

Professionals Update Issue 8 (November 2021)

We are all living longer, in Surrey alone a quarter (25%) of the population will be over 65 by 2039. Our ambition is to help as many people as possible to make the most of later life. We celebrated Older People's Day on October 1st - a day created by the United Nations over 30 years ago. At Age UK Surrey we strive to make every day a day to celebrate older people and make a difference in their lives. We are well aware that a good deal of what we are able to do is thanks to your outstanding support. **Thank you for the part you play in assisting older people in Surrey.**

To refer clients to our full range of services (including as those listed below), please use our online Professionals Referral Form, available from our website www.ageuk.org.uk/surrey or email enquiries@ageuksurrey.org.uk or telephone 01483 503414.

Veteran's Funding



The Call of Friendship and Support project has been set up in recognition that veterans, like many older people, are feeling more isolated than ever before and need tailored support to help them get the most from later life. The project wraps some of our current services and tailors them for veterans (Information and Advice, Check in and Chat and Digital Help Telephone Support). Please signpost or refer veterans aged 50+, including people who served in National Service, who would benefit from the project to Age UK Surrey.

The Call of Friendship and Support project will run until Autumn 2022 and has been made possible by the support of the **Armed Forces Covenant Trust**.

Scams Awareness



Sadly, each year, millions of people in the UK are scammed. Age UK Surrey has been granted funding over two years to prevent hundreds of older people from becoming victims and to support those who have already been scammed so that they feel safer and less likely to be scammed again. We aim to:

- · Hold awareness-raising talks across the County in person or online; and
- Provide one-to-one advice sessions with older people in their homes who are vulnerable, at risk of scams or who have already been scammed.

If you have a group or know of anyone who could benefit from these sessions/talks do contact us.

Tablet Loan Scheme



Since the outset of Covid-19, the role of the internet has changed the way we work, access services, maintain social contact and generally live our lives. However, there are still around 5 million people over the age of 55 who are not online.

Age UK Surrey is proud is be part of the Vodafone sponsored Tablet Loan Scheme which aims to address digital inclusion, access and connectivity. Providing tablets, Stylus pens and connectivity units on a loan basis will give older people the opportunity to 'give it a go'. With group sessions as well as 1:1 support by our Tech Support Volunteers, confidence and skills will be further developed. If you have a digitally excluded client in the Guildford or Godalming area who would benefit from an introduction and training on using a tablet, please contact us today.

Warm Homes programme this winter



Thanks to E.on's support, Age UK Surrey has funding to support clients to make sure they stay warm and well this winter. We help identify benefits that people are entitled to and support them to make the claim. Our Advice is always free, impartial and confidential. Please help us to help older people keep warm this winter.

My life, My Story



My Life, My Story is a new Age UK Surrey volunteer-led project which offers immediate wellbeing benefits. It is a resource for future care needs and a way of capturing social and family history to share with future generations.

We are very fortunate that Rachel Lewis, a life story professional, is our volunteer leader for this project. Rachel provides an initial 2-hour volunteer training session and can also be on hand throughout the process of visiting clients to capture their story and extends technical and creative support. We aim to match volunteers who are interested with clients in the same area. My Life, My Story is open to the Over 50's in Surrey. If you know of anybody who would benefit from this service or someone who would like to volunteer do let us know.

Check in and Chat



Staying connected and having someone to talk to is so important, especially when one cannot take part in the usual social activities. We are able to offer this free service through the support of volunteers, who we match with people who would like a regular call. The benefits of the service include improved mental health and well-being. Do pass on the word to someone who could benefit from this service. Equally do pass on the information to a volunteer who would enjoy reaching out with a regular friendly telephone chat.

Lasting Power of Attorney



Age UK Surrey is pleased to announce that we now offer a full Lasting Power of Attorney service to Surrey residents aged fifty and over. Our Co-ordinator will take the client through the LPA process step by step through a face-to-face meeting and ensures all paperwork is submitted correctly to the Office of the Public Guardian. A fee applies.

For initial advice about Lasting Powers of Attorney, call 01483 503414 and to set up a new Lasting Power of Attorney, please contact Leonie Dove, our LPA Co-ordinator by emailing: LPA@ageuksurrey.org.uk

New Charity Shop in Haslemere



We are delighted to report that we have created a new revenue stream to support our services. This winter a new style of charity shop - your local Vintage Store - will be opening in Haslemere. We are looking for stock for the shop and in particular; ladies clothing, bric-a-brac and books. Please contact us if you are able to donate: enquiries@ageuksurrey.org.uk

If you know someone who would like to be part of this vibrant new shop and play a role in supporting older people across the County, do pass on the word. We are looking for **Stock Volunteers** immediately and will be releasing news of other shop volunteer roles coming shortly.

Our Christmas Carol Service



Our annual Carol Service is being held at **Guildford Cathedral on Friday 17th December at 11.00am** with performances by the Guildford Cathedral Singers and Tormead School choir.

The service will be a mix of traditional carols, songs and readings. Free tickets must be pre-booked through the website www.ageuk.org.uk/surrey. Donations welcome. The carol service will be live-streamed to enable more people to join in 'live' from their own home.

