

AGE CONCERN EPSOM & EWELL



A MESSAGE FROM CHIEF OFFICER - DORAH MAY



"After a start to the year, which looked to be another fruitful one supporting the older generation in our borough, the rest has certainly turned our lives upside down! Welfare calls have been a big part of our Coronavirus support with over 5,000 calls made, along with over 700 shopping trips undertaken and 500 prescriptions delivered. Our Information & Advice line has been taking calls requesting help with numerous issues from explaining how to form 'support bubbles' to wanting to find out more about the exciting news that the vaccine will soon be with us! This could not have happened without our team of eight dedicated staff members and our truly amazing volunteers. I would also like to say a huge thank you to all our clients for being such strong and stoic members of our older community through times which have been very challenging and still are. Remember we are always here for you and wishing you a safe and healthy Christmas and New Year."

Christmas Quiz Question 1 : Who played George Bailey in the Christmas classic 'it's a wonderful life'?



IN THE OFFICE WITH MOJO



With social distancing measures in place, the office has become a new environment for us all. We have been very busy during both lockdowns and most recently we have been arranging for special handmade Christmas sacks to be delivered to 100 local elderly residents. Our Medical Transport desk has been in operation throughout the year and is getting busy again. Our volunteer drivers are ready and have all the necessary PPE to offer a safe service to our older community.

Thank you to all those who have called, emailed and written to us thanking us for our support, it really does mean a lot to us all here at Age Concern Epsom & Ewell.



SOCIAL SUPPORT WITH GLORIA



My role as Social Support Coordinator has been very strange this year as March was the last Sunday Tea we held at Stoneleigh Methodist Church. Government guidelines didn't allow the Church to open and didn't allow our clients to mix. We are very much looking forward to restarting the Teas, maybe in the spring, if allowed. Befriending has been changed to telephone befriending during the lockdown. During the short spell in which lockdown finished some befrienders met their clients in their garden. We are looking forward to getting our system of introducing volunteers to clients for face to face befriending up and running again.

VOLUNTEERS WITH DAWN



My new role as Volunteer Coordinator at the beginning of 2020 took me on an unexpected journey as we were thrown into lockdown and I had the job of running our COVID shopping service. I could not have imagined such a show of kindness, dedication and willingness to help from our volunteers, both old and new to deliver this service. I could not have done it without you. One big positive I will take; is the pleasure I've had in getting to know everyone better and I hope to continue that momentum into 2021. So, it just leaves me to say a HUGE thank you to you all and I wish you all a Happy Christmas and New Year.



Christmas Quiz Question 2 : In the song 'Frosty the Snowman', what made Frosty come to life?



INFORMATION & ADVICE WITH SUE



This has been an extremely busy year on the Information and Advice desk at ACEE, receiving hundreds of calls from elderly residents during the height of the first phase of the Coronavirus outbreak and especially from March through to July when we were inundated with requests for help with shopping and getting prescriptions. Luckily our existing volunteers and new ones which had been recruited by our Volunteers Co-ordinator, stepped up to the mark and were a lifeline for people with no local family support, taking essential food and medicines to the doorstep and also providing a friendly face and cheerful words to brighten the lives of very isolated people. Of course our normal work has also continued throughout, with requests for help to obtain benefits and Blue Badges, aids and equipment, hearing aid batteries, support with IT and small handyman jobs, and information about everything from dementia and home adaptations to how to put domiciliary care in place. With the fantastic advances in the roll-out of vaccines and the widespread testing programme, it seems that we now have this devastating virus 'on the run' and that 2021 will be a much more 'normal' year than the one we are putting behind us. All good wishes to everyone for happiness this Christmas and in the New Year.

Christmas Quiz Question 3 : What Christmas-themed ballet premiered in Saint Petersburg, Russia in 1892?



FUNDRAISING WITH CHARLOTTE



What a year for fundraising! This year has been like no other year for fundraising. However we were able to host our very first Drive In Cinema event which was a great success and we were successful in our applications for emergency Covid19 funding from The National Lottery and Community Foundation for Surrey. We can only hope that next year we see more of our community focused events being given the green light as we have a few NEW events planned- so watch this space! There is still time to donate to our wonderful Christmas Campaign too. You can TEXT to donate, or visit <http://www.virginmoneygiving.com/fund/ACEETogether>. For alternative ways to donate to our 2020 Christmas Campaign please call our offices during opening times on 01372 732 456



HOME VISITS WITH MARY



SERVICES UPDATES WITH NEIL AND JULIE

What a change to my Home Visiting routine after lockdown. I was determined to still support the older generation in our Borough and turned around my home visits to visiting by telephone! Supporting the clients with making Attendance Allowance, Pension Credit and Blue Badge applications by phone is challenging and being able to visit again in the home is a pleasure although I am still supporting some by telephone. The extra income clients receive is a great help and I know being able to afford some care, a taxi ride to appointments, a cleaner or gardener really helps to remain independent. And the Blue Badge is a great support to people who are less mobile. I look forward to continuing my support in 2021. Stay safe and well and remember that Age Concern Epsom & Ewell are always there for you and our Information & Advice lines are open every morning.

Men's Club: The New Year saw the Men's Club resume with lunches at the Epsom Club and games afternoons at Rosebery Manor Care Home and then lockdown! Welfare calls were made. The men are catching up by zoom, and if not involved with modern technology, catching up by phone. All are looking forward to the vaccine campaign and hoping that 2021 brings them all together again.

Footcare: Our Foot Clinic opened again in September having been closed for five months. We thank our clients for persevering and looking after their feet whilst we were away! It has been a pleasure to welcome you all back to our Foot Clinic at the Community & Wellbeing Centre in Sefton Road, Epsom. Stay safe over Christmas and the New Year and do remember our foot clinic is open to all and we always welcome new members.

Christmas Quiz Question 4 : What Christmas decoration was originally made from strands of silver?





ACEE Lottery Draw Results

September's Winners

Total Prize Pot £138.40

Winner 1st prize £69.2 #188 Peter Valentine
Winner 2nd prize £43.25 #185 Daniel Campbell
Winner 3rd prize £25.95 #126 Ronald Ribolla

October's Winners

Total Prize Pot £133.60

Winner 1st prize £66.8 #146 Patricia Pither
Winner 2nd prize £41.75 #81 Yvonne O'Leary
Winner 3rd prize £25.05 #103 Juliet Whitten

November's Winners

Total Prize Pot £141.60

Winner 1st prize £70.80 #118 Ronald Ribolla
Winner 2nd prize £44.25 #59 Stella Dibble
Winner 3rd prize £26.55 #170 Neil & Carol Gilbert

To find out how to join our monthly lottery club please visit
www.ageconcernepsom.org.uk/donations/join-our-monthly-lottery-club/
or call 01372 732 451

2020 Event Pictures



Comedy Night

Lockdown Goodie Bags



VE Day Celebrations

Drive In Cinema Event



Christmas Sacks

Volunteer's Christmas Draw Winners

Watch our Volunteers Christmas prize draw video at <https://youtu.be/bGNa0sRqjCc>

Laura Cobley Paul Spikins Amanda Heaton Dawn Ferris Andrew Gadd
John Lodge Chris Key Matt Pennington Sal Bacon Brigid Ryan



*From our Age Concern Epsom & Ewell family
to yours we wish you a Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year*



Christmas Quiz Answer 1: Jimmy Stewart * Christmas Quiz Answer 2: An Old Silk Hat
* Christmas Quiz Answer 3: The Nutcracker & Christmas Quiz Answer 4: Tinsel