

# "THE VOICE"

Newsletter of the Harrogate District Over 50's Forum

Promoting the Interests of Older People in the Harrogate District

**April 2015** 



(Victoria Avenue, Harrogate - Opposite Library)

### "WHO SPEAKS FOR YOU"

A GENERAL ELECTION MEETING

Tuesday 21<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2.00-4.00pm



An opportunity to express your concerns and to put your questions directly to the candidates.

Do you know which party is going to represent you best?

What are the issues which most concern you best?

Who is going to stand up for you and speak on your behalf in the next parliament? All 5 candidates in the Harrogate and Knaresborough Constituency intend to be present. The meeting will broadly be along the lines of a "Question Time", the formal session will be from 2pm till about 3pm followed by an informal opportunity to talk directly to the candidates. Sorry, David Dimbleby can't attend but we have another chairman. The members of the panel will be:

**Helen Flynn** - Liberal Democrat **Andrew Jones** - Conservative

Shan Oakes - Green Party

website: .....

David Simister - UK Independence Party

(UKIP)

Jan Williams - Labour

#### ADVANCE NOTICE

Forum Meeting Thursday  $21^{ST}$  May St. Pauls Church Hall 2-4pm

#### "SAFETY & SECURITY"

Both in your home and outside

This is our major Spring Forum meeting on a subject which has always been important but is now attracting a great deal of attention both nationally and locally and has a special concern for older people.

We have secured a range of expert speakers who will cover just about all aspects of personal safety, accident prevention, personal security, avoidance of doorstep and telephone crime etc.

Especially important will be the advice about what steps to take if you feel uneasy or threatened either in your home or elsewhere.

Our speakers will include specialists from the Fire and Rescue Service, The Police Service, Trading and Standards and NYCC Safer Communities Group.

We are holding this important meeting in response to many requests from our members and from the security services. We look forward to seeing you there!

### <u>Harrogate District Over 50's Forum - Committee Members 2015</u>)

**Jane Malster** 

Michael Ellenor Tania Brightmore Christine Schofield Rev. Trevor Dixon

**Anthony Kerr** 

# Report from FORUM MEETING ON 26<sup>TH</sup> February - "Paying For Care"

This was a very well attended meeting with over 60 members attending. Presentations from several speakers gave us a great deal of information about the new Care Act which comes into effect in April and the ways in which caring for older people is planned to develop in the next few years

Suzie Thompson and Tina Burney outlined the work of Start which provides support, practical help and information for the earliest days of Care Provision.

Holly Bainbridge and Michael Ogelsby explained the possibilities and pitfalls of seeking a Care Home and the ways in which older people could plan and prepare to pay for entering one.

Finally, Beckie Dukes and Hazel Etherington explained the development of Extra Care Housing in the Harrogate District and how it is planned to enable people to stay (together if possible) in a home of their own with a degree of independence. A very busy, informative and helpful meeting — much welcomed and appreciated by the members present.



"We spend the first twelve months of our children's lives teaching them to walk and talk and the next twelve telling them to sit down and shut up!"

#### AGM FORUM MEETING 26TH March.

On 26th March HDOFF held its 3rd AGM in HBC Council Chamber. Reporting on the year, the Chairman identified the successes of the Forum. Membership has grown to 250, all Forum meetings have been very well attended with up to 75 people on occasion; the many and varied social events have been well supported; the website continues to grow and provide a very useful source of information; a special feature of the year has been the development of the quarterly newsletter, "The Voice". This goes out to all 250 members and is greatly appreciated and has received many compliments on its content and presentation.

HDOFF is becoming more widely known; we have presented displays and a stall several times through the year. We have representatives in many older people's organisations throughout the District and County.

All this progress and achievement is the result of the very hard work of the Managing Committee and the Chairman ended by expressing thanks to them on behalf of all members who have enjoyed a very successful and stimulating year.

After a break, Ann Hill led a discussion with members on "Age Discrimination" and asked for examples of this. These will be collated and taken forward to the County Forum meeting for discussion with County officers and members.

\*\*Anthony Kerr, Chairman\*\*

## **Luncheon Club**

# Stop Press!

# ess! Feed your curiosity

Tuesday April 14<sup>th</sup> - meet at "LeD2", 7 Bower Road, Harrogate Meet for lunch at 12.30 -New members welcome Tel: Pat 01423 431707 asap to add your place if not already on the list. Just pay for your own food/drink!



Special light lunch menu including one course plus drink of wine/lager/soft drink for £8.95 *O*r

Full lunch menu 2/3 courses available Your choice! Blackboard Specials also. Tuesday May 12<sup>th</sup> - meet at "Six Poor Folk" 25 Castlegate, Knaresborough Meet for lunch 12.30 New members welcome!



Tel: Ann 01423 861795 to confirm your place if not already on the list. This is a new eatery restaurant situated nr the Police Station just of the Market Place. Special lunch menu being negotiated!



### Snowdrops at Burton Agnes!

Delightful day out to Burton Agnes Snowdrop walk in February through the gardens and woods. We had beautiful weather all day with bright sunshine, not quite what we expected in February!

Afterwards the coach took us for lunch and visit to Langlands Garden Centre. The time flew by as there was a really good hot menu to choose from and a huge array of plants and accessories to browse around. A great day to give cheer and feel the incoming spring sunshine...

#### LATER LIFE MATTERS - a conference at the Cairn Hotel on 4th March

HDOFF was one of many organisations presenting a display of its work and activities at this important conference. HDOFF had thoroughly covered most of the matters discussed in three Forum meetings in the last few months.

The HDOFF stand attracted quite a bit of interest from the public as well as members representing other organisations involved with older people. It is always encouraging to receive compliments on our work and the Harrogate District Over 50s Forum is becoming quite well known and appreciated in the area.

### DON'T MISS NEXT MONTH COACH TRIP EVENT TO "YORKSHIRE WILDLIFE PARK" Thursday May 7<sup>th</sup>

- Join us and meet 'Pixel' and 'Victor' the polar bears who were seen on TV. See all the animals including Lions, Tigers, Leopards and Meerkats and lots more. There are snack bars for coffee etc. This will be followed by a visit to Clumber Park nr Worksop where you can buy lunch and stroll around the parkland. There is also an optional walled garden which costs £3.50 to enter.





The cost will be **£25.00** which includes travel and entry to the Yorkshire Wildlife Park.

Pickup Harrogate 9.15am(opposite library on Victoria Avenue)

Knaresborough 9.30am (York Place opposite the swimming pool off York Road)

Tel: Ann 01423 861795 for more info on how to pay and to secure your place and escape the election for a few hours!

### Coming Up - Future Dates not to miss for your Diary

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April Luncheon Club 12.30pm "LeD2" - 7 Bower St Harrogate.

Tuesday 21st April 2-4pm
"Who Speaks For You"
St Paul's Church Hall
A General Election Meeting
All 5 Candidates hope to be there!

Thursday May 7<sup>th</sup>
Coach Trip to Yorkshire
Wildlife Park!

Tuesday May 12<sup>th</sup> Luncheon Club 12.30pm 'Six Poor Folk' -25 Castlegate, Knaresborough.

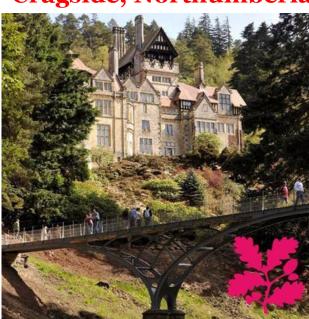
Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May
'Safety & Security'
Forum Meeting St Pauls
2-4pm

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 'Luncheon Club'

Wednesday June 17th
Coach Trip to "Cragside"
In Northumberland

Thursday July 9<sup>th</sup>
Coach Trip to North Yorkshire
Railway Pickering on to Whitby
for the day. Coach back home.

# Cragside, Northumberland – A National Trust Property



Come with us to visit these wonderful gardens - the rhododendrons should be showing. Although hilly I have been told there are buggies to take people about. The house which was the first in the world to be lit by hydroelectricity is very interesting also.

### Wednesday 17th June

The cost of this trip will be coach only £15
Please note entry fee is £16.50 to non- members of the
National Trust!

Pick up Harrogate 9.00am at the Library Pick up Knaresborough is 9.15am at York Place The house is open from 1.00pm and gardens open at 10.00am

Tel: Ann 01423 861795 for more info on how to pay and secure your place!

### **North Yorkshire Moors Railway and Whitby**

#### Thursday 9th July

The cost of this trip will be £26 including train journey. We arrive in Pickering in time for a look round or buy coffee before embarking on 12.00pm train. The railway journey will take us to Whitby through beautiful countryside. When we arrive at Whitby the rest of the day is yours to do whatever you want, fish and chips or lunch maybe. The coach will meet us to bring us back home.

Pickup Harrogate 9.15am(opposite library Knaresborough 9.30am (York Place off York Road)



Tel: Ann 01423 861795 for more info on how to pay and secure your place!

We are limited to only 33 people on this trip, this is the NYMR quota for groups on this train.