Isle of Wight age UK

Living Well

Summer 2021



A WARM WELCOME AND A FOND FAREWELL

Age UK Isle of Wight is proud to welcome two new Trustees to our Board of Trustees. Meet Junior Archer and Patricia Eagle!

Junior and Patricia bring decades of experience and expertise in financial planning, accountancy, procurement, project management, and HR from the public and charity sectors to our local, independent charity. The appointment of these new trustees, with their varied experience and skills, will support and shape the charity's strategic direction and priorities now and in the future.

Junior Archer joins Age UKIW as a trustee following 40 years as a qualified Financial Planner and Director of his own company, specialising in pension advice planning. For ten years prior to living on the Isle of Wight Junior supported his local community as Church Treasurer, overseeing budgets and ensuring good financial practice. Junior's immense experience of financial planning will enable him to make a strong contribution in his role as a Trustee for Age UKIW.

Patricia Eagle has forty years of experience working in the public and charity sector and is a qualified Accountant spending seventeen years working with local authorities. Patricia's other roles include Head of Operations, whilst creating and establishing two educational charities and Education Business Manager utilising her finance, HR and administration skills to manage the transition to a Multi-Academy Trust. Coupled with her employment experience and time as a school Governor and Chair of Finance, Patricia will be able to support Age UKIW in its strategic development and local authority partnership.



Age UK Isle of Wight says goodbye to CEO, Jo Dare

Jo will have been at Age UK Isle of Wight for over 15 years when she leaves, to take on new challenges involving the development of youth mental health services.

"Jo has been instrumental in achieving incredible growth and sustainability at Age UK Isle of Wight and we seek a new CEO who will continue this work to secure the future of the vital services that our independent charity provides across the Island. Trustees thank Jo for her significant contribution to the charity and wish her well in her new role." -Shiela Evans, Chair of Trustees

Maria Bunce, who has worked with Age UKIW for a number of years and, is currently Head of Services, has been appointed Interim CEO to ensure that the crucial support that

² Age UKIW is so well known for, continues

WE ARE ABSEILING

Age UK Isle of Wight and Red Squirrel partnered up to offer those brave enough unmissable views across Portsmouth harbour, the Solent and the Isle of Wight!

On the 5th June, 15 fearless fundraisers experienced an amazing adrenaline rush as they took on a 100 metre descent down the side of Portsmouth's iconic landmark, the Spinnaker Tower in aid of Age UK Isle of Wight!

Our Abseil was the charities first returning event since 2019, Hovertravel kindly supported by providing free travel for our AgeUKIW fundraising team and event participants. The weather was perfect, a clear and sunny day giving spectacular aerial views to all involved!

Event sponsors Red Squirrel Property Ltd took on the adrenaline-filled challenge themselves seeing managing director Charlie and sales admin Clarice brave the 100m descent to help raise additional funds for Age UKIW.

The event raised over £5000 for the charity, a much needed funding boost after a year of cancelled events. Special mention to Pat Tomlinson who raised over £1000! All of the profits raised will stay on the Island, helping to fund the continued crucial support for which AGE UK IW is so well known.



Elisha Leachman Fundraising Manager said:

"We are extremely grateful to all of the incredible fundraisers, some of which had to wait almost two years to do the challenge they signed up for!

We were so excited to be able to host events again and are so glad that the stars aligned for a perfect day for our abseilers, thank you to everyone involved and that helped to support this day to be a success!"

You can see images and videos of our fearless fundraisers online at www.ageukiw.org.uk and if you are interested in ticking this off your bucket list next year - call 525282 or email fundraising@ageukiw.org.uk and we will email you the moment places for 2022 are released!





A DAY IN THE LIFE OF OUR HANDYMEN

Meet Carl & Jono, our technicians for the Home Safe, **Handyman Service**

Every day is different for our technicians, with a variety of jobs to fulfil on a daily basis for our clients across the whole of the Island. These jobs could include something as small changing a light bulb, to bigger jobs such as supplying &

fitting an External key clamp handrail on steps or slopes.

Here is a breakdown of a typical day in the life of a Handyman:

First client of the day would like a Key Safe fitted. These are very useful if a client has visitors who need to gain access to the property on a regular basis. Clients with mobility issues can relax without having to keep getting up to open the door.

> Then onto the next client. This client has previously had an assessment done for a Mopstick style Bannister Rail, the technician would have measured the area for it to be fitted beforehand. This one is up a flight of stairs but they can also be fitted along hallways etc.

Our next client wanted a Curtain Rail, Shelving & Pictures put up. Our hourly rate is £25.00. Within that time our clients can have a variety of small jobs done around the home including: Painting & Decorating, Cleaning low level windows, Building Flat Packed furniture & much more.

Our next client is having a 12" Grab Rail fitted by the toilet, we also supply them in 18". These can be fitted in showers & on the wall by internal steps. We also fit them externally on the wall by doors to enable the client to go up or down a step safely by holding on grab rail.

We also fit Key clamp External Hand Rails. This involves the client having an assessment to measure the area where the rail is needed beforehand. The client will then be given a quote for us to supply & Fit the rail. These can be fitted on steps and slopes.

> The last client of the day is having their garden mowed and bushes cut back. Our Garden maintenance service is priced at £25.00 per hour with longer booking available.

Our technicians will also do Weeding & Planting. Other external jobs can include Repairing/Replacing Fence Panels, Low level cleaning of Gutters (Bungalow) Jet Washing, Building Steps. This list is not exhaustive.

To get in touch call (01983) 301693 or email technician@ageukiw.org.uk

HAVE YOUR SAY

Digital Survey – Paper Copies Now Available

The Age Friendly Island (AFI) partnership had a very good response to the Digital Survey that ran earlier this year, and they thank everyone who completed the survey.

Due to the lockdown that was in place at the time, the survey was only available online and so they were not able to hear from the many older residents that aren't as confident at using digital technology or those who aren't digitally connected at all.

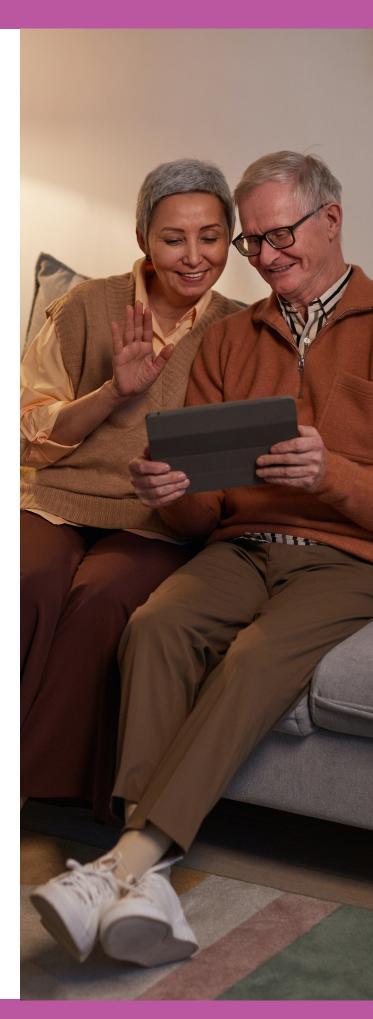
The Digital Survey is available once again in the form of printed paper copies. The deadline for the responses is Friday 13th August and they encourage everyone to complete the survey and help the AFI Partnership to shape the future of digital support services across the Island. (Please do not complete the survey again if you have already done so).

Please call Age UK Isle of Wight on 01983 525282 to request a copy of the survey and a FREEPOST return envelope. It can also be printed from our website www.ageukiw. org.uk and returned using the FREEPOST address (printed on the survey).

If you are already digitally connected, but did not complete the survey in the Spring, there is the option to complete online via our website.







CALLING ALL KNITTERS

Every year, an army of woolly warriors take up their knitting needles and crochet hooks as part of the Big Knit for Age UK Isle of Wight. And we want you to join us!

This year we have a target of 7500 hats to reach by the end of September!

What is the Big Knit?

The Big Knit is the campaign that has been running since 2003.

Age UK runs in partnership with innocent drinks where we ask you to knit little woolly hats which then go on to the tops of innocent smoothie bottles.



How does the Big Knit help?

For every smoothie sold, Age UK Isle of Wight receives 25p to help us provide much needed services and support to our older residents. The money we raise from the Big Knit helps us be there for older people who have no one else to turn to – so those little hats really do make a big difference!

How do I get Involved?

These woolly masterpieces are knitted and crocheted by local legendary volunteers. We would love for you to join our team of knitters and crocheters to help us reach our target of 7500 hats!

We'd love you to knit lots of lovely little hats for this year's Big Knit and whether you're a knitting novice or a purling pro, it couldn't be easier. We have a range of knitting patterns form beginner to advanced that you can either download from our website or request a free pack sent out in the post by calling 525282 or emailing fundraising@ageukiw.org.uk

How do I hand over my hats?

Our office is based centrally on Newport high street, once your little knitted creations are ready, drop them off or post them to:

Age UK Isle of Wight, 147 High Street Newport Isle of Wight PO30 1TY



The Powder Run!

Run through the colours of the Age UK Isle of Wight rainbow this September at Porchfield Cricket Club!

Saturday 25th September 2021, 2pm.











Sign Up Online at ageukiw.org.uk or through Facebook CAgeUKIW

Work your way through our 2K fun filled family friendly colour obstacle course in aid of Age UKIW!

Individuals and groups welcomed. £10 Adults, £5 Children.



Registered Charity Number: 1118711



Wolverton Manor Garden Fair

Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th September 2021 10am 'till 5pm

The Islands largest traditional garden fair - Fun & entertainment for all the family.

Over 140 amazing Island & mainland nurseries, garden & craft stalls,

Elizabethan dancing, dog agility displays, classic car, bike, military vehicle & engine displays,
farmers market, food trucks, vintage amusements, IOW donkey sanctuary, Haven falconry
displays, WestWight Alpacas, kayaking around the moat, archery, woodcarving,
live music and so much more over both days!

Admission on the day is £8.00 per adult - Children under 14 go Free!

Advance ticket price is £6.00 - Available from 1st July from Waterstones,

The Village Shop, Brighstone and other Island venues tbc

Kindly supported by











Observer

OPERATION GERANIUM

Operation Geranium returns for a second year! Local Nursery Care in the Garden have once again joined forces with Age UK Isle of Wight, Rouse Wealth Management and The High Sheriff Trust to spread some local joy!

The geranium is a simple plant that symbolises good health and friendship. Operation Geranium was founded by Steve Double, a local NHS employee working up at St Mary's Hospital. It began in 2020 when Steve purchased and then donated plants for distribution to members of our community who were socially isolated during the COVID outbreak. The results were so positive, that WightAID and Rouse Wealth Management donated a further 400 plants that were distributed to similar members of our community through Age UK Isle of Wight's network of staff and volunteers.

This year Operation Geranium returns with funding support from IOW High Sheriff and Rouse Wealth Management who have donated a further 400 geraniums from Care in the Garden that will be distributed Island wide to Age UK Isle of Wight's nominated clients starting this week.

The opening ceremony was held at Care in the Garden, where a small crowd of supporters, and CITG staff, volunteers and support workers attended and enjoyed some music provided by Angelina Grimshaw.

Former IOW High Sheriff Caroline Peel spoke about the importance of supporting Operation Geranium about how vital a project like Care in The Garden could be to so many people with learning and support needs, who really valued the commitment John Goodenough and Gillian Smyth the Directors and founders of Care In The Garden were continuing to make.

Age UKIW Trustee Alan Thorne also spoke to thank all of the enthusiastic volunteers that had come forward to support with Island wide deliveries. The very first geranium flower of 2021 was delivered by Alan and Caroline themselves to

local resident Maisie.









AGE UKIW ACTIVITIES

Age UK Isle of Wight provides a free activities programme that offer new social opportunities to combat the effects of the pandemic and boost wellbeing. By connecting with us, people will regain social skills and develop new networks.

Themes of the sessions will vary each week, covering aspects of heritage, wildlife, poetry, and creative writing, to name but a few, so that our audience will be keeping their brains active by learning something new. Helping us to create and deliver the activities will be our volunteers and we will offer new volunteering opportunities and encourage everyone to be supportive during interactive sessions.

The key to wellbeing is mindfulness; we will take time to notice the contributions of everyone, celebrate



the learning journeys that our audience takes and promote an inclusive ethos. Our programme will build from an initial three sessions each week, depending on uptake.

Sessions are available via Zoom and you can also watch at your leisure on our YouTube channel.

Find out about our new interactive activity sessions, including walking groups, by emailing Kelly at health@ageukiw.org.uk.

Can you spare a few hours per week? If so, volunteer for us!

Volunteering will make a difference to you and someone in need.

You will gain a real sense of achievement, knowing that you are helping people to retain their independence and reduce feelings of isolation, exclusion, and loneliness. As well as it being an opportunity to make new friends.

We are looking for volunteers to support us with befriending, shopping, transport, digital inclusion and information and advice. If you can donate your time to make a difference, we would love to hear from you.



Call 525282 and ask for GNS or email GNS@ageukiw.org.uk

Age UK Isle of Wight can



help you to stay independent at home

If you, or someone you know may benefit from any of the following services, then get in touch today!



Call (01983) 525282 or visit ageukiw.org.uk