

Focus on.... Henry Marshall

Henry has been a visitor to Elgin Day Centre for the last couple of years, and prior to that was a regular attendee at the Soho Centre. Henry who is a Londoner born and bred lives in the Lisson Green area of Westminster with his wife of 52 years, he visits Elgin every Tuesday where he enjoys catching up with his friends reminiscing about his contribution to the war effort, this is more poignant as he was bombed out twice during the Second World War. Henry said of Elgin "I like coming here, it gets me out of the house and I thoroughly enjoy being with the friends I have made"...A fitting endorsement indeed.

Events At Covent Garden

Charles and his team are keeping busy as always offering a vast range of centre activities in Covent Garden, these include;

Monday	Cathay Club/Cards	2pm
Tuesday	Bingo	2pm
Wednesday	Exercise Class	10am
	Choir	2pm
	Bridge	1.30pm
Thursday	Cards etc	2pm
	IT Classes	10-2pm & 2-4pm
	Picture Framing	9.30am
Friday	Exercise Classes	10am
	Bingo	2pm
	Bridge	1.30pm
Saturday	Saturday Lunch	9.30am

Please Contact Charles on 0207 240 5733 or pop in to E42 Odhams Walk, Off Shelton St, WC2H 9SB for more information.

FEEDBACK

We welcome your feedback. If you have any issues you would like to see raised in *Platinum Age* please do not hesitate to contact us at the address below:

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3 strikes at Pullen

Lightening may not strike twice, but at Pullen, floods have struck for the third time. Following the flooding of the Centre in October and then November last year, Teresa and her team thought that they would be getting back to normality at the end of January. Unfortunately another flood struck after just two days putting Pullen back to square 1

Well done to Margaret and her team at Sherborne for giving the Pullen clients and staff a home from home.

The British 10km London Run

To keep fit and raise money!!!!

.....Age Concern Westminster has signed up to participate in the British 10km London Run for the next three years, the first of which will be taking place on Sunday the 1st of July 2007. ACW are part of the Age Concern London Team and all of the sponsorship raised for ACW will come back to us. It promises to be a fun filled day for both spectators and runners alike with the inducement of an Asics free goody bag guaranteed for every runner.....If you are over 15 years of age (lets face it most of us are!!!) contact Chris Burton at Age Concern Westminster Edgware Road for more information....**Happy Running!!!!**

ActivAGE sw1 arrives at Glastonbury

A new and innovative hub for older people opened its doors on Monday 5th February. The new project delivers a much needed community space accessible to everyone aged 50 plus in the local Victoria area.

This multi-purpose space in Glastonbury House will provide a variety of activities including Arts and Crafts, Computer Sessions, Physical Activities, and Health Promotion as well as an Information & Advice service and a drop in style Café. Age Concern Westminster will facilitate this new community space and run the cafe 9.30am - 1.30pm Monday to Friday aiming to satisfy the interests of the over 50's, whilst also embracing other local organisations from all cultures to utilise the space at other times.

Martin Davies Chief Executive of Age Concern Westminster said: "This is an exciting development for the older residents of SW1. We are determined to offer local people a choice of things to do and a hub to extend their social and leisure activities in an enjoyable and relaxed way"



Glastonbury ActivAGE sw1

Christmas came early with a little help from

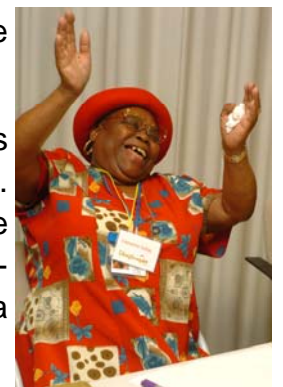
Visa Europe

With Christmas now a dim and distant memory, we fondly remember Visa Europe entertaining 50 local older residents at their European Headquarters based in the Paddington Waterside Development. This was the second year running that the Visa Business School staff donned their festive dress and served a delicious three course meal.

Local older residents had the chance to win a range of bingo prizes before having the opportunity to telephone loved ones around the world. The highlight for many was the carol singing by pupils of St Augustine School. The party culminated with the Age Concern guests being given their own gift bags as a lasting reminder of a fun and enjoyable day.



Lunch is served....



Full of Christmas Spirit....

Wendy Martin, Vice-president of Visa Business School was equally enthusiastic "We feel very much part of the local Paddington community. Being able to give something back to local people, especially the older generation was a real pleasure".

Ann's 2006 Dramas

Now that we have escaped the Christmas and New Year rush, this is perhaps the time for reflection and certainly the I & A team based at Edgware Road have had plenty to reflect on over the last 12 months. 2006 proved to be one of the busiest years for Ann Mather's team with the introduction of the Welfare Benefit Contract, the new pilot for Direct Payments, continuing advice points as well as managing the every day referrals in the office.

With a shortage of staff and Mehfuz Ahmed's new responsibilities as Direct Payments Support Worker reducing the time on general I&A duties, it fell to Evrol Puckerin to do the majority of the Welfare Benefit visits as well as the general I&A work. Evrol made a very large contribution helping out and also working in his own time and thanks to him a crisis was not made out of a drama.....Well done and thank you to all!!!



The 2006 Information & Advice Team (left to right—Sara Wubneh, Grace Tan, Evrol Puckerin, Messelu West, Jonathan Webb and Ann Mather) Mehfuz Ahmed (not shown)

Leonora is on the Move

Packing boxes at the ready.....

Sandra Stamou faces the upheaval of moving (a bane for the best of us!!!).....As of Easter this year the Leonora Club will be moving.....but fear not a plan is in place for a seamless move to **Ada Court, 10-16 Maida Vale (Edgware Rd) W9 1TG**. It is anticipated that the Lanark Rd site will take approximately 14 months to be redeveloped by Octavia housing, the current landlords, and then the Leonora Club will relocate back to the revitalised site.

Whilst at Ada Court it is planned that the service and Adult Education classes will continue as normal, and these will include:

IT, music appreciation, art, exercise classes, card making, pyrography, theme evenings and a host of other enjoyable activities.

A warm welcome to our new starters since the last newsletter

Marta Tarasiuk, Susan Nakintu, Chris Burton, Grace Lee, Royette Fontaine, Nasima Roman

And bon voyage to

Jonathan Webb, Melanie Gibbons, Ana Iturralde, Leona Paul, Grace Tan and Messelu West

A new look "Platinum Age" is on the drawing board for launch shortly.

A helping hand from Britain's favourite retailer

D-day and counting until Britain's favourite retailer Marks & Spencer sprinkles both its expertise and goodwill on both the Edgware Road and Harrow Road shops. On 13th and 14th February, Marks and Spencer staff will be visiting each shop and enhancing the retail experience for our customers.

This help includes new mannequins (no heads falling off on these!!) revised signage and display equipment and giving Age Concern Westminster the opportunity to update its image on both sites.



Out with the old and in with the new.....Harrow Road and Edgware Road shops with their soon to be replaced display equipment.



Age Concern Westminster is 60 years young!!

1947 was the year that the Westminster Old Peoples Welfare Association was formed. This was the forerunner to our existing Age Concern Westminster, and how things have progressed in the intervening 60 years. To celebrate this momentous occasion Age Concern Westminster have set the task of raising £60,000 over the whole year. This money will be used for essential equipment and services to help older people, including replacing a minibus.



Glass painting at Covent Garden

A whole host of different and varied events are being planned, which include:

A photographic competition (with photographs depicting life in Westminster), A garden party, The annual ACW Football World Cup, An Easter Egg hunt and many other events.

Please keep an eye out for a comprehensive list of events and please join in to make 2007 one of our best.



Some of the highlights from the recent past.....The opening of Edgware Rd shop