously covered the cost of everyone's drinks.

During the event, we were pleased to host Steve Double, who shared news about Operation Geranium. This local initiative delivers geraniums to older residents living in isolation on the Island, brightening their homes and spirits. These beautiful plants are grown at Care in the Garden, where they are nurtured by local individuals with disabilities. We are looking forward to assisting in distributing the flowers later this year.

For pictures of the events, please see page 4.



CHATTY NEWS

Omaze-ing News: £20,000 Boost to Support Isolated Older People Across the Island



Age UK Isle of Wight (AUKIW) has received a £20,000 funding boost for the Good Neighbour Scheme (GNS), thanks to a record-breaking £5.2 million raised by Omaze on behalf of Age UKs across the country.

As one of the independent brand partners of Age UK, we are proud to highlight how this funding will directly benefit the local community. The allocated income will fund the “No Home for Loneliness Programme 2025 – 2026”, which restricts the £20,000 grant money received directly towards supporting isolated people aged 50+ in our community.

This funding will be instrumental in helping combat isolation and loneliness among older Islanders, promoting a more inclusive and age-

age-friendly community.

Last year alone, the GNS supported an average of 174 isolated older people every month, delivering 3,755 home visits and making 5,051 telephone befriending calls. Small moments of connection can be truly transformative for these individuals.

With the funding from Omaze, we will continue to reach older people on the Isle of Wight and support them to feel connected and cared for in our community.

For more information about Age UK Isle of Wight and the Good Neighbour Scheme, please visit www.ageuk.org.uk/isleofwight/our-services/good-neighbour-scheme/ or contact 01983 525282.

CHATTY NEWS

Final countdown! Grab Your Knitting Needles for the Big Knit

With one month to go until the deadline, Age UK Isle of Wight needs the knitting enthusiasts of the Isle of Wight to get stitching and craft as many little hats as possible by 1st July 2025 for the innocent Big Knit campaign.

Each little hat will be matched with an innocent smoothie bottle, which will go on sale from October 2025 in selected UK retailers. For every be-hatted smoothie sold, Age UK will receive 30p, helping to make a huge difference to the lives of older people.

The Big Knit campaign, which is delivered by innocent and Age UK, raises money to support older people most in need, with funds going towards the work the Age UK Network deliver. The hats knitted on the Isle of Wight and donated directly to Age UK Isle of Wight (17 St Thomas Square, PO30 1SL) will raise money that stays on the Island, and funds local services.

Patterns: www.thebigknit.co.uk/knittingpatterns
For more information on The Big Knit contact Age UK Isle of Wight, 01983 525282.

Please send completed hats to Age UK Isle of Wight at 17 St Thomas Square, Newport PO30 1SL by 1st July 2025.

Next Events

JUNE'S CHATTY BREW

In June, we will be hosting our Chatty Brew at a new venue. Highfield Nursing Home is a beautiful period home located in the heart of Ryde. The venue will provide refreshments.

Highfield Nursing Home, 33 Queens Road, Ryde PO33 3BG | 12th June 2PM to 4PM



JULY'S CHATTY BREW

We will be hosting our July event at The Minster, Newport. There will be refreshments available to purchase from the venue.

The Minster, St Thomas Square, Newport PO30 1SL | 8th July 2PM to 4PM

AUGUST'S CHATTY BREW

In August, we will be at another new venue. If you like history, you'll love our Chatty Brew at The Wight Military & Heritage Museum. Refreshments are available to purchase from Churchill's Tearoom at the venue.

The Wight Military & Heritage Museum, Northwood Camp, 490 Newport Road, Cowes PO31 8QU | 13th August 1.30PM - 3.30PM

For our full list of venues for 2025, please contact us or visit the website.

LATEST NEWS, BREWS & UPDATES

CHATTY NEWS

Photos of April and May's Chatty Brews

April at Ocean View Hotel, Shanklin



May at The Isle of Wight Bus and Coach Museum, Ryde



If you take photos at our events and would like us to share them, please email them to:

communications@ageukiw.org.uk

CHATTY NEWS

Dementia-Friendly Chatty Brews Funded by Local Freemasons

Our Chatty Brews are going to support over 1,200 local older people with memory problems to receive help and support thanks to a grant from Hampshire & Isle of Wight Freemasons.

The £60,000 grant will establish an additional Dementia-Friendly element to Chatty Brews. This will be a two-year project aimed at supporting individuals living with memory issues and their carers across the Isle of Wight.

Dementia Chatty Brews will create a vital touchpoints for those affected by dementia or memory loss, providing a sense of community, reducing isolation among caregiver and recipient alike, and ultimately contributing to a more connected Island. Each session will offer opportunities for conversation, activities, and access guidance, including insights on benefits.

The Dementia-Friendly element of Chatty Brews, will be led by AUKIW's Older Person Mental Health Navigators and trained volunteers. This will ensure that participants receive the right support while building a supportive peer network to ease the challenges of caregiving.

Find out more by calling or visiting our website.



“I’m very pleased we’ve been able to help Age UK Isle of Wight with their hugely important Dementia Chatty Brews project. This is essential support for a group that is growing enormously and for their carers who themselves urgently need help. It’s a major boost for dementia care on the Island.”

- Adrian Cleightonhills an Island resident and is Head of the Solent Area for the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Freemasons.

DID YOU KNOW?

According to NHS statistics, over 850,000 people in the UK currently live with dementia, with 2,655 residents on the Isle of Wight affected by the condition as of 2022. This number is projected to rise to 3,920 by 2030 - representing a staggering 47%.

Without targeted action, many older residents risk being left without the essential support needed to ensure a good quality of life.

CHATTY NEWS

Independent Living Show: 5th July 2025

We are excited to be supporting Right at Home for their upcoming Independent Living Show 2025, formerly known as the Older Persons Good Living Show. Their event last year was a resounding success, attracting over 500 attendees who were eager to discover organisations and resources dedicated to helping them maintain their independence.

The positive impact of the show on Age UK Isle of Wight was undeniable, and we are committed to ensuring that this year's event is just as successful - if not, more. We are proud to lend our support to Right at Home as they work to create an informative and engaging event for the Island community.

5th July, 2025 (11am - 3pm)

**Where: GG's Riding Centre, Staplers Rd,
Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 2NB.**



Some of Right at Home Isle of Wight's team.



Photos of 2024's show.

Right at Home Isle of Wight | 01983 218318

