



Help Age UK Wigan Borough's Hospital Clothes Store

As you may be aware, Age UK have a clothes wardrobe in the Discharge Lounge at Wigan Infirmary. We rely on staff, volunteers etc to help us keep this well stocked with suitable clothes, which patients-who, for whatever reason have no suitable clothing with them-can travel home in. If you have any clothing that you are willing to donate could you please bring them to either of our offices at 68 Market St or Pennyhurst Mill Haig St Wigan, or the Age UK office at Wigan Infirmary. For further details, contact Alyson on 01942 778605 or alyson.tate@ageukwiganborough.org.uk.

Congratulations on our staff's achievements

Congratulations to a number of Age UK Wigan Borough staff who were recently awarded with a variety of qualifications. Kathy Cooper and Elaine Lunn both received their City and Guilds Level Two Certificate in Information, Advice and Guidance, Lisa Garry achieved her Level 3 BTEC in Education and Training, Debra Shufflebottom was awarded the Level 2 award in Food Safety in Catering, Roy Naylor passed his Adult Safeguarding certificates, and Jilly McKiernan received her Introductory Certificate in Fundraising and Certificate of Unit Credit towards her Level 3 Certificate in Management of Volunteers. Congratulations to all of you.



Pictured left to right: Jilly McKiernan, Kathy Cooper, Roy Naylor.

'Full of Life' SHIP Event Marks Older Peoples Day



The full Of Life SHIP Event to celebrate Older Peoples Day on 29th September, will this year be held at Wigan Youth Zone, Parson's Walk, Wigan, WN1 1NU. The event is open to the public from 10.00am – 1.30pm and there will be a range of activities, entertainment and competitions throughout the day. In addition, there will also be an assortment of stalls giving information and advice on services promoting health, well being and independence amongst older people from 50 and over. There will also be a demonstration by Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service, seated yoga, and much more. The day is free to attend and for more information please contact Kathy Cooper on 01942 826079.

Run the Wigan 10k for Age UK Wigan Borough

On the 6th September 2015 the Wigan 10K will take place across the town centre, with hundreds of runners raising money for different charities. This year we are looking for people to run the 10K in aid of older people in the Wigan Borough and raise money for Age UK Wigan Borough. We are looking for around twenty runners who would like to represent us and are willing to get sponsored and help raise vital funds for us.

After all without kind donations from members of the public we wouldn't be able to provide all of our services across the Wigan Borough to help hundreds of older people every year.

All of our runners will receive a sponsorship pack, a running vest to wear on the day as well as support with promoting their fundraising efforts. We are currently in the process of setting up our Just Giving Account to enable our runners to collect sponsorship and for us to collect donations.

If you or anyone you know is interested, please call 01942 241972 and ask for Jilly McKiernan or email JillyMckiernan@ageukwiganborough.org.uk.

Bright Days celebrates partnership with style

To celebrate the partnership between Age UK Wigan Borough and Wigan and Leigh Homes, two Bright Days parties were held in the first week of August.

The events were held in the Sheltered Accommodation at Leonard Court, Leigh and Alexandra House, Whelley.

There was live music from George Cater and our very own 'ellie x', as well as fun and games including play your cards right and bingo and a delicious buffet. The events were a resounding success - full of life and laughter - and made inroads into bringing together the community with the residents of the sheltered schemes.

Bright Days are extremely grateful to all those that donated their time and energy into making these a success.

It is hoped that more events like this will occur in the not too distant future. If you would like to be involved please contact Debra on 01942 615883.

Bright Days has also recently welcomed Bethany Farrimond as a new Bright Days Support Worker. Here at Bright Days we are looking forward to bonding as a fresh new team and working together to bring new and exciting activities to the Bright Days programme.



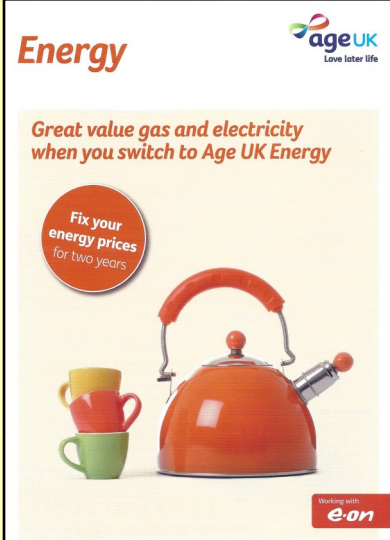
Age UK Wigan Borough urges older people to review their Energy Tariff!

Thoughts of energy consumption and the need to keep your home warm may seem a distant requirement in the middle of summer, but Age UK Wigan Borough is urging local older people to plan ahead for winter by reviewing their energy tariff and shopping around for a better energy deal. A recent report from the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) found that millions of energy customers have been 'paying too much for their energy bills.' Furthermore, around 70 per cent of customers are currently on their energy provider's 'default', and generally more expensive, standard variable tariff, despite having the option to switch to a new provider or fixed-rate tariff, which could save them money.

Roy Naylor, Commercial Manager at Age UK Wigan Borough, said, "We urge older people in Wigan Borough to take a look at their energy tariff and switch to a better deal if they can. We encourage those in later life to consider switching to a fixed tariff, so their energy bills are locked in for a longer term. Switching and fixing now will mean your new tariff is up and running before autumn when, inevitably, colder weather will set in."

Age UK Wigan Borough believes it is important for all older people to be able to keep their energy usage and bills as low as possible. There are many things that can be done to help achieve this, but an important factor is to ensure older people are on the best tariff for their needs. It is therefore important to shop around and consider all the options – in the current environment switching to a fixed rate tariff can provide peace of mind and help manage energy costs for the long-term.

The **Age UK Fixed 2 Year tariff** is a tailor-made gas and electricity package exclusively for people aged 60 and over (or aged 50-59 if on the Priority Services Register), brought and supplied to you by E.ON.



Energy

ageUK
Love later life

Great value gas and electricity when you switch to Age UK Energy

Fix your energy prices for two years

Working with e-on

If you would like more information or a quote please call 01942 241972 or visit Age UK Wigan Borough at 68 Market Street, Wigan WN1 1HX. Remember to have your current bills and annual consumption to hand so we can ensure the **Age UK Fixed 2 Year tariff** is right for you!

Happy Birthday Pat

Age UK Wigan Borough would like to wish Pat Cassedy a very happy 90th birthday. Pat has been a tireless volunteer for us At Age UK Wigan Borough and we were delighted to be able to share her special day with her.

Pat receiving a bouquet from Chief Officer John McArdle.



iINVOLVE Project : Engagement and Outreach

Outreach



Harry Unsworth is now well underway with his traverse across the Borough to spread the word about Age UK Wigan Borough and the excellent services we provide. In order to do this he has built a database of clubs/organisations that provide activities for the 50's and has visited 17 groups to date including a regular monthly outreach session at a local pharmacy in Hindley. The database of groups and clubs will soon be made available to all staff so that if you get any enquiries from clients about activities in their area you will be able to accommodate them. Just a few permission issues that have to be worked out before we can publish the database. So watch this space.

Harry is also arranging a number of, 'Come and meet us,' events in the Autumn the first of which will be at the Astley Heritage Tea rooms 15th Sept. More dates and venues to follow. He will also be organising a 'Prepare for Winter event' hopefully on 19th Oct at Mealhouse Court Atherton.

Engagement: Impact Forum for over 50's

Great progress is being made with the formation of the new Impact Forum, Wigan Borough, supported and coordinated by Age UK Wigan Borough. We held our first public interest meeting on July 30th in advance of the official launch on October 13th. We have new leaflets to distribute and forum membership forms for interested parties to complete.

Through regular local forum meetings to be held bi-monthly in Wigan, Leigh and Ashton, people over the age of 50 will now have the opportunity to make sure they can make their thoughts and opinions known to the main service providers within the Borough on a broad range of issues including:

- **Health and Social Care** • **Housing** • **Transport** • **Safety and the Environment**

Consultation engagement work has already taken place. In May this year we were approached by Wigan Borough CCG for help with two different pieces of work where they needed to consult directly with older people in the Borough.

We were able to introduce the CCG to a number of our clients & members who were happy to share their thoughts and experiences around their recent health care in the Borough, both on video and in an informal discussion/workgroup setting.

If you come across anyone who might like to take part in the forum please let either Harry or myself, Carol Walmsley know. Contact the team on 01942 615884.

