

Dates for your diary

- 15th September** Branch Meeting
Speaker - Tony Oldham Legal Bits
- 17th September** Trip to
Broadway/Evesham
- 6th October** Committee Meeting
- 20th October** Branch Meeting
Speaker - Dealing with Bereavement.
- 29th October** Meal Britannia
Hotel
- 3rd November** Committee
Meeting
- 17th November** Branch Meeting
Speaker on Social Care
- 1st December** Committee
Meeting
- 18th December** Branch Meeting
Social Morning.
- 7th January** New Year Party
Railway Club Spon End

Future Events

In the New Year

- Theatre Trips
- Trip to the Cotswolds
- Meals Out
- Concerts
- Campaigns

Watch this Space!!

The Cost of Energy

Southern Electricity and Gas inform us that if the cost of your energy use is more than 10% of your income then you can claim a 20% discount in your fuel costs. If you are a Southern Electricity /Gas customer it is worth checking this out.

Alternatively we are not suggesting you switch energy suppliers but check out whether your supplier also runs such a scheme.

If you don't ask you will never know!

Coventry Pensioners Convention

Affiliated to West Midlands Pensioners Convention
and National Pensioners Convention
(A Non Party Political Organisation)



**Meet every 3rd Tuesday of the Month.
Room 02, The Council House, Coventry
10.30am - 12.30pm**

**For Further Details Contact
Pat Gilbert Branch Secretary and Editor
Harp Place, 2 Sandy Lane,
Coventry CV1 4DX
Tel. 024 7672 7273
email covpen@yahoo.com**

New Members Welcome

Issue 6 September 2009

Website:

www.coventrypensionersconvention.co.uk

Fund Raising Tombola

Saturday

3rd October

Coventry Market

Our only income is from subscriptions, donations and the occasional grant. In order to raise funds we have taken a stall to run a Tombola on Coventry Retail Market on Saturday 3rd October. **We still desperately need items for the stall. Any unwanted birthday or Christmas presents will be most welcome.** Please bring them to the meeting, hand them to any committee member or just ring Pat and we will arrange to collect them.

Your support is crucial!

Website Launch

Coventry Pensioners Convention is proud to announce the launch of its new website which has been set up with the help of Liz Eipe a volunteer from Voluntary Action Coventry.

The website informs others who we are and what we set out to achieve and a little about us. The site has a Home Page and tabs which lead to information on Events, Dates, Campaigns, Newsletters, Members/Membership Details and Contact details. The site will be updated from time to time. The Campaign Page is still very much under development as we add things to it with feedback from our members. There is also a disclaimer which provides information on our Declaration, Equal Opportunities Statement and Data Protection Statement.

Check us out on :

www.coventrypensionersconvention.co.uk

Campaigns

We as a Branch feel strongly that all members of our Branch should have a say in what campaigns the Branch should engage in. Everyones opinion is valued. To this end we would like to seek your views on the issues which affect you the most and ask you to choose three or four areas which directly affect you. We have enclosed a questionnaire with this letter and would ask you to return this to us as soon as possible.

We will of course still monitor government changes which affect us all and local changes which have a direct impact upon us.

We aim to give everyone a voice whether you are able to get to meetings or not. For some the issues will be financial, for other social care, uneven pavements, housing etc.

Please let us know the issues you feel are the most important by completing the enclosed questionnaire and returning it to the address overleaf.

Centro Travel Pass

Bill Bridges Committee Member of Coventry Pensioners Convention has been elected to the WMPC Centro Travel Committee and will represent the Branch at such meetings. We are reassured by Peter Rayner of the National Travel Pass Committee that the Concessionary Travel pass is not in danger at the present time.

17th October Pensions Rally

On the 17th October 2009 there is to be a National Rally in London. The West Midlands Pensioners Convention are to also run a rally to improve pensions in Birmingham . This is to take place in Victoria Square with both National and Local Speakers. We have been urged by the WMPC to encourage as many Pensioners as possible to turn out in Birmingham to show the strength of the Pensioner movement.

We therefore urge you to turn out and support us. A coach is to leave from Coventry if we can get sufficient numbers to fill the coach.

If you are able to go can you please let Pat know and she will make sure that you have up to date information as soon as it is available.

Later Life Forum

As a result of the Turner Report the Government is to reorganise the way it consults on Pensioner's Issues. To this end they have set up a National Later Life Forum which will feed from Regional Later Life Forums. Our Branch was invited to attend a consultation meeting in Birmingham and as a result a delegate from CPC was elected to the Committee which is setting up the West Midlands Later Life Forum. A meeting has been arranged for the 5th October to discuss the form the West Midlands Forum will take. The first meeting of the Forum is to be held at the end of November. This gives Coventry a voice at regional and national level. So it is important that we are aware of the issues which give the greatest concern in Coventry.

Care Quality Commission

The Secretary has been involved in a further round of consultations with the Care Quality Commission. This time addressing Mental Health Issues and the monitoring and inspection of Services to people with Mental Health issues.

Feedback will be given in the next newsletter.

Future Meetings

A programme of suggested speakers has been put forward for the rest of the year.

The following has been proposed :-

- Wills, Trusts and Power of Attorney
- Bereavement
- Social Care
- Social Services
- Mental health
- Carers
- Benefit services.

We would welcome further suggestions for speakers.

Faulty Pavements

In debate in Committee Meetings and Branch Meetings it has come to the fore that people are very concerned about falling because of uneven paving slabs and holes in pavements and roads. Indeed several people have had very nasty falls and been very shaken up.

It is imperative that you report any faulty pavements to the council to Councillor Noonan direct and in writing.

Contact Details: Councillor Hazel Noonan, City Services, The Council House, Coventry email hazel.noonan@coventry.gov.uk Tel.024 7683 2621

Please also report any street lights that are out on 024 7683 3333.

This is For your safety!!