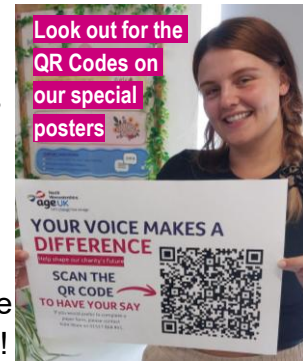


What's Happening – In Brief

A Note from Amanda Allen (CEO of Age UK North Worcs) – August 2026

- This month we say a sad farewell but a huge 'Thank You' to **Su Edwards** who is retiring from her roles of HR Coordinator and Clerk to our Board of Trustees. Su joined the charity in 2019 as volunteer for I&A, after retiring from her role as a Contracts Manager at Acorn's Children's Hospice. When the HR and Clerk opportunities arose, Su was tempted back to working part time but with a special birthday in a few days time Su is now looking forward to a new chapter!
- Our **Staff & Volunteer survey is now live** - please can I encourage you to scan the QR code on the special posters, [click on this link](#) or contact Kate Ware if you would like a paper copy - we need **your voice to help shape our future!**



Meet the Team – Sarah Diston (Head of Fundraising)

- My charity career started back in 2015 when I joined Macmillan Cancer Support as the Worcestershire Regional Fundraising Manager. Before joining Age UK North Worcestershire, I worked for St John Ambulance and stepped away from fundraising to be their Head of Volunteering London
- I can't imagine not working for a charity and having lived in Worcestershire all my life, my dream has always been to secure a role for a local charity that supports communities in the county that I love. So, when I saw this role for Age UK North Worcestershire, I couldn't apply fast enough and when Amanda called to offer me the position, I was more than over the moon. One thing that has surprised me since joining the team is how complex some of the challenges are that many older people face, with issues around health, finances, housing and loneliness often overlapping. And, what really stands out for me, is how much people care. There is a real passion across the organisation, staff and volunteers often go above and beyond to ensure people receive the support they need
- What I love most about fundraising is that it gives people a way to make a real difference. Whether someone donates, volunteers, takes part in an event or simply helps spread the word, every contribution matters
- I'm very proud to be part of the Age UK NW team and as tough as fundraising can be, I can't imagine doing anything else. Everyone has been so welcoming, thank you!
- Away from work, I have two children. Michael, who loves his rugby and has played 1st team rugby for Evesham since he was 17, representing both the County and North Midlands. My other child is called Bob. Bob's a 5 year old Cockerpoo who keeps me on my toes daily. When I'm not stood on the touchline of a rugby pitch or walking muddy fields for miles with Bob, my time is mostly spent tinkering and getting away at weekends in Gerty, my very elderly motorhome. Paddleboarding is something else I enjoy and Bob and I can often be seen paddling the Avon. I'd like to say I enjoy running but I don't. I do run but I'm not very fast and 5k always feels like a marathon.
- So, if you can't find me in the office, there's a good chance I'm tinkering with Gerty, standing in a muddy field waiting for Bob to remember he does know recall after all, or convincing myself that I enjoy a 5k run. For the record, I really don't!



Introducing Generation Changemakers!

- Generation Changemakers** is an exciting new student led project that brings together young people to raise awareness of Age UK North Worcestershire and develop and deliver fundraising events across the local community. By learning about the challenges many older people face, students will gain an understanding of the issues affecting people in later life and the vital role Age UK North Worcestershire plays in supporting people through often complex and challenging circumstances. They then use this knowledge to raise awareness and funds to help older people in our community.
- From September to December, we'll be delivering a three-month pilot with South Bromsgrove High School and Heart of Worcestershire College. To make the programme a success, we're looking for **volunteer mentors** who can spare just 3 hours a month. Mentors aren't expected to lead activities; instead, they will support students as they plan and deliver their Generation Changemaker projects, encouraging them to think creatively, challenge their ideas, build confidence and maximise their impact in raising awareness and funds for Age UK North Worcestershire.
- If you'd like to find out more, or if you know someone who may be interested in becoming a mentor, please get in touch. We'd also be grateful if you could help spread the word amongst your family, friends and networks. Just 3 hours a month can help inspire the next generation of Age UK North Worcestershire champions. Please get in touch with sarah.diston@ageuknorthworcs.org.uk



Sidemoor Shop's 15th Birthday

- Members of the local community are being encouraged to share birthday messages to celebrating our Providence Road (Sidemoor) Shop's **15th Birthday!**



- Help us to celebrate our **Sidemoor Charity Shop's 15th Birthday** by sharing a birthday message and/ or by telling us what the shop means to you!
- All those sharing a message on one of our special birthday cards will be entered into our **birthday draw** for a chance to receive a **£10 Voucher** to spend in store!
- Draw to take place on **Monday 24th August 2026**

At the heart of the community

2 Providence Road, Bromsgrove B61 8EL



Can you help?

- On 25th September the Bromsgrove Sheddars will once again be teaming up with some of their sponsors to make **Twiddle Boards** for local people living with dementia, but they need donations of safe, sensory and engaging items for the Boards. If you can help at all, please contact **Jo Hughes!**



Bromsgrove Men In Sheds are teaming up with Ormerod Rutter and Bluebird Care Bromsgrove & Redditch to make Twiddle Boards for local people living with dementia - but they need your help!

- To create the Twiddle Boards we need donations of safe, sensory and engaging items such as locks, chains, latches, switches, plugs, fasteners and fidget spinners
- If you can help please contact Jo Hughes at Age UK North Worcestershire (jo.hughes@ageuknorthworcs.org.uk). Bluebird Care also have a donation point at their Bromsgrove office (3 Millennium Court, B60 3DX) *Thank you!*

www.ageuk.org.uk/northworcs/activities-and-events/men-in-sheds/

Nominations Close – Monday 7th September!

Don't forget to nominate your **2026 Volunteer of the Year!** Nominate via the **Volunteering section** of our website or by requesting a Nomination Form from our Windsor Street Office. The winner will receive a special one-night stay in a hotel courtesy of the **Rooms to Reward** scheme (T&Cs apply) !



Any News? Please contact Jo Hughes on Jo.Hughes@ageuknorthworcs.org.uk/ 01527 868855