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## Newsletter No 40 Winter

### Dear Friend

Welcome to the  
Autumn \ Winter  
Newsletter 2017



BEMSCA will be celebrating it's 25th year Anniversary September 19th 2018. Events plans will include memories of those involved in the organisation from photos taken at Riverside Youth and Community Centre where the club was base once a week to current. We will be inviting the young people who were involved through their parent and grandparent to give a view of the organisation and their continued commitment to the future of the service. Most importantly hearing from you, how the service has supported you and share your memories with us.

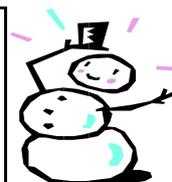
Empire Windrush will be celebrating its 70th next year and we have been contacted by Christ Church to celebrate this event. They shared how they welcome people to the church, the school that was nearby and the many community celebrations' held there over the last 60 years.

Other events throughout the year will be a film afternoon, church service and dinner dance, keep an eye on diary dates for events.

We are coming to the end of the year ,and the annual report and calendar showcase the work and activities through 2016 and 2017.



This year annual general meeting topic presentation **“Tax, Care and Toy Boy”**, presented by Ben Ashenden from the Co-op Estate planning, gave an overview of the reason for preparing a Will and Power of Attorney, and what was its’ benefit. He shared some true stories and



scenarios to the audience that your wishes may not be acted on when you become ill or die, from this talk many have taken up his offer of one to one meeting at home or at the club. See Diary dates for Ben next visits.

Not too be too somber during the year we had request to contact the Co-op funereal care for those members wishing to complete their funeral plan and some made visits to Haycombe cemetery to purchase a plot. Other talks coming up will be on Finance, Insurance and banking delivered by Tracey Tuite from TSB Bank.

Many of the topic discussed at BEMSCA affect members who may not have planned for the future and who may need to look at a care package, we work with many agenesis and can support if you need an advocate to attend meeting or make a referral.

Funding for the organisation is always high on our agenda this year saw Virgin Care become the new commissioners of adult care services for the next 7 years, and we were granted one year funding. The co-ordinator will be attending a budget meeting in November to hear and lobby for funding to the 3rd sector. BEMSCA have the support of Dorothy House fundraisers and Michael Auton to look at our funding strategy outline in our business plan for the coming years.

The applications we send out cannot express how important we are in delivering services to BME elders, and this year we have given presentation to Care company on dignity in Care, we are asked by the local hospital for support when people are in hospital and this may be for visits until the person return home. Some of this work is paid, but to continue we have to look at payments for each sector of our work to maintain the level of care we deliver.



The monthly meeting group started in July with 6 people attending with some assistance from Lisa Reid, volunteer driver will resume on 23rd November. Due to unforeseen events the last two meetings were cancelled. These meetings are for those who are housebound and find it difficult to travel on the transport or do not wish to be at the club for the day. If you would like to attend please contact the office.

Members and staff attended the Bath University black history month presentation "We Were Invited", a DVD made by Marlene Bertrand interviewing members of the club nine years ago, they spoke of their experiences coming to England. Six members attended alongside staff and took part in the talk following the showing of the DVD.

BEMSCA will be working with Bath Carer Centre in the New Year developing a forum for carers to meet. We have been approached by people in the community who have gone through a crisis and did not know what to do, we feel a group like this can support those who have been a carer or becoming a carer, this will be open to all ages and the meeting will be held within time of those wishing to use the service at Fairfield House

We welcome Louise Clapton from Dorothy House, she will be volunteering once a month to support the days' activity, her commitment working with the members offering hand massage and one to one support, she has also involved other people in Dorothy House to meet with the Co-ordinator in visits to discuss grant applications, fundraising, the garden project celebrating 25 years of BEMSCA history.

Brett Hardy and Chris Smith have been helpful in landscaping the area for the memorial garden which will start to be developed from January.

BEMSCA thank all those who have contributed donations, time in the following fundraisers, Candlelit Dinners, Comedy Night, Abbey Cake Sale, Family fun day and the monthly raffles and events. A special thanks to Meenu who arranged a dance routine for the Asian elders to perform at the Diwali celebration held in October.



Our thoughts are with those who are in hospital and currently out of the club due to ill health.

Sincere condolences to the families of Elkins Cadogan, Hazel Barrow and Beryl Dixon MBE, also to our community family on their loss.



### Sewing Session

every Tuesdays (except holiday closure) 11:00 – 1:00 @ Fairfield House, 2 Kelston Road, BA1 3QJ  
 Fee: £3 per session  
 All welcome

### **BBC— Holding back the years**



### **BBC Flog It**



### **Summer seaside outing**



### **Bath Abbey : Great Bath Bake Sale**



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