

NEWS, ADVICE, SUPPORT, CARE



For the over 50 population of Calderdale

Your monthly newsletter

Welcome

As we write this, it feels as though we are accelerating towards Christmas, with local people, businesses and community organisations keen to make up for last year's cancelled festivities.

Last week's announcement of a new COVID variant and return to some mask-wearing will have caused concern for most of us, but with the high take-up of the vaccine (and booster vaccine) in the over 50s must present some grounds for optimism. We are hoping these events can continue to be held, helping bring all our communities together at this important time of year.

Due to sickness and bad weather the Annual General Meeting of Calderdale Forum 50 Plus due to be held on Monday 29 November 2021 was postponed. As soon as we have a new date, we will re-issue an invitation to attend and/or join our committee.

Free parking during the festive season in Calderdale

Calderdale Council have announced that free festive parking is back on Saturdays in selected car parks in each of our towns across Calderdale to help you with your Christmas shopping.

Have your say on plans for Halifax rail station

Plans to transform Halifax rail station are moving forward and Calderdale Council is asking for people's feedback on the £30 million-plus West Yorkshire Combined Authority funded scheme. [Search Halifax Rail Station on our website to see the link to the plans.](#)

Inspiring time For Halifax

Over £200 million of investment is coming to Halifax, and the Council is putting it to work already! This investment will help to transform the town for future generations and support our economic recovery from COVID-19. [The council have filmed a short video clip to inspire you which we've published on our website.](#)

Many more clubs and groups added to our website "In Touch" pages

We have expanded our online list of clubs and groups for the over 50s and you can now choose from a wide range of activities and social opportunities including whist, pilates, seated exercise, indoor kurling, dementia cafes, wellbeing walks and much more.

Coffee mornings and friendship groups

As well as our In Touch directory of clubs and groups, we now have a growing list of coffee mornings and friendship groups taking place at churches across Calderdale. [You will find them on our website under the drop-down Events heading.](#)

Age UK Calderdale & Kirklees – Walking Football

For anyone interested in Football, or looking to meet people, or wants to keep active, Age UK's Over 50s Walking Football sessions could be for you. Whether you're looking to get back into the sport or looking to try something new, this exciting programme is open to all. [More details on our website or by contacting Age UK Calderdale.](#)

Don't be alone this Christmas – join Holy Trinity & St Judes' for Christmas lunch.

Both Churches would like to invite anyone who may be alone this Christmas to join them for Christmas lunch at the Church Hall from 11.30.

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Monthly groups at Rastrick Library

Rastrick Library is inviting local residents to join them for their range of monthly events including board games, poetry group, local history and photography.

Contact Rastrick Library on 01484 714858.

Christmas events at Halifax Minster

Enjoy Christmas at the Halifax Minster, where there are Carol Services, Christmas themed events and once again the sparkling Christmas Tree Festival from 3 to 6 December. There is something for all the family to enjoy at this wonderful time of the year.

Midday Me Time – short walks for everyone

If you fancy a short walk, Midday Me Time is for you – it's a series of regular walks at the same place, same time every week. Simply turn up and enjoy the walk.

More details on our website events news pages.

Glow is Sowerby Bridge's new winter art festival

Glow, Sowerby Bridge's all new week-long winter art festival, takes place for the first time from 6th December 2021, with a big finale on 12th December. Glow begins with an Art Trail being mounted in the windows of Sowerby Bridge high street created by local artists and secondary school students from Ryburn Valley High School.

For information on more 50 plus friendly groups and activities in Calderdale search 'In Touch' on our website or see the button on the homepage.

Anti-social behaviour webinar: info & advice

Neighbourhood Watch recently ran a very useful webinar looking at anti-social behaviour and, in particular, how to recognise it and how to report it. If you are troubled by this issue, this webinar might well be able to guide you towards tackling the issue.

New contact details for the Forum

Due to changes as a result of the last year of lockdowns, we are no longer based at the Threeways Centre in Ovenden. We have published our new office address and contact number on our website.

Your water: Sign up for support this winter

Did you know that Yorkshire Water operate a priority services register? Whether it's additional support if you've got no water, help reading your bills, providing your bills in different font sizes or in braille, or if you just need a bit of help to pay your bill. Call 0800 1 38 78 78 to sign up.

What do you think when you hear the word 'hospice'?

We're helping Overgate Hospice to improve services in Calderdale by gathering your anonymous feedback. Understanding what you think and know about the hospice will help them make recommendations for improvements. Follow the link to fill it in: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/overgateSmed>

Time has run out for customers with Post Office card accounts

From 1 December, HMRC stopped making Tax Credits, Child Benefit and Guardian's Allowance payments to Post Office card accounts. HMRC is urging account holders to contact them to update their bank account details to continue receiving payments.

Energy tips: save up to £250 per year

On our website are some easy to achieve energy efficiency measures that, combined, could save you hundreds of pounds per year. Our friends at Citizens Advice Calderdale compiled this list and kindly shared it with us. Search energy saving on our website to find out more or contact Citizen's Advice direct.

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