

Winter 2019/20 Newsletter

Memory Lane Cafe Calderdale
Registered Charity 1178595

Welcome to our newsletter.

We are a local community group providing support for people affected by dementia, other memory problems, and isolation. We have regular cafes in Sowerby Bridge (St Paul's Church) and in Halifax (Maurice Jagger Centre). We offer a varied programme of games, crafts, information, support, cakes and conversation. We are all volunteers and our cafe team run craft sessions, play games, serve refreshments, provide information, support & chat.

Next cafe dates are:--

Sowerby Bridge (1.30-4pm)

January 11th and 25th

February 8th and 22nd

March 14th and 28th

Halifax (2-4 pm)

January 15th

February 5th and 19th

March 4th and 18th

For more information please call our Cafe Coordinator (June) on **01422 706373** or **07920 549131** or email:- june@memorylanecafe.org

MAKING FRIENDS

Memory Lane Cafe provides the place, space and opportunity for people to make connections with each other. Some of these connections develop into friendships as with Marjorie who called into our fundraising coffee morning in early 2019. After this she came along to one of our Sowerby Bridge cafes at which she was introduced to two of our regulars, Eth and Beth. They quickly formed a strong friendship and the three now often meet up away from the cafe on trips out together.



Marjorie said "Coming to Memory Lane has changed my life. I'm so glad you told me about it and introduced me to those two lovely ladies".

LANDLUBBERS CAT

Since we introduced our therapeutic robotic cat to Memory Lane last summer, several of our members have acquired their own. In October Sowerby Bridge Rotary Club held a fundraising concert (to buy more cats) at which The Landlubbers group very kindly donated another cat to Memory Lane. This means that each cafe venue now has its very own cat!



LET'S PLAY THE "HALIFAX" GAME



Howard Priestley of Phoenix Radio has devised a new board game, "Our Time And Place...Halifax", which is all about memories of Halifax the places that people lived and worked, the cafes, shops, pubs etc. This game won the "Breakthrough of the Year" award at Community Foundation for Calderdale awards night in November. We now have one of these games which we'll bring along to our cafes for you to try out. Please have a go and let us know what you think!

LINE DANCING

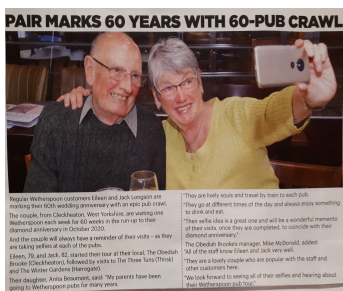
In October, our Sowerby Bridge cafe was visited by Cindy's Silver Stompers for an afternoon of line dance demonstrations together with the opportunity for members to get involved – and many did! The Stompers will also be appearing at Crow Wood Park Fun Day next July 5th.



DO YOU HAVE BUDDING MUSICAL STARS IN YOUR FAMILY?

Each Spring, the Victoria Theatre in Halifax hosts the popular "Concert for the Young at Heart". The organisers are now recruiting young talent for the 2020 show. Children aged 8-16 are now invited to apply to take part in a medley of songs from "Mary Poppins". Rehearsals will take place on Saturdays from January onwards at The Studio Rooms, 11 St James Street, Halifax. The organiser (Anne Redfern) says that, just so long as the children are interested in singing and dancing, and are enthusiastic with a committed approach, then no previous experience is required. The show will then be performed for the public on the evening of Tuesday 10th March. For more information just email info@stagedoorstudio.co.uk or phone 01422 200334. P.S. we're aiming to get a supply of tickets for our members!

PUB CHALLENGE



Eileen and Jack are featured in Wetherspoon News (above) as they mark their forthcoming 60th wedding anniversary by visiting 60 Wetherspoon pubs. A challenge but one they seem to be enjoying!

BLACKPOOL TRIP

We managed to fill two Community Transport minibuses for our autumn excursion to see the Blackpool Illuminations at the end of October. Each bus picked folk up around Calderdale and then we all met up at Birch Services on the M62 for a cup of tea or two. Refreshed, we set off to Blackpool, following the lights from South Pier and ending up at Fleetwood for fish & chips (pictured below) before returning home.



OUR CHRISTMAS PARTY

Over 60 of our members made it to our 2019 Christmas Party at St Columba's Church Hall. Our team of regular volunteers was joined by Karen (one of our regular cake-bakers) and her daughter-in-law Sarah (her employers, Ramsdens Solicitors, gave her a "charity" day off to get involved (see photo below).



Thanks go to King's Coffee House and Karen for the lovely food and to Tony Austin plus the Splinters ukelele band for the great entertainment.

YOUR IDEAS FOR TRIPS?

We've organised a variety of day-trips during 2019. These have all been very popular and we'd certainly like to do more in 2020. If you have any suggestions for places for us to visit in 2020 then please talk to June at one of our cafes. We can't promise to do everything but we'll certainly have a go!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



Our beautiful Christmas card (above) was designed by the lovely Andrea of Trinkette in Sowerby Bridge (for which we cannot thank her enough!). It's now late December as we finalise this edition but not too late to wish everyone a Very Happy 2020.

DRIVERS NEEDED!

For some of our members, transport can be a real challenge in getting to our cafes. Volunteer drivers are needed either using own car (mileage payment available) or by driving a minibus. You'll be helping to make our cafes accessible to all.

Training and support is available – for more details please call June (Volunteer Manager) on **01422 706373** or **07920 549131**.