

New Friends



Life has completely changed for Eric, since befriender Carol came along 4 months ago. In Eric's words, he had no-one before and Carol has 'dragged

him into the 21st Century'! Since being matched by the Linking People Together service, Carol has taken Eric to see his old house where the current occupiers invited him in for a cup of tea. After a picnic, Eric showed her his old golf club where he won the Shanghai Cup in 1969. On another

occasion, they visited his sister, who he hadn't managed to get to see for 5 years.

Carol decided to become a befriender because she feels that older people often don't get a good deal and after the war, it is the current generation of older people who helped rebuild the country and they don't deserve to be lonely in later life.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer befriender, please contact the **Volunteer Co-ordinator** on **0121 704 7843** or email **volunteering@ageuksolihull.org.uk** Further details about volunteering can be found on the Age UK Solihull website.

Charity Fun Day success!

We'd like to thank Faye and all the team at Marston Green Tavern Pub for organising a charity fun day, in aid of Age UK Solihull, on Sunday 26 August 2018.

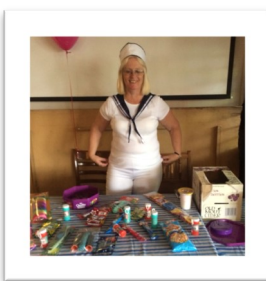
Despite typical Bank Holiday weather, it was a fun and well-attended day. There were cupcakes on sale, an all day disco, bingo, tombola and much more!

Their fundraising efforts were brilliant and they

managed to raise **£805.50**.

All funds raised will go back into our services, which help improve the lives of older people in Solihull.

If you're interested in putting on a fundraiser for us, contact the Fundraising Team on **0121 704 7842** or email **events@ageuksolihull.org.uk**



Faye, pub landlady

Acknowledgments

Thanks to all our supporters including:

Acclaimed Mortgage Consultancy	ASDA Parkgate	Balsall Common Primary School
Barclays Bank	Baron Davenport Charity	Bluebird Care
Capitol Mobility	Connect & Bluebell Centre	Coventry Building Society
Greenhill Way & Longview Day Centres	Jaguar Land Rover	John Lewis
Josiah Mason Trust	Lady Katherine Leveson Retirement Home	Midland Eye
Skipton Building Society	Solihull School	Tesco Bags of Help scheme
The Eveson Charitable Trust	Tiger, Touchwood	Two Crooners (Matthew & John)
Virgin Trains	Waitrose Community Matters Scheme	Xoserve

Volunteer with us. Call **0121 704 7843** for an informal chat.

Research Project: older people's care and self-funding experiences



Age UK Solihull and University of Birmingham are now in the second year of this research project which aims to understand older people's experience of self-funding care. Since

starting in April 2017, university staff have worked closely with a group of Age UK Solihull volunteers, who have taken on the role of 'co-researchers'. This means that all the work of the project has been done in partnership, from recruiting people to take part in the research, to deciding what questions to ask and analysing what has been said.

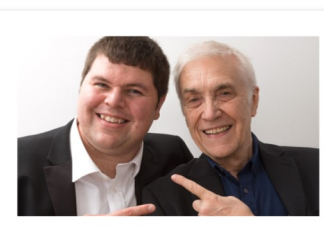
The project has also held two Knowledge Exchange events. These bring together representatives of

statutory, private and voluntary sector services who have an interest in care. These events have already had an impact, highlighting how experiences and views about how personal care is organised and delivered varies between organisations.

So far, just over 20 older people and 5 carers have agreed to take part in this research. This involves meeting with one or two members to talk about the experiences of finding and paying for care at home. The interview is very informal, more like a chat, but all information is stored securely and remains confidential.

If you would like to take part in the research, or would like more information about the project, contact **Mary Jehu**, or better still; speak to one of the co-researchers. Call **0121 414 7910** or email **l.m.jehu@bham.ac.uk**

Two Crooners & An Age Gap



Matthew and John - Two Crooners & an Age Gap

A fun afternoon at Solihull Methodist Church Hall saw Two Crooners – John & Matthew – and their band performing songs from the great American Songbook. In between the songs was cheeky banter, illustrating that it doesn't matter whether you're old or young, you can come together over a love of music.

Age UK Solihull Services

Information & Advice/Community Advice Hubs

0121 705 3588

Benefits Visiting Service 0121 709 7592

Direct Payments Support Service 0121 709 7591

Home Support Service 0121 704 7848

Linking People Together (Befriending)

0121 704 7846

Postural Stability Exercise Service 0121 704 7845

Winter Warmth Helpline 0121 704 8080

Stay in touch

Age UK Solihull

The Core, Solihull Central Library, Homer Road, Solihull, B91 3RG

Tel 0121 704 7840 (Reception)

0121 704 7842 (Fundraising and Events)

0121 704 7843 (Volunteering)

Fax 0121 704 7859

Email info@ageuksolihull.org.uk

Website www.ageuksolihull.org.uk

Social Media

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newsletter

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Here to help rain, hail or sunshine



By the time you read this, it's likely that the heatwave from the Summer is but a distant memory and we start to turn our thoughts towards Winter.

households to offer help with liaising with insurance companies, trades people and in some cases, to support rehousing the resident.

Then during the heatwave, we offered support and advice to our clients about keeping cool and hydrated, with a downloadable heatwave checklist available from our website.

We have been delivering the Solihull Winter Warmth Campaign on behalf of Solihull Council since 2008. We can help with general information and advice and support in emergency situations such as delivery of emergency heaters. We can also help with arranging tradesmen to repair plumbing, gas and electrical problems.



It's time to prepare for winter so ask for a copy of our Preparing for Winter leaflet or download it from our website. The **Winter**

Warmth helpline is open Monday to Friday between 9:00am-5:00pm on **0121 704 8080**.

The team sprang into action, along with Solihull Council and visited the 80 most affected

Hubs go digital



The Solihull Community Advice Hubs are here to meet the information, advice and support needs of all Solihull residents. Alongside our face to face and telephone services from the Hubs in Central Solihull and Chelmsley Wood, we are launching the redesigned Community Advice Hub website with Live Chat, a Facebook and Twitter page. So, however, you want to contact us you can.

You can also find out more about the services available at the Hubs and how we can support you and those you care for.

Follow our Community Advice Hub on social media

t @advicehubs

f /communityadvicehubsolihull

www www.solihullcommunityhub.org.uk

Join our **100 Club**. Call **0121 704 7842** and ask for a membership form.

Registered Charity Number: 1055887

Eddie the Eagle helps fundraising ‘soar’

A great night was held at Bushell Hall at Solihull School back in May, when Eddie the Eagle gave a lively talk to our supporters about his life on and off the slopes. He invited questions from the audience and was happy to pose for photos. The event raised **£2,243** and we are very grateful to Solihull School for hosting the event.

Unfortunately, we received some sad news just 3 weeks after the event, when our partner at the school, Martyn Garner, unexpectedly passed away. Martyn had close links with the Solihull community and helped us enormously both from a



Eddie the Eagle (centre) with Age UK Solihull staff and volunteers

‘Safari, so good’ for our Summer ‘Out of Africa’ Charity Ball

Our 6th Summer Ball, in partnership with The Colebridge Trust, was once again a great success, raising almost **£10,000**. We were entertained on arrival by African drumming Band, Tewahedo Drummers and we held a live and silent auction, raffle and ‘Heads & Tails’ game.

Once dinner was over, guests danced into the early hours with our guest band, The Score.

Thanks to all guests, sponsors, suppliers and volunteers for supporting the Ball.



(above) African Drumming Band: Tewahedo Drummers

Tesco ‘Bags of Help’

Thanks to all our supporters who dropped their blue token in our box when shopping at Tesco in May/June and helped us win **£2,200** from the Tesco ‘Bags of Help’ scheme. This will help fund volunteer driver expenses for bringing some of our clients from their homes to our clubs and classes.



Prefer online shopping?

If you regularly use Amazon when online shopping, you might want to support us by switching to ‘Amazon Smile’ instead. They’re still the same products, but once you’ve registered to support us at smile.amazon.co.uk (we’re listed as ‘Age Concern Solihull’), each time you shop, Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase price to us, at absolutely no extra cost to you.

amazon smile

Visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk to raise money for us each time you shop online.

Forthcoming Events

Event Date/Time/Location	More Information
Slip into Slippers Monday 1 October 2018	UK Older People’s Day is on 1 October every year to coincide with UN International Day of Older Persons. The day recognises the achievement and contributions that older people make to our communities. Wear your slippers at work or school and donate just £1 to support our work.
Smartphone Quiz Night Tuesday 23 October 2018 6:00pm arrival for a 6:30pm start Solihull Moors Football Club	Bring your smartphone or tablet and join us for a quiz with a difference. It’s not just what you know, but how fast you can hit the button! Teams of up to 6. Licensed bar. Raffle. Book via Eventbrite or call us on 0121 704 7842 to pay via debit or credit card, or post a cheque made payable to ‘Age UK Solihull’ to us here at The Core, Central Library Building, Homer Road, Solihull, B91 3RG.
Armistice Day - 100 year celebration Thursday 8 November 2018 Broomfields Hall, Royal British Legion, 18 Union Road, Solihull, B91 3DH	Join us for an afternoon of nostalgia as we recognise 100 years since the end of the First World War. Wartime songs performed by Madeline Brown and an appearance by ‘Ladies Who Dance’. Licensed bar (soft drinks, tea/coffee also available). To book, call us on 0121 704 7842 and pay by debit/credit card or post/drop in with a cheque made payable to ‘Age UK Solihull’ to us here at The Core, Central Library Building, Homer Road, Solihull, B91 3RG.



The 2018/19 campaign, which sees our supporters knitting little bobble hats for the top of Innocent Smoothies, launches this month (September). As knitters did us so proud last year, our target has been set at a whopping **9,327!** We really hope you can help us again this year. We have two deadlines – the first one is 11 January and the second will be July 2019. Please send your

bobble hats, for which we will receive 25p per hat, to us here at The Core, Solihull Central Library. The campaign helps raise money for our Winter Warmth campaign. Don’t like knitting on your own? We have teamed up with Boston Tea Party (located in Herbert Road, Solihull – opposite the entrance to John Lewis car park) who are hosting a knitting corner every Tuesday from 4 September from **9:30am - 12:00pm**. Bring along your own needles and wool (although we will happily accept donations of wool). Patterns will be provided and if you buy yourself a hot drink, you can receive a free pastry to go with it. Knit and natter!

If you would like more information on any of our events or would like to book, call us on **0121 704 7842** or email events@ageuksolihull.org.uk

For information about volunteering, call our **Volunteer Co-ordinator** on **0121 704 7843** or email volunteering@ageuksolihull.org.uk

Go to www.ageuksolihull.org.uk for information on our services.



Did you know Equity Release can help pay for care fees?

If you are a property owner and are 55+ you can use the equity in your home to fund your care needs or help with home improvements.

What can you use Equity Release for?

- To fund care and home help in **YOUR OWN** home.
- To fund care home fees.
- To fund respite care.
- Home Improvements to make life easier.

+ much more.

What is Equity Release?

In simple terms this is a method of releasing some of the money built up in the value of your property.

How much can I borrow?

This depends on your age, health and value of your property.

What can the funds be released for?

Helping clients remain in their own home. Many of our clients have released funds from their property to enable them to fund care in their own home or home improvements that allow them to remain independent at home.

You retain the ownership of your home

100%



Contact us today: **01676 533658** | sandy@mortgage-consultancy.co.uk | www.mortgage-consultancy.co.uk

Acclaimed Mortgage Consultancy is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Your home or property may be repossessed if you do not keep up repayments on your mortgage. Home Reversion and Lifetime Mortgages are complex products. To understand the features and risks ask for a personalised illustration.

FREE Seminar by Acclaimed Mortgage Consultancy

Saturday 22 September at 10:30am

Holiday Inn (Near Birmingham Cargo Airport) Coventry Road, B26 3QW

Vintage chic in Acocks Green



Browse through the amazing range of second hand goods at our newly acquired shop in Acocks Green and you’re bound to find a little gem.

Previously run by Age UK Birmingham, the shop is called “Village Vintage” and stocks a range of clothes, trinkets and items for the home, with an emphasis on “Vintage”.

The shop is the fourth in our retail family, the other three being at Castle Bromwich, Hobs Moat and opposite John Lewis in Solihull Town Centre.

We are always looking for donations of quality goods, so if you’re having a clear out, please drop your items into one of our four shops.

Week commencing **8 October 2018**

is the ‘Big Bag Challenge’ week, when Age UKs across the country encourage their supporters to donate a bag to their shops.

So why not have a clear out and drop a bag off to one of our four shops?

If you’re a UK taxpayer, don’t forget to Gift Aid your donation.



Donate unwanted items to our charity shops in **Solihull Town Centre, Hobs Moat, Castle Bromwich & Acocks Green**