

Later Life Newsletter

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Now reaching over 100,000
individuals and organisations

No 50 – December 2013

Community Christmas: a new website has been launched with the aim that no older person should be on their own on Christmas Day unless they want to be. Last year 230,000 older people were alone at this time and Community Christmas is committed to changing that. [read more](#)

The Cold Weather Plan for England 2013 gives advice on preparation for the effects of winter weather on people's health. [read the plan](#)

Government funding to help 10,000 older people stay independent The new local FirstStop services, supported by £1 million government funding, will give older people a helping hand to stay independent and make choices about where and how they live in later life. [read more](#)

'Mind the Gap: Mapping London's Dementia Advocacy Services' is a new report by The Dementia Advocacy Network (DAN) into the provision of independent advocacy for people with dementia in London [read the report](#)

Putting dementia on the map For the first time, members of the public will be able to see the quality of dementia care and

support in their local area. Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt has launched a new [interactive online map](#) to show members of the public the quality of [dementia care and support](#) in their local area.

Dementia Action Alliance announce new Call to Action for Carers of people with dementia. Their vision is that all carers should have recognition of their unique experience; be recognised as essential partners in care; have access to expertise to be effective carers for the person with dementia; have assessments and support to maintain their own health and well being, and have confidence that they are able to access good quality care, support and respite care [read more](#)

Free friendship phone service for older people launched A free 24-hour dedicated helpline for older people across the UK has been launched by Esther Rantzen. 'The Silver Line' aims to combat loneliness in the over-65s by providing friendship, information and advice through calls to trained volunteers. [read more](#)

Automatic Enrolment evaluation report has been released by the DWP - with nearly 2 million enrolled so far and opt-out rates lower than expected, there are positive early signs that automatic enrolment will reverse the declining trends in workplace pension participation and help millions to save towards achieving the lifestyle they aspire to in retirement. [Link to report.](#)

Pick up a Senior Railcard at a discount price by using your Tesco Clubcard. Tesco will provide a year's valid Senior Railcard when you exchange £15 in Clubcard vouchers. [read more](#)

Loneliness resource pack published – a new set of resources from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation is aimed to help individuals, groups, communities and neighbourhoods take a closer look at, and reduce loneliness. Their three-year action research programme explores and identifies what makes us feel lonely where we live and work and what we can all do about it – personally and professionally. This resource pack brings together the lessons and experiences from the programme. [read more](#)

Find Me Help Dying Matters and Macmillan Cancer Care have teamed up to produce a new free online resource, [Find Me Help](#). - a directory or service finder aimed at people in the last years of life, their family, carers and friends which lists over 3 200 charitable



To subscribe, or provide contributions to future Later Life Newsletters contact: Simon.wilkinson1@dpw.gsi.gov.uk

Merry Christmas to all our readers