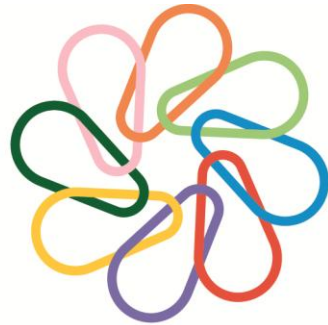




International Day of Older People

Event Feedback October 2025



**Age Friendly
Calderdale**

Creating healthy, vibrant communities with strong social networks

Calderdale
VISION 34

Calderdale
Forum 50+

Calderdale
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Age Friendly Calderdale

Age Friendly Calderdale is the movement working to ensure Calderdale is an age friendly place. A place where people have strong social networks and live in healthy, vibrant communities.

The movement is led by the Calderdale Ageing Well Alliance. The Alliance is a collaboration between statutory and voluntary organisations in Calderdale.

The alliance challenges negative stereotypes about ageing. It does this by supporting people and organisations to be more age-inclusive and to promote age friendly practices.

Age friendly practices relate to:

- Positive employment and later-life training.
- Better homes.
- Access to safe and vibrant communities.

We are a member of the [UK Network of Age Friendly Communities](#), part of a global movement led by the [World Health Organisation \(WHO\)](#).



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International Day of Older People 2025

The [International Day of Older People](#) takes place annually on the 1st October. It is a day that recognises and celebrates the contribution that older people make to our communities.

In Calderdale we like to go bigger and better, so we celebrate for the whole month of October!

The theme for this year was: Building Belonging – Celebrating the power of our social connections.



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International Day of Older People 2025

[Age Friendly Calderdale](#) supported 11 voluntary and community groups to host a diverse range of activities and events.

Over 500 older people benefitted from the activities.

Many have made new friends, connections and joined new activities.

What follows is a summary of the events feedback and photos.



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North Halifax Partnership



A collaborative event between Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust, North Halifax Primary Care Network, Overgate Hospice and Staying Well.

"Everybody went above and beyond to make it special"

"I'd love to come again"

"A great event"

"The entertainment was a huge success".

"Everyone was dancing in their seats, waving their flags and a few guests even got up for a dance!"



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Dementia Hub



"Such a lovely event , everyone was so friendly and knowledgeable, there was a great atmosphere. Both my husband Brian and myself enjoyed every second of it and would like to thank everyone involved for making it so enjoyable".

"Lovely warm welcome, great refreshments, volunteers, workers and stall holders"

"A great atmosphere, lots of support organisations with stalls full of information"

"Loved the session by Rebecca. Inspire, Motivate, Transform"



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Northern Powerhouse Boxing



"A great opportunity to try something new that promotes strength and balance for older people"

"We've also started two new classes for older people as a direct result of the event"



"Knockout!"



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Crow Park Bowling Club – Comedy Night



“I introduced the bowling club, and Peter (the chairman) shared some information about joining and what a lovely, welcoming group it is. We even had attendees fill in new member forms on the day!”

“It was also heartwarming to see several people who have recently lost loved ones come along — they were surrounded by friends, supported, and smiling again”



“Overall, the event was full of laughter and connection, and it really captured the spirit of what the day is all about”

“I just wanted to say a big thank you for approving the funding grant for our International Day of Older People event — it was a huge success!”



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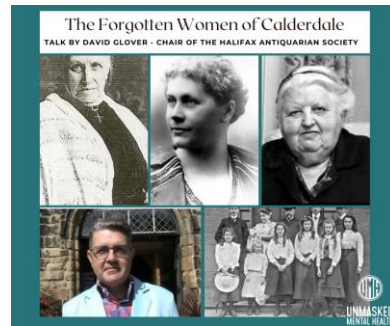
Unmasked Mental Health



"It was a lovely happy sociable afternoon good to meet new people and socialise, the history talk was interesting too & so nice to acknowledge us older people in a positive manner"

"Very enjoyable. I went with a friend but all 7 at the table chatted. I thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon"

"Excellent - well organised, welcoming, friendly and helpful staff. Super afternoon tea and interesting talk"



"The people were so friendly and approachable. It helped me to understand the exercises I am able to do"

"The talker was very knowledgeable, and the food was fantastic"

"Enjoyed the session, Nicola was a great tutor"



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Grass Roots CIC

“I haven’t been anywhere for weeks, and my neighbour dragged me along - I’m so glad she did, I’ve had a lovely time.”

“I’m definitely going to come to the lunch and yoga now”

“Perhaps my favourite bit was our Eileen - 96 years old and not long out of hospital after a hip replacement. She is a gem and loved dearly by our community; we managed to kidnap her for the afternoon - the first time she’s been out since the operation. She gave me a huge cuddle on her way out and said how the afternoon had lifted her spirits and how much she’d enjoyed the music and dancing”

“I saw swapping of phone numbers and heard plans being made to go to a pub quiz with new friends - wonderful!”

“I’ll be coming to the next one!” “Brilliant! I really loved it”

“Today was just fabulous!”

“Can we do this every week?”



“The community centre was packed and full of energy”



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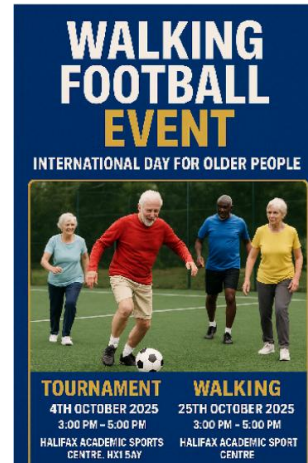
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Spotlight CIO



“The events and activities for the International Day for Older People in Calderdale 2025 ran throughout October, bringing together communities through sports, wellness, and social engagement”

“The walking football tournament was a highlight, inspiring joy, teamwork, and laughter among participants”



“Playing football again made me feel young and alive.”

“Many shared heartfelt testimonials about how the event helped them reconnect, stay active, and feel valued”

The Space at Field Lane



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“We had an absolutely amazing afternoon”



“The feedback we got was incredible”

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Open Gallery CIC



Through guided mixed-media sessions and collaborative projects, attendees explored creativity while fostering new social connections and enhancing well-being.

“The workshop helped me feel more connected and less isolated.”

“A wonderful way to meet new people and express myself creatively”

Creative works from the event will be exhibited from December 5th to 20th at the Open Gallery, 4a Broad Street Plaza, Halifax



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Park Row Centre



"It's been lovely - hope you can do it again next year"



"A small amount of food remained at the end of the afternoon, this was donated to Focus4Hope for distribution amongst the homeless who were meeting that evening in Brighouse"

"The volunteers have done a really good job"



"It exceeded expectations"



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A Big Thank You!

To all the community and voluntary organisations and the fantastic volunteers that hosted and supported events for this year's International Day (*Month*) of Older People.

Throughout October you have supported over 500 older people to connect with friends and new activities, helping to reduce social isolation and loneliness and build belonging through social connection.

There are many other events and activities that take place all year round for older people. To find out more join the **Age Friendly Calderdale Network** – See next slide...



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Join the Age Friendly Calderdale Network

In partnership with [Calderdale Forum 50 Plus](#) and [Age UK Calderdale & Kirklees](#) the Age Friendly Calderdale Network will:

- Champion the voices of those aged 50 and over
- Share ideas for making Calderdale an Age Friendly Community
- Provide opportunities to get together, share experience and celebrate the contributions older people make to Calderdale

The network is open to anyone aged 50 plus and any organisation that provides support, services or opportunities for older people.

Sign up here: [Join the Age Friendly Calderdale Network](#)

It's free to sign up and you will receive the Calderdale Forum 50 Plus newsletter to keep you informed about Age Friendly Calderdale and the things that matter to you.

Age Friendly Calderdale is a member of the [UK Network of Age Friendly Communities](#).



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