

Calderdale News & Events

*The newsletter for older people & their families & friends
from CALDERDALE FORUM 50 PLUS*



Welcome to Calderdale Forum 50 Plus's August 2026 Newsletter

Welcome to our AUGUST newsletter. With the school holidays are now underway we still have plenty of events for you as well as updates on a weekly Support Hub in Brighouse, advice on checking eligibility for Council Tax reductions and how to keep your home secure when away on holiday. You can find a full range of news, social groups and many more events for this month as well on our website at:

www.calderdaleforum50plus.com/events-activities/

WHAT'S ON – AUGUST

8th: Halifax Agricultural Show. All the usual festivities and stalls including farm and domestic animals, local produce, flowers, fruit & vegetables and crafts with entertainment such as show jumping, vintage vehicles, farmer's markets, stalls and demonstrations. Savile Park, Halifax from 9am to 5pm.

9th: Calderdale Heritage Walk: A Brewery, A Windmill & A Lost Settlement. See more of the local history of this area with Calderdale Heritage Walks. 2pm at Northowram Tennis Club Car Park.

9th: Rock, Roll and Jive Afternoon – Halifax. Rock, Roll and Jive to great music and classic hits with DJ Gee. 2.30pm at Southwood, Birdcage Lane, Halifax. Happy Hour from 3pm to 5pm. Tickets £3.50.

13-16th: Stage at The Lake Festival, Shibden. A new cultural festival marking 100 years of Shibden Park, bringing together world-class performers, local talent, and the creative spirit of Calderdale. Featuring theatre, comedy, classical music, brass, and youth-led performances. Info and tickets online.

21st: A Deeper Dive into Dementia. A free information session for anyone living with a diagnosis of dementia, from Calderdale Dementia Hub. 11am to 12.30pm at Waterhouse & Mackintosh Homes.

25th: Disability Partnership Calderdale meeting & free meal. Although primarily aimed at people with disabilities, this free event is open to anyone with an interest in disability and who might need a little support or information for themselves or a family friend. 12pm to 3pm at The King's Centre, Halifax.

26th: The Life Story of the Parish Church. Join a fantastic journey into history with David Glover. 2.30pm at Unmasked Mental Health, Commercial Street, Halifax.

25-29th | The Good Life at Halifax Playhouse. Based on the TV series by John Esmonde and Bob Larbey, Halifax Thespians perform an amateur production of "The Good Life" presented by arrangement with Nick Hern Books. Evenings at 7.30pm. Saturday matinee at 2.30pm. Tickets from the box office.

28-31st: Brighouse Charity Jigsaw Festival. Puzzles to suit all tastes. There are over 1,850 jigsaws to view and purchase with the pre-owned puzzles having been checked for completeness by volunteers from the local community. St. Martin's Church, Church Lane, Brighouse from 10am to 5pm daily except Sunday (12pm to 5pm).

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NEWS AUGUST 2026

New weekly Support Hub for Brighouse

Focus4Hope in partnership with Calderdale Council's Better Lives service has launched a weekly drop-in for any adult aged over-18. Support includes health checks, advice on equipment and adaptations for your home as you age, benefits advice, carer support, health & wellbeing advice and more. The Hub runs every Friday from 9.30am to 12pm at their premises off the Bethel Street car park.

Are you missing out on a Council Tax reduction?

Council Tax is becoming an increasingly unmanageable expense for older people in financial hardship. Unlike many other bills, households cannot reduce the cost of their Council Tax bill by making cutbacks or shopping around. A report from the charity Independent Age finds that for qualifying older people a Council Tax reduction can reduce their bill to zero. For help with checking if you qualify visit the Council's Better Lives Hub, every Wednesday at Halifax Woolshops or the new Focus4Hope hub (above).

Looking after birdbaths

It is important to make sure bird baths are kept topped up with water in hot weather. Baths will be used by invertebrates and mammals as well as birds, meaning they are a good way to help wildlife in your garden. If you don't have a bird bath, you can put out a plate of water, slightly elevated on a brick or up on a table as an alternative. Baths should also be cleaned regularly to prevent the spread of infection.

Further instructions on the RSPB website at: <https://www.rspb.org.uk/helping-nature/what-you-can-do/activities/make-the-perfect-bird-bath>

Keeping your home secure in hot weather

Neighbourhood Watch and home security experts ERA have combined to make a guide to keeping your property secure in hot weather. Ahead of an upcoming summer holiday, make sure to consider your home's security as part of your planning, whether that's having someone periodically check on your property while you're away, or creating a security checklist to complete before you travel. **More helpful advice can be found on our website at:** <https://calderdaleforum50plus.com/2026/07/13/keeping-your-home-secure-in-hot-weather/>

New Groups and Activities from our In Touch Directory

Wellbeing Walks – Brighouse. Free weekly walks for all abilities. A great way to explore the Brighouse area and meet new people. No equipment needed – just wear sensible shoes. Mondays. Meet at Mamil Cafe & Bar, 11 Owlter Ings Road, Brighouse at 9.30am. Walk starts at 10am.

Walking Cricket – Sowerby Bridge. Enjoy cricket at a slower pace with The Cricket Asylum. Tuesdays & Wednesdays from 10am-12pm at Asquith Bottom Mill, Sowerby Bridge HX6 3BT.

Calderdale RA Support Group. This group is for people diagnosed with Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA) and provides a space to confidentially share their experiences about living with the disease. 6th August and 3rd September from 10am to 12pm at The Space, Hebden Bridge Town Hall.

Make sure you don't miss a copy of our monthly newsletter. Sign up online at: www.calderdaleforum50plus.com/about/newsletter-archive/ **or contact us at:** info@calderdaleforum50plus.com

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