



Hi Folks,

This is the first newsletter of 2020 so don't think that you have missed any!

Sadly, we have lost a couple of our Friends and the mother of one of our trustees since the last newsletter and we do offer our respective condolences to Rita, Liz and Barbara, their families and friends.

As promised in the last newsletter, we have now started three new memory cafes within the Wirral peninsula. These are additional to the eight we already had! And we are not stopping there, subject to demand and availability of volunteers. Overall, each month we now offer some fifteen events by Dementia Together Wirral along with sharing some and then other specifically dementia friendly events run by fellow minded organisations.

Each second Saturday afternoon of the month at Popsy's cafe in Hoylake; and each third Wednesday morning of month at St Barnabas Centre café in Bromborough. Our third this year is our memory café in Puddington held each second Thursday morning of the month; and we can report that each café has been well received.

Our popular monthly mini-coach days out, with lunch, to places of interest on each last Thursday of the month is now assured thanks to an award by the Post Code Community Trust ensuring the near future of the project.

Our popular music, singing, and craft groups will continue as before and are under constant review in regard of development based on demand.

The walking group recommences in March, around Port Sunlight, after the winter break being in the afternoon of each third Thursday in the month.

Dates and times are on our website for all of our activities and those that we support.

We have started sessions for website assistance and instructive class(es) for those needing help with IT access and use, Tuition is at your pace! Just turn up and try! Sessions arranged by frequency and times will be subject to demand but initial sessions have helped people make better use of their devices (smartphones, to you and me!).

Our fabulous annual Line Dance event is at Wallasey Town Hall on Sunday afternoon, 23rd February.

A fundraiser QUIZ on Friday 24th April to be held at St Cath's Church, Meols.

Events happening elsewhere include the following within the Mayor's Charity Appeal, shown here as we are one of his chosen charities:

- 'Ballroom Blitz' on 2nd March at 12.30pm onwards which, for those that know ballroom, Latin and sequence dancing, it is quite an event with Jackie at Liverpool Town Hall (and beyond) but this is a first at Wallasey Town Hall.
- St Patrick's Day Celebration at Wallasey Town Hall on Sunday evening, 15th March fundraising for his appeal. Three bands, music, dance, and singing and even Irish stew!
- The Mayor will also run another fundraiser at Caldy Golf Club Open Day on Friday, 17th April specifically for teams of four.
- 'Spotlight on Youth' is a talent event with walk-in auditions being held 29th February at Wallasey Town Hall, and 7th March at The Hive, Birkenhead, followed by the Final at Floral Pavilion, New Brighton, on Sunday 17th May. Competition is open to all 18s and under.

Other items of interest include our (open to all) regular meetings of DEEP Wirral at St Barnabas' Centre, Bromborough, with speaker for March being the Dementia and Falls Lead of NHS Wirral University Teaching Hospital. Other months have topics that may directly affect your life on the Wirral, South Wirral and Cheshire West.

Events in which Dementia Together Wirral is involved would always benefit from additional volunteers so if you can give an hour or two then please contact, for cafes and groups, Barbara Lee on 07876 493174 or, for events, Barbara Baker on 07920 770213 with either Barbara for fairs and collections.

A REQUEST

Please understand that Dementia Together Wirral is a socially based charity and that we can offer no medical, nursing, care or administrative support as we are all volunteers (*amateurs*). Being volunteered, we would ask that you respect that fact and, unless urgent, refrain from contacting volunteers out of 'normal' office hours. Phone numbers shown in literature and on banners are purely for giving details of events or passing information by sign-posting to bodies and should be used during said 'office' hours. We trust that you understand that volunteers give their time freely and domestic life must be respected!

For medical attention, if life threatening then dial 999 otherwise dial 111 for NHS24. For social services assistance then dial (for Wirral) Duty Team 0151 514 2222 option 3 during office hours; 0151 677 6557 out of hours. Specific dementia advice may be sought from helplines such as Dementia UK on 0800 888 6678, Alzheimer's Society on 0300 222 1122; Alzheimer's Research on 0300 111 5555

We support the 'Forget-me-not' initiative as introduced by Nurse Practitioner Emma Taylor on behalf of NHS Wirral Community Foundation Trust. This consists of a forget-me-not sticker to be fixed to inside of front door, but not glass area, to advise those having an interest that a resident has dementia. Emergency, health, social services along with some care agencies mostly recognise the system. Anyone needing such sticker, please ask at our cafes, groups or contact emma.taylor70@nhs.net. Preferably, but not essential, Emma would like to register the name and address of party where sticker is located.

We hope to see you at our cafes, groups and events. Support the events that we support else we will lose them and do help to spread the word to others who may benefit.

If first time visiting any event then please make yourself known to a volunteer and become a member, it's free and may make life more enjoyable.

Any contributions, complaints or comments to Allan Grogan 07511 777126 or Rosie Tandy 07546 451505

e-mail: info@dementiatogetherwirral.org or dementiatogetherwirral@gmail.com

website: www.dementiatogetherwirral.org

P.S. We are always on the look-out for donations of raffle prizes for our events and would welcome your support for the Mayor's fundraising events and our own occasional events such as our Line Dance event as we have afternoon teas, fairs and other events to come in the Summer. Speak to one of our volunteers about how...