



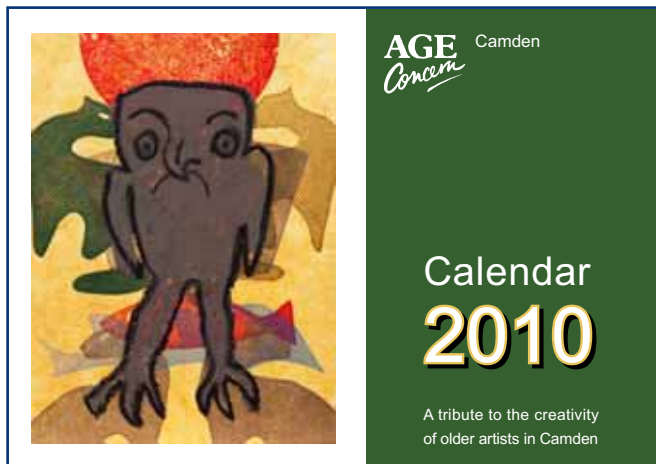
AGE
Concern

CAMDEN AGE



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Camden's older people display their creative talent



The recent art competition organised by Age Concern Camden and the British Museum attracted more than thirty stimulating entries. Older people in the borough were invited to submit a piece of artwork inspired by any aspect of the British Museum. The entries were exhibited at the Kentish Town Congregational Church and the thirteen winning entries have been photographed for Age Concern Camden's 2010 calendar. The three-person panel consisted of Andrew Gilchrist (Deputy Arts Editor, the Guardian), Laura Philips (Community Partnerships Manager, the British Museum) and Cllr Flick Rea (Executive Member for Culture, London Borough of Camden).

Entrants used a range of media and techniques, including oil paint, collage, tapestry, pencil, wool, pastels and wax, and took their inspiration from all over the Museum, including the African,

pre-Roman, Assyrian and Living and Dying galleries and the Great Court dome.

As well as being visually attractive, we hope the 2010 calendar proves very practical. The space for each day has been increased over the current calendar, and it includes December 2009 and January 2011 plus a separate page for useful numbers and information.

The calendar, price £3.99, is on sale at Age Concern Camden shops and resource centres. All proceeds will go to Age Concern Camden.

For more information contact
Clare O'Driscoll on 020 7239 0409 or
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Nationwide funding for ACC

The Nationwide Foundation has awarded Age Concern Camden (ACC) £270,000 to improve financial inclusion for residents aged 50 or over. The three year grant will primarily help people in the Somali community, as well as dementia sufferers and older people caring for an older relative. The funding will support a bilingual advisor and a part-time volunteering post to recruit, support and train black and minority ethnic (BME) volunteers to offer advice with an emphasis on money, housing, dementia and caring. Many of the volunteers will be 'outposted' with BME organisations. Age Concern London will work with ACC on evaluation and dissemination. ACC hopes to have the workers in post by February 2010.

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Fun and facts: Celebrating older people

On 1st October more than sixty older people visited the Hill-Wood Resource Centre to mark the UN International Day for Older People. Full of Life, a day of activities organised by Age Concern Camden (ACC), celebrated older people's opportunities, achievements and aspirations and their contribution to society and the economy. ACC's advice team offered advice and information on issues including housing, access to healthcare, benefits and pensions, and visitors were treated to a range of entertainment, including head and shoulder massage, belly dancing and craft sessions.

Care Services Minister Phil Hope joined in the celebrations and witnessed ex-Mayor and ACC Chair Barbara Hughes using ACC's nail care service.

Participants were also able to find out more about Camden's recycling service and safety and

Phil Hope with ACC Chair Barbara Hughes & Nail Technician Jennifer Irving



security (courtesy of Camden Council's Safe as Houses), and all enjoyed a delicious buffet lunch.

Sassaka Amena, who organised the event, said "We were delighted with the turnout, lots of older people who haven't previously accessed Age Concern Camden's services came and enjoyed the activities, and found out about services that can help them."

Activities for the mind and body

Our three resource centres offer a wide range of weekly activities, including:

Henderson Court, Hampstead – Yoga, computer classes, drama group, and massage sessions – tel: 020 7794 6588.

Hill-Wood, Somers Town – women's swimming, Somali advice & support, reminiscence group and hairdressing – tel: 020 7387 7628.

Great Croft, King's Cross – gardening, Bangladeshi & Asian men's group, art classes and bingo – tel: 020 7278 5090.

Daily lunches are also available at each centre. Contact your local centre for more information.

Advice in the Community

Age Concern Camden is now running advice and information sessions for older people in a number of centres within the local community.

Days and times for all locations vary.

- Kentish Town Health Centre
- Henderson Court Resource Centre
- Vivian Court Sheltered Housing
- Third Age Centre, St. Mary Magdalene Church
- Hill Wood Resource Centre
- H-Pod, West Euston Healthy Living Centre
- Surma Centre
- Queen's Crescent Community Centre

Please ring **020 7837 3777** for details

Come and see us in your community



In Memoriam

John Shaw – retired law lecturer, director and trustee of Age Concern Camden who died in September, having suffered with Leukaemia for some time. John was a stalwart supporter of ACC and remained active till the end. His sharp intellect, wicked sense of humour and warm heart will be missed by all.

AGM sees record attendance



Age Concern CEO, Gary Jones, with Tom Wright, CEO Age UK

Around eighty people attended Age Concern Camden's (ACC) lively annual general meeting in October, which was addressed by Camden's Deputy Mayor, Cllr Lulu Mitchell.

The guest speaker, Tom Wright CBE, Chief Executive of Age UK (the new charity formed by the merger of Age Concern England and Help the Aged), spoke of his fondness for the borough: his first job had been with Camden Social Services.

He outlined the new charity's plans to meet the needs and aspirations of older people in the UK – and beyond – and explained how it would work with local Age Concerns.

The meeting included annual elections for the management board, at which Barbara Hughes was re-elected Chair, all other existing trustees were re-elected, and Michael Rose, a retired solicitor and a volunteer with ACC's Dementia Advocacy Service, was elected as a new trustee. It was with regret however that we noted the death of John Shaw, one of our longest standing trustees, and a minute's silence was held as a tribute to him.

ACC's 2008/2009 annual report, launched at the AGM, was commended by members as 'the best the charity has produced' – copies are available online at www.ageconcerncamden.org.uk or by calling 020 7837 3777.

Service focus: Self-funders support service

Arranging support in your home can be daunting. Many agencies offer services, but they tend to be expensive, and finding someone to work for you may be risky. Age Concern Camden's new self-funders support service can help with all stages of planning and arranging help in your home.

The service is designed for those who aren't eligible for help from social services or who prefer to make their own arrangements. It is available for Camden residents aged 60 or over and their carers.

You may need someone to do your shopping or housework. Or maybe you need help with washing and dressing or preparing food, or someone to go with you to hospital appointments or help you get out and about.

We can help you decide what assistance you may need and plan the best way to get it. We would then draw up a budget to ensure that you can afford the assistance. We can also help find someone to work for you, and put you in touch with appropriate agencies. Once your arrangement is set up, you can still call us if any problem comes up.

The self-funders support service is completely free and can be contacted on 020 7837 3777.

A garden of the senses

With the fantastic help of volunteers from recruitment consultants, Badenoch & Clarke, the garden at Hill-Wood Resource Centre was transformed this Summer with the installation of a sensory garden that will provide lots of stimulation for the centre users.

Work continues in building raised beds that will make it much easier for the less able centre users to work in the garden.



Hate Crime Action Plan launched at ACC centre



Alan Campbell with staff and members of the Opening Doors project

In September Age Concern Camden's (ACC) Henderson Court Resource Centre welcomed Home Office minister Alan Campbell, for the launch of the cross-government Hate Crime Action Plan, which sets out the government's strategic actions to tackle hate crime and support hate crime victims.

Members of the Opening Doors project (which provides services for older Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) people across Camden, Islington, Hackney, Kensington and Chelsea and Westminster) shared their experiences of homophobic hate crime.

The Minister described hate crime as 'particularly abhorrent', saying it should have never been accepted, and particularly not in the 21st century. He said "I have heard today examples of good practice; older LGBT people can often be very isolated, and groups such as Opening Doors are so important."

The Hate Crime Action Plan can be downloaded from www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/hate-crime-action-plan

For more information about Opening Doors contact Nick Maxwell (men's co-ordinator) on 020 7121 3335 or Debbie Robertson-Neil (women's coordinator) on 020 7121 3331.

**Seasons Greetings
and a Happy New Year
to all our members,
service users,
supporters and staff**



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I can see into your eyes

These vivid images formed part of an exhibition held in the Guardian Gallery at King's Place. When Guardian News and Media commissioned Christian Sinibaldi to photograph older people in the King's Cross area, he was 'inspired by the hope and optimism' of the people he met. He asked the sitters to dress in their favourite clothes, hired a make-up artist and asked them to think about a happy time or experience. The sixteen people photographed 'were enthusiastic about the challenge, and the excitement is evident from the light in their eyes'. The portraits can be viewed on the 'portraits' section of Christian's website: www.christiansinibaldi.com

