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**Hello again and welcome to our newsletter for the December 2015 and January 2016.**



**General News:** Time seems to be flying by so quickly and it seems like just the other day we were celebrating New Year!

December was month to remember at the Day Centre – it was busy. During the week of the 14<sup>th</sup> December, we served 120 Christmas Lunches and this was all provided free of charge to our members, organised by the Twyford Village Partnership.



Thanks to the TVP and the TVP members who participated, such as Bridge House Nursing Home, The Duke of Wellington Pub, Hare Hatch Sheeplands, Bingham's Brewery, Stanlake Winery, The Bird in Hand, Frostings Cake Shop, Burratta's at the Royal Oak, who provided all the consumables.

The Piggott School year eights also provided wrapped gifts for every guest attending the lunches – these were well received and really appreciated by the members.

In addition to that all our volunteers were invited to a party at the Day Centre on the 21st January as a thank you for all the hard work they do for us!



**Drivers:** Sadly we have lost 5 volunteer drivers recently – some have moved away, or got jobs or their circumstances have changed. This unfortunately puts us in a difficult

position and the call goes out for more volunteer drivers please. If anybody wants to help drive, let us know, you cannot really appreciate the joy the members get from coming to the day centre – they love it, so if you can help please give Debs or Gordon a call on **0118 934 4040**. Driving our members free of charge doesn't affect your insurance in any way as legislation allows for it provided you inform your insurers of course, and we pay you mileage rates, so your costs are covered as well!



**Member News:** Your Day Centre is going from strength to strength with the number of members increasing all the time. The first two weeks of January saw 9 new members signing up. Some of these come in for Day Care and others to the Thursday lunch club, which is now delivering more than 30 to 35 lunches regularly every week. There has been a steady stream of people joining up since then and lots of interest in what we do.

This could be for a number of reasons, we have increased our presence on FaceBook and Twitter, and we are actively going out to meet people in the district and of course word of mouth. This is probably one of the reasons time is going by so quickly, we are so wonderfully busy; we don't even notice the time.

Matt Allwright will be presenting a Rogue Traders session on the 16<sup>th</sup> March from 10.00am to 12 midday, please come along and tell your friends, he will be giving tips on how to avoid scams and be safe.

We will also be involved in the National Dementia Week, which is from the 15<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> May. The purpose of activities this week is to make people more aware of and understand more about Dementia and how they can help people living with Dementia. Our objective through the TVP is to make Twyford a Dementia Friendly Village. This is followed by National Carer's Week during the week of the 6<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> June – we won't be doing anything special for Carer's Week as we would like to invite the Carer's to join in the activities laid on during Dementia Week. Please stay on the lookout for activities during that week



**Outreach Programme.** This is working well – the number of people we are making contact with who don't know what is available to them or where to go for help is alarming. There are many

people offering services free of charge and others charging a fee – we recently had a case where a lady was asked to pay £160 just for assistance with completing an application form for Attendance Allowance, we do it for nothing as do other service providers – so if you are not sure, call us and we will advise

**Sunday Club.** Club dates are the 20<sup>th</sup> March, 17<sup>th</sup> April, 15<sup>th</sup> May, 19<sup>th</sup> June - please make a note of these dates as the Sunday club is great for beating the Sunday afternoon blues – there is no charge for the club, although you may want to make a donation, which does go towards covering costs. We show a movie after having had a cuppa and it is a lovely relaxing time for all to be with a few friends. .



**Carer's Coffee Mornings.** Starting at 10.00am. 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!