



PRESS RELEASE – for immediate publication

11th October 2017

NEW WEEKLY SOCIAL GROUP 'CAFÉ CULTURE' LAUNCHING IN STAINES

Following the success of Café Culture in Cranleigh we are pleased to announce that we will be launching this weekly activity in Staines.

Come along and join Age UK Surrey for a chat every **Thursday 2pm - 4pm** at Notcutts Garden Centre coffee shop. Anyone aged 50+ is welcome, no booking required. Get to know others who live in your area and enjoy a weekly get-together in a friendly, social environment. People are welcome to come on their own and bring their carers or family members to join in with the conversations.

The first meeting will be held on Thursday 19th October 2017, 2pm - 4pm and will be ongoing every week. **Address: Notcutts Garden Centre, 150 Staines Road, Laleham, Staines, TW18 2SF.**

Di Cheeseman, Community Support and Development Manager said '**Many people do not see or speak to someone on a regular basis and therefore can become lonely and isolated. Café Culture is a great new initiative that encourages people to get out of the house and make new friends in a social environment on a weekly basis**'.

Loneliness and isolation is a growing issue within our communities. Café Culture is one of the initiatives that we are setting up in Staines to encourage people over the age of 50 to meet up weekly as a social group within the community.

If you would like to find out more about Café Culture please call **01784 444200**.

We are always looking for volunteers. If you would like to volunteer for our Making Connections Service including Café Culture, please do get in touch with either Lesley Power 01483 4466646 or Jo Cooling 01483 446662. Alternatively please visit our website for more information.

End of press release.

More information about Age UK Surrey:

Age UK Surrey is an independent local charity. We work across Surrey to help improve the lives of older people. Our services are designed to enable older people remain independent

and informed, healthy and active and connected to their communities. We help combat loneliness and social isolation.

Services include: Information and Advice, Counselling, Help at Home, Computer Drop-in Centre in Guildford, Tea and Chat in Tandridge, Foot Care in clinics across the County, Shopmobility in Guildford, Men in Sheds in Ash, Making Connections in Guildford & Waverley, Handyperson Service and Making Connections in Runnymede & Spelthorne, and Café Culture in Cranleigh and Staines.

Numbers of people over 85 continues to grow in Surrey:

- A 25% rise since 2001;
- 32,300 people in this age group (2014).
- Nearly 214,000 people are over 65 (2014).
- Statistics show that people in Surrey generally live longer than the national average.
- In 2012 there were 15,456 people in Surrey living with dementia, predicted to rise to 19,000 by 2020.

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Age UK Surrey

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