

Welcome to our Community Newsletter! Please feel free to pass this newsletter on to friends and colleagues – if they wish to receive this direct please ask them to register an email address with us. For further details please see the 'How to get involved' page.

ACHIEVEMENTS

CONGRATULATION TO WIGAN & LEIGH PENSIONERS LINK

THIS YEAR - 2018 -WE ARE CELEBRATING 30 YEARS

Pensioners Link was established in 1988 and was the vision of two pensioners, Allan Taylor and Peter Kenny. An important element of their vision was to see organisations and people linked together so as to provide maximum benefit for older people.

Our aims:

- Maintain independence and wellbeing
- Reduce isolation
- Stimulate social interaction
- Access information and services in the community

GENEROUS PAULA REWARDED FOR HER EXCEPTIONAL COMMUNITY AID

A generous Wigan mum who helps dozens of people at risk of social isolation start the year in style has been given a prestigious award.

Paula Longworth was given a Heart of the Community Award for her group We Care To Share by the Hindley ward councillors.

As well as running We Care To Share Paula is also involved with a junior rugby league team in Hindley, is a member of the community Christmas group, and a member of friends of Leyland Park

AMBITION FOR AGEING AT AGE UK WIGAN BOROUGH: WELL DONE ATHERTON AND PEMBERTON

We have two main aims:

- to reduce social isolation in the over 50s
- to make neighbourhoods more age friendly.

We went ahead with launching the project: 15th December for Atherton high street and 22nd December for Pemberton high street.

We set up our information stall in the high streets and chatted to the shoppers who had braved the cold weather to come out into the high street. It went very well and many people were pleasantly surprised by what local businesses were prepared to offer shoppers.

I would be very grateful if you could print an acknowledgement of this achievement to trumpet that two towns in the Wigan borough are leading the way in the campaign for becoming consciously more age friendly to encourage people back into local shopping.

More details on the project from Martine Royle Ambition for Ageing Age UK Wigan Borough
Office Tel: 01942 615895

ACTING AWARDS FOR OPERATIC SOCIETY PAIR

The acting talents of two members of the Three Towns Operatic Society have been rewarded with Association of Community Theatre (ACT) awards.

Lowton's David Kay, 68, won the most original character actor award for his role as Sir Joseph Porter in the society's production of HMS Pinafore.

Victoria Goulden, 32, who played Josephine in HMS Pinafore and the plaintiff in Trial by Jury, picked up the most accomplished actress gong.

As director David was also nominated for the most original production concept award for both productions

DEMENTIA CHARITY MAGICAL MEMORIES CELEBRATE SIX-MONTH SESSION BOOST AFTER BEING CROWNED A CHAMPION

A charity group for people with dementia is celebrating after being given a six-month session cash boost for 45 people in a homebuilder's community scheme.

Magical Memories, based in Tyldesley, has named a Persimmon Homes Community Champion with the homebuilder awarding the group £1,000.

The volunteers group hosts Happy Timers sessions, which are free and feature activities such as live musical entertainment, reminiscing past times, bingo, quizzes, looking at old photographs and participating in crafts with a two-course meal included.

Magical Memories founder Marlene Chadwick said: "Very often, when a person is diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, the role of a spouse often changes from partner to carer and I have seen how difficult this can be.

"People often miss doing things as a couple and can feel cut off from an outside social life. "What they need is a safe place to go to talk to people in a similar situation where they can share ideas and discuss experiences.