

Later Life Newsletter

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Join the Big Skills Share and celebrate UK Older People's Day on 1st October 2012.

UK Older People's Day this year is about sharing the skills and experience of different generations. So take time out of your day to celebrate the contribution older people make in your communities. Last year over a million people took part in over 5000 events, and we would love to see if we can make it an even bigger celebration. An event registration tool is now available, and please visit the new [Full of Life website](#) where you can find more information. You can also find lots of [free resources](#) to help set up your event. For any queries please contact: dwp.fulloflife@dwp.gsi.gov.uk.

Loneliness and isolation: a toolkit for health and wellbeing boards:

The Campaign to End Loneliness has developed a digital toolkit for health and wellbeing boards to inspire them to take action to tackle loneliness and social isolation in older age. The new toolkit will support them to better understand, identify and commission interventions for the issue of loneliness in older age. Launched by Minister for Care Services Paul Burstow the toolkit is online and available for use. [access the toolkit](#)

New group to help carers stay in work

Care Services Minister Paul Burstow MP announced on 21st June that a new government and employers working group had been established to help give carers the support they need to stay in work alongside their caring responsibilities. [read more](#)

The UK Urban Ageing Consortium is a new, national Consortium on age-friendly cities that actively supports the development of age-friendly environments. Building on the combined expertise of its three partners - Keele University, Manchester City Council and the Beth Johnson Foundation - the *Consortium* provides a UK-wide focus for research into age-friendly concepts and testing out different age-friendly approaches on the ground; visit www.bjf.org.uk

New home sharing scheme launched:

A new social enterprise Uniitee has soft-launched their new home sharing scheme with this animated video. Starting in Cheshire East, Uniitee will match older home-owners with spare rooms and wanting a little bit of support to stay independent with people looking for accommodation. For more information: <http://youtu.be/DbsrJCteKCM>

Wise Guide: life-improving advice for over-65s Independent Age has produced "Wise Guide", an A-Z of handy tips for staying healthy and safe in the home as well as providing summaries and contact details for many of the services that older people may need. Available on line, Independent Age will also post you a free copy. [view the guide](#)

Doorstep selling campaign launched.

The OFT's campaign, launched on 19 July aims to empower elderly or vulnerable consumers to make effective purchasing decisions when buying on their doorstep and reduce their vulnerability to rogue traders. The campaigns' primary target audience are UK residents over 70 years and their families, friends and carers. For further guidance see: www.of.gov.uk/doorstepselling

Chip and signature cards – an alternative for those unable to use a PIN. The Payments Council's consumer education campaign, PayYourWay.org.uk, is raising awareness of chip and signature cards. This campaign follows an in-depth study that found a gap in knowledge about the cards amongst bank staff, retailers and consumers. Research found that the people who could benefit from chip and signature cards largely don't know they exist. [visit the payyourway website](#)

Ageing Well Challenge Prize. Launched by Minister for Civil Society, Nick Hurd, Nesta are offering a prize for the innovation that can reduce the isolation and/or increase the mobility of vulnerable older people by providing new opportunities for communities to come together to give time, skills and resources. The deadline for entries is noon 14 September 2012. [learn more about the Prize Challenge](#)

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