



## Royal Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Area Board Activity Report 2018/9

The Celebrating Age Wiltshire (CAW) Project Development Worker (PDW) has worked closely with the Community Engagement Manager (CEM) to provide a range of activity linked in to local community groups. The CEM has offered guidance and local area information to ensure that CAW delivers high quality activity and events across the whole of RWB&C area, including Central RWB, Lyneham, Purton and Cricklade. Wiltshire Libraries are partners in the CAW project, so activity in libraries is required as a key component of the whole programme.

Below is a summary of activity from April 2018 – March 2019.

### **Royal Wootton Bassett:**

Library Shared Reading Group (Memory group) Numbers averaged 12 per session

2 x themed creative writing and discussion projects with writer and facilitator David Davies

- Excellent CPD opportunity for lead volunteers

#### **Project 1: *Postcard Conversations***

5 sessions working on the theme of writing postcards from places visited.

Exhibition of work presented in RWB library.

Participants now write postcards home to the whole group when away.



#### **Project 2: *Thinking Out of the Box***

4 sessions working with Wiltshire Museum's handling collection from the current WW1 exhibition.

The group chose to discuss and write on the themes of hope, love and resilience, inspired from the museum objects.

Their work was displayed alongside the Museum's exhibition and the group visited the museum, with transport subsidised by Caring About Dementia.



### Seated Exercise Group at Memorial Hall:

3 sessions with dancer, Lindsey Epton arranged in partnership with Inov8 Sports

Numbers attending: 10, 12, 12

Follow up, as participants requested more dance. PDW is currently working with Tinkers Lane and New Court Surgeries to develop a regular seated dance class in conjunction with Heel to Heal group.

### Cricklade Open Door:

3 x concerts so far. Publicity supported by Jan Aylward, Ellen Blacker and GP surgery.

Numbers attending: 30, 41, 45, illustrating that as word gets out, more people attending.

*Just to let you know that Monday's concert with Frankie was a huge success. Frankie really went down well, the members loved her range of songs from the 30's and 40's to which they could join in. The feedback was excellent. Frankie has a lovely, natural presence which endeared her to the members. Please pass on our HUGE thanks to Frankie for starting a cold, January week 'on a high'. Music and singing certainly lifts the spirits. Our small hall was full with folks having a good time – 45 people present all of whom would love to listen to her again. (Jan Aylward, Cricklade Open Door)*

### Purton:

2 x dance sessions with Silver Threads Friendship group. Numbers attending: 18, 16

### Lyneham:

REME museum – Healthpitch Opera. Special touring event. Numbers attending: 28

3Ms Memory Group – 2 sessions: Theatre show and circle dance. Numbers attending 33, 24

*Great to see you earlier at such a full event too! I haven't managed to get to many of them, but have had glowing reports from various people who have been attending. It's great that they are in various locations as one lady said this morning that she struggles to get her husband (who has dementia) to attend any new places. She was delighted that they could enjoy this event in a "comfortable" place for him. The comment which stuck me most was from a lady who was on her way to the toilet. Face beaming and she simply looked at me and without any comment from me said "that was brilliant, the best thing I have been to for ages and ages! I wish I could do it every week".*

(Ellen Blacker, H&WB Champion)

**Plans for 2019/20:**

Francesca K vintage concert	29 April	Cricklade Open Door
Trio Virtuosi! String trio concert	31 May	Memorial Hall
N Swindon Big Band tea dance	9 July	Memorial Hall

**Seated Dance weekly class**

Taster class	26 March	Memorial Hall
5x weekly class pilot series	23 April – 21 May	

3Ms and Purton – further sessions tbc



Tor Theatre at 3Ms, Lyneham

Rebecca Seymour  
Project Development, March 2019