

CHATTY NEWS

Volunteers Shine in the Winter February Chatty Brew Highlights

February's Chatty Brew was hosted at the always-popular Busy Bee Garden Centre, and it did not disappoint. With a total of thirty-seven attendees braving the winter cold to get out and about, it was heart-warming to see so many familiar faces and some new ones come together.

As we continue to navigate the chilly months, it's important to remember that spring is just around the corner. Winters can be long and tough, often making it more difficult to venture outside and connect with others.

With twelve of our amazing volunteers in attendance, we were able to assist some attendees in getting to the event, ensuring that everyone was welcome.

This is why we are especially grateful for our volunteers, whose time makes these events possible. Their efforts in collecting and dropping off attendees ensure that our winter gatherings remain well attended and vibrant.

As we push through these last few weeks of cold, let's remember to stay connected, keep moving, eat well, and try to do something enjoyable every day. Don't hesitate to reach out when times feel tough, and let's look forward to our upcoming Chatty Brews together.



NEXT EVENT

THE MINSTER, NEWPORT

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CHATTY NEWS

Meet Michaela! Our New Volunteer Recruitment Co-ordinator



We are excited to introduce Michaela, our new Volunteer Recruitment Co-ordinator at Age UK Isle of Wight. In this new role, Michaela will be dedicated to recruiting, retaining, and reviewing our volunteer programs, ensuring that everyone has a fulfilling experience.

Michaela's role is distinct from that of Pat, who many of you know as our Volunteer Co-ordinator for the Good Neighbour Scheme. With an impressive average of around 100 volunteers at a time, Pat is focused on the vital work of that specific service.

In response to feedback from some of our current volunteers expressing a desire to engage in additional tasks beyond the Good Neighbour Scheme, Michaela's role will help us tap into those interests and create more opportunities for everyone.

She has already started making her mark by surveying our volunteers to compile a report that will guide her efforts and help improve the overall volunteering experience.

Get to Know Michaela

To help you get to know Michaela better, we asked her a few questions about her background and what she hopes to achieve in her new role.

Can you tell us a little about your background and what led you to this role?

I've been involved with Island charities since 2001, starting as a volunteer at a local Lifeboat station. My journey included roles in volunteer recruitment, training, and fundraising. When I saw the opening at Age UK IW, I knew it was a perfect opportunity to build on my skills while supporting our local population.

What do you love most about working with volunteers?

Volunteers bring knowledge, skills, and a sense of humour! Meeting and learning about each volunteer makes my role enjoyable. It's clear that every volunteer at Age UK IW is unique but shares a strong commitment to our mission.

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What are some of your goals at Age UK Isle of Wight?

I aim to recruit new volunteers and expand opportunities within Age UK IW. Listening to our current volunteers' valuable feedback will help us plan for the future.

How do you plan to recruit new volunteers and engage with our current ones?

I believe in the power of face-to-face interactions. I'll be attending community events and our Chatty Brews, and I hope to create new events for both current and future volunteers - watch this space.

What other interest do you have?

I'm a busy mum of three, but I love walking by the sea and supporting Southampton FC. I often take on fundraising treks for Island charities and participate in events like Walk the Wight.

Is there a memorable volunteering experience you'd like to share?

In 2009, I led a team that received the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, presented by Prince Charles. Shaking his hand and receiving the award was a proud moment for me!

Please visit our website to read Michaela's full, unedited Q&A.

Celebrating Allan: Volunteer of the Year Finalist!



We are thrilled to announce that Allan, one of our dedicated volunteers, has made it to the final four for the Vectis Radio's Volunteer of the Year. Stay tuned for next month's Chatty News, where we'll share more about Allan's impactful contributions and how he places in the awards.

MARCH'S CHATTY BREW

We will be hosting the event at The Minster in March. At the St Thomas' Square Minster, you can look forward to a variety of refreshments.

The Minster, St Thomas' Square, Newport

PO30 1SL | 18th March 2PM to 4PM



SAVE THE DATES

18th Mar – The Minster 2PM – 4PM

9th Apr – Ocean View Hotel 2PM – 4PM

15th May – Bus and Coach Museum 2PM – 4PM

LATEST NEWS, BREWS & UPDATES

CHATTY NEWS

Correo Lounge Hosts Charity Lunch for Clients and Volunteers - Book Your Space Now!



In a generous offer to support local charities, Correo Lounge has selected us as their charity beneficiaries for a special event aimed at providing an afternoon tea for our clients and volunteers. The event is set to take place on 3rd April from 2PM to 4PM at Correo Lounge.

The local venue is generously covering all expenses for the event, including drinks and cakes for everyone in attendance. We have been allocated 40 spaces for this exclusive gathering, making early booking essential. As spaces are limited, attendees are encouraged to secure their spots as soon as possible. Call us on 01983 301452 to book.

Due to the limited number of spaces, the lunch will be exclusively for our clients and volunteers. Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity to connect with fellow community members while enjoying an afternoon on Correo Lounge.



Independent
LIVING SHOW

Supported by 

Saturday 5th July
11AM - 3PM

GG'S Riding Centre, Newport.