

Woodcote Volunteers



Pension Credit and Winter Fuel Payment

You may have read in the news that Winter Fuel Payments worth up to £300 will be removed from pensioners unless they are in receipt of Pension Credit?

It is worth anyone who has reached retirement age to make a claim for Pension Credit if your WEEKLY income is less than about £218 per week for a single person or £332 per week joint income if a couple. Your weekly income can be more than that if you are disabled, a carer and in some other circumstances, so it is always worth checking. Savings up to £10,000 are disregarded.

It is easy to check – you can either phone the Pension Credit claim line directly or call someone like Age UK or Citizens Advice as they can do a full benefit check for you. If you are unable to make the call yourself, a friend or family member can call for you as long as you are with them when they make the call. You will need details of all your income and savings to hand, along with your NI number, Council Tax charge and rent (if applicable).

The phone numbers are:

Pension Credit Claim line: 0800 99 1234

Age UK helpline: 03454 501276

Citizens Advice: 0800 144 8848

Tea Party for our clients

Our next session is on 2nd October, 2.30pm – 4pm. We are putting on a light-hearted bingo game (with small prizes!) and look forward to seeing you there. In November, we hope to have a speaker – the date is 6th November.

Tea Parties are held at the Community Centre in Woodcote. We provide tea and home-made cakes and there is no charge. You can enjoy a new activity each month and will have time for a chat to other clients and volunteers.

Please let us know several days in advance if you need a lift.

Retiring Volunteers

We would like to say a huge thank you to Stella and Philip who are leaving us to have a well-earned rest. Whilst Philip was a relatively new recruit, Stella has been with us for 19 years and will be very much missed. We wish you well.

Committee roles becoming vacant April 2025

It is some way ahead, but not too soon for us to start the process of advertising for a new Chair and Secretary for Woodcote Volunteers as both positions will be vacant as of our AGM in April 2025. If anyone is interested in finding out more, please email the Secretary Jane Forde know using the address below and she can call you for an informal chat in the first instance. It would be very helpful to start the process of integration and familiarisation before April. A brief description of the roles are available on our website.

Date for your diary...

Some advance notice of our fundraising coffee morning being held at Woodcote Community Centre on Saturday, 5th October from 10 am to 12.30 pm. Please come along and support us! We have a number of volunteer drivers who can bring you to the coffee morning if you need a lift. However, we do need at least a week's notice, please.

TO FINISH.....

If you could help in any way, we would love to hear from you! Please go to our website to find out more about the various roles and how to contact us.

If you need a driver, please give us at least three days' notice as it can be hard to find someone at the last minute – but we will always try!

- **To book a driver, call 01491 681171 giving as much notice as possible.**
- **To volunteer, email: info@woodcotevolunteers.org.uk**
- **Find out more about us: www.woodcotevolunteers.org.uk**
- **Facebook page: www.facebook.com/woodcotevolunteers**
- **General enquiries – call 01491 681171**