



Age Action Alliance

Monthly Highlights

April 2014

Hello from the Secretariat Team

Spring has sprung and Alliance older people and members have been busy planting seeds to improve later life, today and tomorrow.

If you want to share some good news stories and activities from your area, get in touch at info@ageactionalliance.org

Best wishes,
Helen, Emily, Russell, Ken, Simon

Latest Members

- ✓ 16 new Members have joined us this month
- ✓ 135 new followers on Twitter (now 2,726)
- ✓ 15 active Themes

Latest Activity

Themed Update

- **Alliance members meet up in Milton Keynes**
Around a dozen Alliance members – including the Alzheimer's Society, Sargeant Associates, The Trading Times, Time Finders, and Canary Care - met in Milton Keynes at the Extra Care Charitable Trust's Lovat's Field Village on 16th April. Discussion centred around the need to encourage communities to be more dementia-friendly, and what members do to improve the situation. Further meetings are planned to review progress.
- **Partnership Development & Comms Group SWOT up for 2014**
The PDG held its first meeting of 2014 on 29 April. Despite the tube strike, there was a good turnout and the group discussed next steps, after analysis of Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats for the Alliance in 2014. The Communications Group also met and discussed developments with the development of the Alliance website, including the new [Photo Gallery](#), [Regional Networks pages](#), [Join Us page upgrades](#) and [home page carousel](#).

Latest Thinking

- **AAA factsheets – Have you seen our latest offerings?**

Following the success of the [Caring from a Distance Factsheet](#) a number of the Working Groups have started to produce their own. If you are interested in the new definition of fuel poverty or how Ping Pong can help reduce social isolation, visit the

Visit us at: www.ageactionalliance.org
Follow us at: @AgeActAlliance #ageaction #joinAAA

[AAA Resources section](#) on our website or simply type Fact Sheet in to the search function. Or maybe you have some good practice you could share?

➤ **Regional Networks pages go live**

Have you visited the AAA website lately? If not you will have missed some of the exciting new changes we have introduced. These include a new carousel feature on the home page which allows us to showcase more than one item at a time. We have also introduced a [regional feature](#) so that we can begin to capture all the good work taking place closer to where it's happening. Got something to share?

[Contact us](#).

➤ **Picturing positive attitudes**

If you've missed it, the other big change to our website is that it now hosts a gallery of wonderful images sent to us by people passionate about improving images and attitudes to ageing. We have already received a number of requests from members who want to use the photographs in their own material and a similar number who want to add their own photos to the gallery. Well done everyone who participated and helped make this possible. If you'd like to contribute, do get in touch.

➤ **Carbon Monoxide Poisoning: Call for Evidence**

Alliance members are invited to respond to an All Party Parliamentary Group call for evidence on Carbon Monoxide Poisoning. According to the Department of Health, 50 people die each year from carbon monoxide poisoning and another 4,000 are treated in hospital. However, the true number may be much higher as the early symptoms can easily be mistaken for flu or tiredness.

The APPG Carbon Monoxide Group has issued a call for evidence in follow up to its 2011 inquiry report 'Preventing Carbon Monoxide Poisoning' and Alliance members are invited to contribute their ideas on how to re-focus and improve efforts to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning in the UK. The Call for Evidence can be downloaded by clicking [here](#). Submissions are welcome before Friday 16 May.

Latest Mentions

➤ **Read all about it ~ Latest blogs from AAA members** Got some good ideas, been thinking it through in your organisation and with others? Then our Latest Thinking blog is the place to share it! This month we've heard your thoughts on:

- ❖ Hearing loss and dementia
- ❖ What's what? – with Wills
- ❖ What is a Credit Union?
- ❖ Commission on the Voluntary Sector & Ageing publishes "Age of Opportunity"
- ❖ Meeting the needs of older people with dual sensory loss
- ❖ Royal Voluntary Service – on their quest to help lonely older men through sport
- ❖ Meet the In-Betweeners

[Read more blogs here](#)



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If you've got a story to share - good practice, solutions and achievements, especially where you've worked in partnership and maybe through the Alliance network - send us 350-500 words, plus a photo for the website and a catchy title, to: info@ageactionalliance.org

If you mention the Alliance, or you read or hear the Alliance mentioned somewhere, we'd love to hear about it! Email us at info@ageactionalliance.org