

Help us raise funds & save money for yourself - call **0800 131 3000**, then quote the appeal number of **K68423**

Hello again and welcome to our newsletter for February and March 2015.



General News: Well, the first three months of 2015 have been and gone and here we are in April with Easter right on our doorstep – what has happened to time? Good, Summer must be close by.

We did a bit of re-organising with staff in this time as we appointed Sharon McConnell as a Senior Carer. Sharon is very experienced in the field of Care and she joins our other Carers - Christian, Brenda and Kat to make up the team of people who look after our members when they come in for a day full of fun and activities.

Many of our members have been affected by colds, flu and chest infections during the winter and we hope to have them all back, fit and well soon. In spite of this the Day Centre has been a hive of activity – the members who have been in have been kept busy with some challenging quiz games, slide shows and movies, Pets as Therapy and seated Movement and Music Exercises, to name but a few of the activities.

We also had an open day in February as we do want people to come in and see what we do, to have a cup of tea and a chat, so please be on the lookout for more Open Days and let your friends know to come in.

We also actually closed the Day Centre for a day, so that we could do some staff training. Training was delivered on Moving and Handling of people, Medication Awareness and Control of Infection Control Awareness all essential to the care and wellbeing of our members



Drivers: This is a regular feature! We are still on the lookout for volunteer drivers. The more drivers we have means that we can spread the load and we don't have to rely on

the same people all the time, so if you would like to help, please give us a call *on 0118 934 4040 if you think you can help us!*

Volunteers: We also need somebody to help us in this area, so if you fancy yourself as a good dishwasher, please call us and we can set you up with a pile of dishes to wash – you won't be alone as there is always somebody else there, it is just that we need an extra pair for hands!



Member News: We have had plenty of entertainment for our members; Reading Accordion Group, Matt Bond and Matt Wallis have all been in to entertain us. Sabrina has been in to take us with choir singing, Rob has been in with his

wonderful selection of chocolates and Kim has been in with her rails of good quality clothing for members to buy.

We have more lined up as well, entertainment is always an ongoing activity, but we are all going out for a day on the 7th May, not to the polls, but to a reminiscence museum near Basingstoke known as Milestones.



We have also been recipients of a most generous gift from The Loddon Vale Rotary Club. They offered us 1000 Easter Eggs. You may ask, what does one do with 1000 Easter Eggs? We well gave them to our members as well as other worthy causes, Daisy's Dream, Camp Mohawk, Sonning Parish, Building for the Future, the Children's Ward at Royal Berks Hospital and Bridge House Nursing Home

Staff News: Debs Heffernan, who joined us in December as our Outreach Programme manager has been appointed as Assistant Centre Manager in addition to her outreach responsibilities.



Outreach Programme. We want to reach out to all the people in our area who may be socially isolated, people who may not be able to go about doing their shopping, or people who may just want somebody to chat to occasionally. They don't have to be a member of the Day Centre - we want to help the elderly community to maintain a decent standard of living. A lot of people struggle with filling in forms for Blue badges, Attendance Allowances etc. or may not know where to go for advice and assistance - we can help them. If you know of anybody like this, please let us know.

Sunday Club. The monthly Sunday Club is proving to be a great success, as was evidenced on the 22nd March, where a cooked lunch was provided to a full house. The next is on Sunday 19th April. Please book early, give us a ring to let us know if you will be attending!



Carer's Coffee Mornings. Come along and join in with some of the informal and informative conversations we have with other carers. If you are caring for somebody, and don't want to leave them alone, bring them along – we will take care of them. The next Carer's Coffee mornings will be on 2nd April, 16th and 30th April. Please join us, it is informal and relaxed – you don't need to be formally introduced.



If you don't want to receive this newsletter, please let us know and we can simply take you off the mailing list. But we really don't want to lose touch with you, so please stay with us!