

About Age UK Medway

In the beginning...

Age UK Medway traces its roots back to 1947 and the creation of the Old People's Welfare Society, which was formed in response to the identified need to care for and provide for older people in the post-war period. Since then, the face of the organisation has changed more than once, firstly adopting the Age Concern name, before changing to the Age UK brand in 2010, all the while remaining a part of a national network of individual charities. Irrespective of our name, however, the core of our activity, and our strategic aim has remained the same since the late forties.

Present day...

Working from three main locations across the Medway Towns, and now one within Faversham, we have been offering care and support services to our community for over 70 years. The range of services has continued to expand to meet the changing needs of the local older population as well as to meet the Government, Local Authority and Health agendas.

It is our ambition to continue to be a powerful presence in the Medway and Kent communities for at least another 70 years, ensuring our communities' older people are cared for with dignity and respect, and their independence promoted.

We are fully committed to;

- Working with and for older people
- Providing the highest possible standard of care and support
- Treating people with dignity and respect
- Providing responsive and flexible services
- Promoting the independence of all older people
- Providing services that meet the needs of the individual
- Promoting the rights of people who use our services

We provide a wide range of care and support services to older people across Medway and Kent including, but not limited to;

- Homecare services in Medway and Faversham
- Social club in Gillingham
- Befriending service
- HandyVan service
- Meal delivery service
- Two specialist dementia centres
- COGS (MCST) therapy groups held throughout Medway
- Flexible dementia outreach service
- Bathing and foot care services
- 'Good Day Calls' welfare check service
- Charity shop in Gillingham
- Information and Advice (via Age UK Sittingbourne & Faversham)
- Signposting service
- Carers Relief Service for adults with learning disabilities
- Sparko TV Virtual Community

Age UK Medway also liaises closely with a number of other agencies and organisations who work with and for older people.

Funding for Age UK Medway's activities comes from a variety of sources. We charge for a number of our services in a community-focussed way, ensuring affordability, and helping individuals access the money they need to finance their support, for example, by ensuring they are receiving the welfare benefits to which they are entitled. We also benefit from small grants, run a fundraising programme to encourage local community and corporate support through a range of initiatives, and reinvest the takings from our charity shop.

Message from the Group Chief Executive

Over 700 people in Medway and Faversham use our services each week. Coming from a wealth of backgrounds and experiences, our centres are always bustling with people making new friends, and with old friends becoming reacquainted, all coming together to enjoy the wide variety of activities and opportunities we provide for them to have a fulfilling later life.

In one guise or another, Age UK Medway has excelled in delivering care services for over 70 years, with the support we provide today drawing on the experience and know-how developed during that time. It is a charity which believes in giving every older person an opportunity to Achieve Life's Fullness. And so, whether that's found by making new friends at our social centre, or through the independence made possible by our home support services, we work hard to ensure all older people can benefit from our A.L.F. principle.

As Chief Officer, I am proud to know I have an exceptional team of paid staff and volunteers who work tirelessly to provide the high quality care and support that our clients need, and their families expect. And so, if you would like to become part of our highly passionate team, and you also strive for excellence in what you do, we would welcome the opportunity to consider your application for one of our vacancies or volunteer roles.

In the meantime, please visit our website which is packed full of information and images that describe our services, as well as providing the latest news on our special events, fundraising opportunities, and the many ways in which you could become involved with Age UK Medway. You can visit it here: www.ageuk.org.uk/medway

Alternatively, another fantastic way to stay up to date with our work, find out what plans we have, such as our latest initiative #AskAboutAlf, and remain abreast of any service updates, is to follow us on social media. You can find us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn and YouTube. Just search for 'Age UK Medway'!



John Norley
Group Chief Executive

