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**Here we are again – are you ready for our newsletter for June and July 2016.**



**General News:** Well summer is here, or should I say we have had some very hot days, so I suppose that makes it summer – at least there is no frost on the ground.

The Old Bath road is finally open after having been closed for 10 weeks for bridge repairs – this caused havoc with traffic for our hardworking volunteer drivers.

We held our Annual General Meeting in July and this was hosted at Stanlake Park Winery, it was well attended and we had an interesting talk from the Stroke Association.



We have been busy at the Day Centre – we held a big band concert on the 16<sup>th</sup> July to raise funds and celebrate the opening of the Day Centre on the 16<sup>th</sup> July 1996. This was held at the Piggott Senior School and we had Mrs Anne Greaves one of our founders in the audience to help us celebrate.

Ricky, our handyman has been busy in the village doing a variety of small repair jobs for many of our members, this is very beneficial to them as they are the sort of jobs that don't get done as to get a workman in would cost too much



**Drivers:** We are still struggling to get some more volunteer drivers to get members to and from the day centre. 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, and we pay you mileage rates, so your costs are covered as well. All we need is some of your time!



**Member News:** We had a cooking demonstration in June from Wilshire Farm Foods. They supply home cooked meals to people's homes at a really good price. A number of our members use this service and if anybody wants to find out

more, we have some brochures in the day centre.

As usual we have had plenty of entertainment, Harry Goff, Jim Allgrove, Carol on Bells, Matt Bond, and of course Hattie from Pets as Therapy. In addition to that we have Elvis entertaining us on the 17<sup>th</sup> August – Gary Roman does an excellent impersonation of Elvis with all the gear and his songs.

We now have more than 50 people registered as day care members coming in on different days to the Day Centre! The feedback is that they just love the social atmosphere, in fact here is a quote from the wife of a new member.

*I want to thank you and your team for making my husband and my day yesterday so very enjoyable and pleasant. I was so pleased to see him at 3pm when I came to collect him. He was looking all refreshed, spent and ready for home, what a nice experience for me that was. I'm really delighted with this development, he is such a nice gentle chap to have around, I feel that I can now appreciate his company again, what a difference a day makes! My thanks to you all.*

**Outreach Programme.** Janet Oakley has been appointed



as our Outreach Co-ordinator and is busy contacting people on our waitlist and encouraging as many older people as possible in the community to be socially active and to join us for companionship.

We now have a strapline under our logo, it reads as ..... **for friendship and care**. Many people consider us an active social club rather than a Day Care centre!

**Sunday Club.** Our Sunday Club continues to be very popular, this last Sunday we had a high tea as well as a good old Carry On movie. We will not be holding a Sunday Club during August, the next will be on the 18<sup>th</sup> September. Please make a note of this date 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 goes towards covering costs. If you want to join us please give us a call beforehand and confirm that you will be attending.

**Fund Raising:** We have to replace our heating boiler in the Day Centre - it is now over 20 years old and is very inefficient and expensive to run. We would really like to try and do this before the winter sets in and are trying to raise money to do this. We have a target of £3500 to achieve this goal. So, if you have a spare £5, £10, or £20 (even a £50), please let us have a donation via our donations web page with Local Giving at <https://localgiving.org/appeal/ageconcern/>



**Carer's Coffee Mornings.** These now start at 10.00am on Thursday mornings. Please join us, it is informal and relaxed – you don't need to be formally introduced.

There won't be any coffee clubs during August and the next carer's coffee morning will be on the 1<sup>st</sup> September, then again on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. Please come along and join this group for some great ideas and conversation.

**Words of Wisdom:** There are compensations for growing older. One is the realisation that to be sporting isn't at all necessary. It is a great relief to reach this stage of wisdom (quote by Cornelius Otis Skinner)



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