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Hello again and welcome to our newsletter for June and July 2015.



General News: Is it summer time or is that something that only happens in books? We have had a few good days – hopefully we will get some more before the cold really sets in again.

Visitors to the Day Centre – please beware. If you park on the single yellow lines in Polehampton Close, you may get a ticket. The police have been very active, ticketing people who park illegally. Waitrose parking is best for a short visit if the parking in front of our building is full.

Did you know that the Day Centre benefits from the sales they make in the Age Concern Shop in Twyford. Please do your shopping there! Incidentally they are always looking for goods to sell in the shop – never mind the quality as they can move stuff to other stores and they also take rags.

So take your unwanted clothes, “brick a brac” etc. to them – park around the back, not on the double yellow line in front of the shop. They also have a furniture store in Winnersh – they take furniture and electrical goods, and will even collect the stuff you don’t want any more



Drivers: I am always looking for volunteer drivers, we have got some good ones that we rely on regularly and we do appreciate what they do, however a few more will make it easier for them so please contact us if you have a car and can spare a couple of hours in a week, we will even refund you mileage covered. If you think you can help, please give us a call **on 0118 934 4040**.



Member News: Hattie, our friendly “Pets as Therapy” Spanish water dog still comes in to visit us on a regular basis. She knows the members so well now – when she comes in she heads straight for the ones she knows offer her biscuits, which are taboo!

We all had the pleasure of attending Lady Elizabeth’s garden and tea party over two days at the end of June. The days were hot, but it was so nice sitting under a huge oak tree enjoying the weather and the garden. We also had Julia George sing for us on the Tuesday - she now does a monthly session for us at the Day Centre.

Our little garden at the Day Centre is so full of bloom – roses, daisies, hydrangeas, lavender and all sorts are looking beautiful and the members just love sitting out in the garden during the day.

During July, we had a visit from the National Citizen Service (NCS). The NCS provides a programme, called “The Challenge” designed for young people to get involved in community work during a 14 day programme. The programme with us took place in two phases.

The first phase consisted of visits over two days - about 16 young people spent a day with us to meet and listen to our members stories, they then returned the next day to sing songs about their lives. The second phase is to return with games and activities to keep our members active and maybe even fund raising for us. The days spent with our members were a great success as our NCS guests mingled well with our members and chatted away for ages, losing all track of time.

They returned the next day to sing three songs, these took everybody back in time. We look forward to the second phase, which will happen during August, so too early to report on, we will do so in the next newsletter.



Outreach Programme. We have helped a number of people with successful applications for blue badges as well as attendance allowances. Many people are discouraged by the amount of information required on these application forms and often don’t reveal all that they should, thereby denying themselves the benefits they are entitled to. We help them work through those difficult sections and can help them with the correct completion of the application – so please contact us if you feel intimidated by the forms you might have been sent.

Sunday Club. We are now into the summer break for Sunday Club but have dates for beyond that. You may want to make a note of these dates: 20th September, 18th October, 15th November and the 13th December.



Carer’s Coffee Mornings. Come along and join in with some of the informal and informative conversations we have with other carers. We also do some seated exercises for the carers and their cared for. 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 for your diaries will be on the 10th and 24th September, the 8th and 22nd October, the 5th and 19th November, and the 3rd and 17th December. 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!