

Later Life Newsletter

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No 56 – June 2014

Historic reforms to create new state pension: The Pensions Bill setting out changes to the State Pension received Royal Assent on 14th May. The Act 2014 introduces major reforms to the State Pension and changes the existing law to allow the new State Pension to start on 6 April 2016. [read more including a statement by the Minister](#)

Care Bill Becomes Care Act 2014 [The Care Act](#) represents the most significant reform of care and support in more than 60 years, putting people and their carers in control of their care and support. For the first time, the Act will put a limit on the amount anyone will have to pay towards the costs of their care.

Caring for someone with dementia can be difficult. To help with a few of the basics Carewatch have put together this Dementia Toolkit (in the form of an infographic), which includes some simple facts about dementia, tips to help you care for your loved one, memory prompts that you can cut-out and use at home, and details of organisations where you can find additional help [Read more](#)

Carers Week 9th – 15th June: a UK-wide annual awareness campaign which aims to

improve the lives of carers and those they care for. It does this by raising awareness at national regional and local level. [read more](#)

'In Safe Hands' is a support service to carers provided by Age UK York, providing carers with a short break by providing a worker to support the looked after elderly person at home or within the community. This enables the carer to have a break for a few hours each week. [read more](#)

A new Sight Loss Data Tool from RNIB provides information about blind and partially sighted people and those at risk of sight loss at a local level throughout the UK. [read more](#)

Alone in the Crowd: The Campaign to End Loneliness have published [a collection of essays](#) which aims to dig deeper into the loneliness experience to examine some of the groups and individuals who can be at particular risk of loneliness.

Care Network Cambridgeshire is a local volunteering charity receiving national recognition for its work with older people. Last year the organisation was a successful [GSK Imact Award Winner](#) for its outstanding work in community healthcare and this year it is generating significant interest thanks to the [Community Navigators volunteering project](#)

Free self training modules on a range of topics of interest to older people and those who work with them (*Living Well at Home*, *Housing & Care Options*, *Income*, *Home Equity*) are now available from [EAC FirstStop](#)
A new 'Living Safely & Well at Home' brochure from Age Action Alliance members Care & Repair England and EAC explains how common housing faults can affect older

people's health, suggesting remedial measures and ideas about who to turn to for information and practical help. Obtain paper copies: info@careandrepair-england.org.uk.

A new 'Can Do Guide' by Joseph Rowntree: have you ever wanted to organise an event in your community, but been put off by red tape and council regulations? Would you like some tips on how to bring people together safely? This new guide and [video](#) is based on research from JRF's [Risk, Trust and Relationships project](#)

Independent Expert on the Rights of Older People Appointed On 8 May, 2014, the UN Human Rights Council appointed Ms Rosa Kornfeld-Matte from Chile to the distinguished position of Independent Expert on the full enjoyment of the human rights of all older persons. [Read More](#)

Christchurch in Dorset has one of the largest populations of [older people in the UK](#)

And finally: A heart and (voice) of gold! A new initiative has been created that recognises the creative potential of the over-60s. The Lewisham group show you're never too old to learn new skills with theatre, singing and juggling classes all proving a hit! [read article](#)

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