

Just Good Friends

November 2021 Newsletter

For information telephone: Bev Sykes: 07557 734233

Website: www.justgoodfriends.org.uk - www.facebook.com/justgoodfriendsNW/

November Schedule

Monday	1pm	The Links Pub, Heeley Rd, St. Annes - Music and Bingo
Tuesday	1pm	The Vic Pub - fun and laughter with Roy Rolland
Wednesday	10.30am - 12 noon	The Palace at 18, Garden Street, St Annes - tea/coffee & chat
	1pm	Ashton Gardens - in the rose garden - weather permitting
Friday	6pm - 7pm	Dance Class - St Margaret's church hall, Rowsley Road, St Annes. Modern Jazz Dance £5 - all ages and abilities welcome
Saturday	2pm - 4pm	Memorial Hall, St Albans Road, St Annes - Tea and Chat with speakers and activities. Quiz - Bingo - Music - see Programme below.
Nights out - Days out - TBA		Quiz nights - Evening group - Coach Trips

Saturday at The Memorial Hall

NOVEMBER

6th	Quiz - Music - Raffle
13th	Games
20th	A talk by Bernie Worsfold 'Mississippi'
27th	Bingo

DECEMBER

4th	Quiz - Music - Raffle
11th	Bingo
18th	CHRISTMAS PARTY
25th	Christmas Day

JANUARY

1st	New Year's Day
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Lovely meals prepared by our very own Julie for some of our members who can't get out at the moment. Thank you so much Julie.



Alan Lee & Dougie Atkinson at The Palace



November Birthdays

- 3 Rita Molyneux
- 5 Irene Butcher
- 7 Jennifer Parfitt
- 9 Enid Davies
- 11 Charleen McBride
- 13 Ken Wooding
- 15 Mary Cowell
- 17 Doreen Gregory
- 19 Gordon Ogden
- 20 Lynn Del-Pinto
- 20 Florence Simpson
- 23 Doreen Judge
- 27 Kate Armstrong
- 28 Sandra Ellen Grainger
- 29 Clare Pipon

Happy birthday to all with November birthdays and congratulations to those of you with 'special' birthdays



It was lovely to have Jim Ormond visit us and well done Ellen for winning 'guess the teddy's name' - Humphrey - and thanks to Mary for donating the Teddy.



Bingo at The Memorial Hall is very popular!! Margaret Cooper (far left), Pauline Donnelly and Kath O'Brien are recent lucky winners!...

Information Sheet for Members

For those of you who do not already know me, my name is Jo and I have been working with Just Good Friends for the past year looking at scams that you as members have received and providing you with advice and reassurance where possible.

In total I have received over 80 reports from you in that short period. The scams range from text messages that you have received from parcel companies, banks etc to phone calls from HMRC asking after people's national insurance numbers. I hope that all those members that have called me with scams or emailed me have felt reassured once that contact has been made and we have chatted about it.

Text scams are currently at their highest rate on record. Between May and July 2020, 53% of texts messages that were reported were from fake parcel deliveries with 37% being text messages impersonating banks. I know that many of you have received such messages and have taken the correct steps to delete them or send the details through to me. When I have received such information from you I have reported them through whatever avenues I have available. Currently, scam texts can be reported directly and free of charge to number 7726. Simply forward the scam to the number.

As well as fake messages there has been a rise of fake competitions on social media which again I am aware that some of you have noticed and reported them to me. I would like to remind you to watch out for convincing copycat social media accounts where they claim that you have won a prize. Many of these accounts are created by scammers who target people based on their social media activity and interests. Winning a prize may sound like great news – but think back, do you remember entering one?

For example, someone (not a member) reported receiving a direct message from Curry's PC World saying that they had won a TV and a set of Bluetooth speakers. They messaged asking her to confirm her name, mobile number and delivery address which was provided. Later she was asked to provide her card details to cover the cost of delivering

the prizes. Fortunately, at this point she realised that something was not right and proceeded no further. Big brands will not expect a competition winner to pay for the cost of delivering a prize. Once these have been reported to the correct platforms steps are taken to remove such sites.

Always check to see who is sending you the message. Is it a verified brand and do you remember entering the competition? If you are unsure, contact the company's customer services on a verifiable number and ask whether it is genuine. Help keep family and friends informed by spreading the word.

Finally, there are those messages stating that they are from the NHS. A recent one reported to me which was supposedly from the NHS was saying that Covid passports were available and to go to the link provided accepting or declining the passport. Always check the email address. You will notice that the email address will not be from NHS direct or there will be small signs such as spaces between the N H and S. If you are not sure contact me or ask someone, there is always someone willing to help and offer advice.

I wanted to provide you with advice on how you can protect yourselves and to improve your knowledge of what is out there. I have used 'Which' scam alert for the past 12 months and have found this to be useful and full of relevant information and advice. I would recommend it to anyone. 'Which' will send an email out once a month to update you. You do have to sign up for it; however, they will only ask for your email address, your first name and postcode.

If this is something that you would be interested in you can do so through copy and pasting the link below;
[Campaigns.which.co.uk/scam-alert-service/](https://campaigns.which.co.uk/scam-alert-service/)

If you are ever worried about something that you have received and would like to talk it through please feel free to contact me on 07899963582. If I am unable to take your call please leave a message and I will get back to you as soon as I can. Alternatively, you can send the details via email staysafejgf@yahoo.co.uk

Llandudno Trip September 23rd to 25th

Thursday

After four pick up points round Blackpool and Lytham St Annes we set off excitedly for Llandudno stopping on the way at St Asaph for a spot of lunch, shopping and soaking up a few last rays of summer sun. Then onward to The Marine Hotel in Llandudno.



Later after settling in, we enjoyed dinner in the hotel before heading off to the theatre to watch 'One Night of Queen'.



Friday

Following a hearty breakfast we headed out for a trip to Bodnant Gardens or Betws-Y-Coed to enjoy the beautiful scenery Wales has to offer and later we gathered together for fun and games although Wenna (Carol's lovely Guide dog) was a bit worn out by this time.



Thanks to our lovely Edwina for the quiz and fun on our second night in Llandudno

Saturday

Sadly it was time to pack up and leave, but still with enough time to stop off at

Cheshire Oaks on the way home for one last bit of retail therapy.

A great time was had by all.



Midnight chats on the hotel balcony!



Adi and Graham enjoying a carousel!!

Well why not on the way back from a fabulous holiday in Llandudno wouldn't you want to pop along to Cheshire Oaks and have fun on a carousel.