



MASE Monthly Newsletter - October 2018



Proud recipients of The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service and The British Citizen Award for work in the Community

A Farewell Message to you all from Elaine & Jim

Elaine and Jim have decided after nearly ten years that they need more free time.

Therefore their last MASE at Haughton will be Thursday 11th October and Stafford Monday 22nd October.

It has been a pleasure to have helped so many people. We wish the MASE continued success

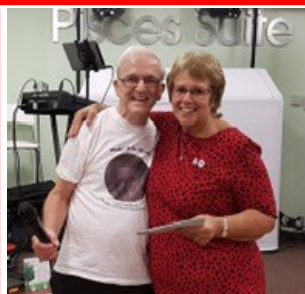
A Message from Trustees

We send all good wishes for good health and happiness in the future to Elaine and Jim and sincerely thank them for the many years of hard work and dedication they have given to the MASE and to the people attending the Groups.

They have made a huge difference to so many people in Staffordshire which is a credit to them both. They know exactly what a lifeline the Groups are to Carers who are on the Dementia journey and know just how appreciative they are of the service provided by all the MASE Groups.

Please be assured the Haughton and Stafford Groups will continue as usual. The magnetic dates and calendars for 2019 are currently at the printers and will be handed out in November.

Walking for Eileen



Robert Pitcher (Bob) worked incredibly hard to make his 2018 Walk for Eileen such a resounding success this year. In total he raised £3,800 in support of the MASE Groups and presented it to Daphne at the Hednesford Group on 27 September. His message below comes to everyone who helped to make the day such a resounding success.

What at a wonderful tribute to Robert's late wife Eileen!

A huge thank you to all that supported the walk on September 1st.

Thank you to all who sponsored or made donations, all proceeds are of course going to MASE. It was so good to see so many of our MASE volunteers, also Carers and cared for. It felt just like a community day

Particular thanks to Debbie from Cannock ASDA for providing refreshments, Rich for the warm up session, and the Hednesford and Rugeley Lions for marshalling on the day.

Also thanks to Councillor Johnny Mahon for completing the 'long walk' and to Amanda Milling MP for taking time out of her busy schedule to support the event. You all have my thanks and appreciation.

Robert

Alzheimer's Society Dementia Helpline 0300 222 1122 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday and Saturday and Sunday 10am - 4pm.

Daphne Sharp ☎ 01785 211140 or 07939 505455
Elaine Dunlop ☎ 01785 823110 or 07812 440226

MASE Co-ordinators
MASE

✉ Daphne.scharp@ntlworld.com
✉ Elaine.dunlop12@btinternet.com

Important numbers to keep handy

The Carers Hub can support you in creating an emergency plan. If you haven't already made contact then ring them today:

Telephone: 0330 123 1937
Email: info@thecarershub.co.uk
Website: www.thecarershub.co.uk

Professional care services in an emergency

Where you require professional care services to step in during an emergency please use the following contact details:

Daytime Hours: Staffordshire Cares

Telephone: 0300 111 8010
Email: Staffordshirecares@staffordshire.gov.uk
Text/SMS: 07814 194 111 (for people with hearing impairment)
Minicom: 01785 276207

Phone lines are open:

Monday to Thursday 8.00 am – 8.30 pm Friday 8:00 am – 6:00 pm Saturday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Well Worth reading !

So many people lose out because they do not know they might be able to get certain goods and services cheaper if they are 60 or over or have a disability. VAT ('Value Added Tax') is charged at 20% on most goods and services but some things have no VAT or are charged at a reduced rate to people who can show that they qualify for the discount.

Disabled people generally can obtain the following free of VAT:

Cars: the purchase or lease of an adapted vehicle, or the cost of making adaptations (provided the adaptations are carried out when you purchase it—you cannot buy the new car and then have the adaptations done later if you wish to claim the VAT relief). There are some restrictions on what qualifies and further changes in the law are planned, which will restrict the extent to which zero-rating will be available. Alterations to your home: some adaptations and building work to meet the needs of your disability (for example, ramps, widening of doorways and installing a lift or toilet).

Other equipment: a range of goods if they are specially designed to help with a disability, such as:

– adjustable beds – stair lifts – wheelchairs – medical appliances to help with injuries – alarms – braille paper or low vision aids (but not spectacles nor contact lenses).

You do not need to receive state benefits in order to be 'disabled' for VAT purposes, though receipt of disability-related benefits may help you to prove easily that you qualify for VAT relief.

What are the reliefs for people aged 60 or over?

Certain products that increase the mobility of people aged 60 and over can be bought at a reduced VAT rate of 5% when installed into a home occupied by someone of that age:– grab rails–ramps –stair lifts – bath lifts–built-in shower seats or showers–walk-in baths with sealable doors.

If purchasing any of the items, make sure you ask your supplier to apply the reduced rate of VAT if you are eligible. Note, however, that the reduced rate has to be applied by the supplier and installer – you are not able to get the reduced rate if you buy the mobility aids and install them yourself.

You should note that not all suppliers pass on the full, or indeed any, benefit of the rate reduction (and strictly speaking, they do not have to), so it may be important to shop around. Don't forget, though, that if you are 60 or over and are 'disabled' for the purposes of VAT, you may be able to claim to pay no VAT at all under the rules mentioned above.

If you have a computer please take a look at our website which covers all MASE activities: www.themasegroup.com

Registered Charity No: 1137193 - The Monthly Alzheimer's Support Evening Limited (MASE)

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