



Annual Review

2020 - 2021



Registered charity number 1141901

Introduction

This review covers the first year of living through the Coronavirus pandemic and complements the charity's annual accounts, which are available from our office or the Charity Commission website. Although life has moved on, we wanted to capture the changes and challenges our charity faced in the first year of the pandemic and how we responded, so we could continue to support older people in Bury.

We thank our staff team, volunteers, fundraisers, trustees and tutors for their work, support, encouragement and enormous good will throughout this difficult year. We also thank our funders and supporters for helping us through this difficult time.

On behalf of Age UK Bury, we would like to record our charity's thanks to Bury Council, NHS services in Bury and volunteers for the Bury Community Hubs, which supported people with essential supplies through the lockdowns and the rollout of the vaccinations, which gave us hope that an end was in sight.

In this report, we have included Jill Pemberton's poem, "Passing the Time", as it captures the life we all experienced through lockdown. It ends with the important reminder that "Spring will return" and "We'll steer our little raft together, getting us through the stormy weather, aiming for the sliver of light, where the grass is green and the flowers are bright."

Joan Rees, Chair & Andy Hazeldine, Chief Officer



Anne, Jean and Neil did a great job looking after our garden during the lockdowns



Our Jubilee Walkers took to the hills as soon as socially distanced walks were allowed

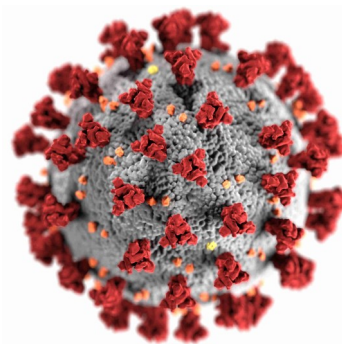
Front Cover pictures (clockwise): Friends Together staff prepare Christmas Hampers for members; Karen and The Café staff prepare for reopening the Jubilee Centre; Diana leads her socially-distanced Nordic Walkers group & the shutters are raised at the Jubilee Centre for the first time in months.

The Trustees for 2020 to 2021

Mrs J Rees, Chair
Mrs P Walton, Deputy Chair
Ms H K Brown (passed away October 2020)
Mr S Edwards
Mrs P Jones-Greenhalgh
Mrs J Matthews
Mr R Owen (resigned January 2021)
Mrs K Parkinson
Mrs E Walmsley

The first year of Covid—April 2020 to March 2021

Our year began in the first lock down caused by the Coronavirus pandemic. We had already closed a week before the announcement on 23rd March 2020, believing that we would put people at risk by staying open. This was the right thing to do and throughout the year, protection of people's health in a pandemic has remained the charity's priority.



In a normal year, we hold 1,700 activities that bring older people together and our information and advice service provides face to face support, normally in the home of the person we are supporting. Suddenly, all this had to stop.

Our main sources of income - shops, café, activities, and fundraising - also stopped. We knew we could weather the storm for a few months from reserves, but history shows that pandemics like Coronavirus continue over a few years, not a short 12-week period.

Many of our trustees, volunteers, staff and tutors were vulnerable, or they cared for people who were vulnerable, and they had to shield. We lost our greatest asset – people - at the very moment we needed them the most.

We began the year with no services, no idea if we could pay the bills and just a handful of people who were able to work or volunteer, unless they too took ill or had to isolate.

What we did know is that, as a charity, we could not just walk away from older people in Bury at a time when they needed us the most.

Advice Line

Our charity has always had a role of being “Someone to turn to” for older people and their carers. We ensured our office telephone remained open and responded to callers Monday to Friday from 10 am to 2 pm, and this service remained in place throughout the whole year. One Monday morning, we took 10 calls in the first hour.

Whilst the first calls we received were of a practical nature, concerns about obtaining food and medication, it soon became evident that many elderly people were struggling with extreme loneliness, at a level no one had experienced before.

Keeping in Touch – our new Telephone Befriending service

Jane, the Befriending Co-ordinator took the lead in setting up the Keeping in Touch telephone service, responding to the extreme isolation experienced by people who were shielding and unable to see their family or friends. We are grateful to the volunteers who helped us establish this service. By March 2021, Keeping in Touch was supporting 115 older people making 189 calls per week.

Over the year, we heard about the issues people were facing. We had no answer to many of them, but we were there to listen.

We found anxiety levels were increased with several of our clients experiencing panic attacks and depression. We often heard about the struggle to fill the hours in the day, and every day was the same. Sometimes the first question we were asked when we phoned was “What day is it?”.

We found Monday was the worst day for people feeling down, because they had not spoken to anyone over the weekend. We found that bad weather affected the moods, and sometimes it was hard to get a conversation started because they hadn't done anything. One volunteer resorted to reporting on the wildlife found at the Lido, particularly the new ducklings.

People reported reduced mobility because they were unable to get out and use their leg muscles. One lady we said the first thing she was going to do when lockdown was lifted was to buy a new carpet for the hall, as she has worn it out going up and down with her walker just to make sure she was still moving.

Those who had a local support bubble made up of a member of the family coped better than someone who did not. One lady was convinced she would die before she had a chance to see her son in person.

We found a lot of people totally frustrated by a lot of agencies going on-line, especially the GP's. Quite often our volunteers had to listen to every medical complaint and worry, because clients had no one to discuss this with. There was a lot of concern over the treatment of pre-existing health conditions.

Even when restrictions were lifted, people did not feel safe about going out. We have one person, who lives on her own and was recommended by her GP to shield due to having COPD. In 18 months, she went out four times, twice to have her vaccinations, one to have her eyes tested and once to pick up her new glasses. She suffered panic attacks at the thought of going out each time and reported that the thing that affected her the most was the noise level.



We spoke to people who were unable to visit partners in nursing homes. One gentleman has a wife in a nursing home with dementia. Prior to the pandemic, he went every day and had lunch with her and then sat and held her hand. Restrictions meant the end to this and even though the home tried their best by introducing zoom calls, these were not a great success, because she didn't understand what was happening. Now that visits have resumed, she no longer recognises him when he goes to see her, on several occasions he has broken down whilst on the phone to our volunteer.

We phoned those who were bereaved during lockdown and the tiers system. We found they have struggled greatly particularly when they were not able to be with their loved ones when they passed. The limited number who were able to attend funerals also had an impact. The usual support networks to help with grief were not available and some were unable to grieve as a family, due to restrictions on size of bubbles. One of our regular volunteers, Christine, is a member of the Moving On group (a group for former carers) and she has been invaluable in supporting these clients.

When we sent the letters to the clients, we asked how the service had helped them during pandemic. Below are some of the comments we received.

“I regularly received calls, and it gave me assurance to know I was not alone and was supported through this difficult time.”

“The telephone service has helped me very much and has lovely to get the telephone calls. I know someone cares enough to take the time and always look forward to the chat.”

“Without the telephone service, I don’t know how I would have coped. Jane has certainly helped me keep my sanity”

“I really enjoyed the calls enormously, my friend moved further away last year and my sister died at Xmas. My clubs ceased and I felt alone. I loved these calls.”

“It has kept me going, people get so lonely when they live on their own, it is nice to look forward to your phone call, at least we know someone cares for us”

“I have been immensely grateful for the weekly calls, especially during two difficult personal and family events. I look forward to the opportunity to discuss matters, ask for advice and just have a friendly chat. Sometimes, those few minutes are the highlight of the day.”



We are grateful to our new team of volunteers who helped us to develop the service. Beryl, a regular member at the Jubilee Centre Tea Dance, responded to our call for volunteers to help our service. She said “I really do enjoy speaking to people. It’s a two-way thing – I hope I help others and I get something out of it. I am really looking forward to meeting up with people in normal”. Pat became a volunteer after her daughter urged her to do something to keep her busy and get out of the house. “I had never done anything like this before and I was a bit nervous at first but really got into it and made some new friends.”

We are very grateful to our volunteers for supporting this new service.

Contacting our Jubilee Centre members

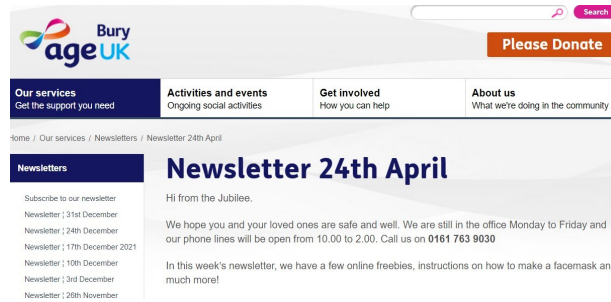
Avoira, a Bury based Telecommunications company, gave us eight mobiles with unlimited minutes. This kind act enabled us to call over 300 people who were on our books to see how they were coping with the lockdown. Thankfully, we found many people were already in contact with the friends they had made at the Jubilee and were supporting each other through the isolation.

The true value of the Jubilee Centre is not about how many activities we run but the friendships that are made. It was these friendships that supported many people through the days of the lockdown.

Sadly, some people had fallen through this net. One lady tearfully thanked our volunteer for calling saying she was the first person she had talked with in weeks.

Newsletter

Our charity already had a strong web presence with a website, over 2000 followers on Twitter and over 400 supporters on Facebook. We took the decision to bring together all news items into one weekly email newsletter, focusing on messages from Bury Public Health, sources of support, scams and activities to keep people busy (including how to make your own facemask). This became a permanent weekly fixture for the year and now has over 500 subscribers.



Feedback on the newsletter included

“During these unprecedented times it is just wonderful that Age UK Bury are providing such vital support to their members via the newsletter. Thank you for all the hard work that you do for the community. We look forward to the day when we will all be able to meet in person again at the Jubilee Centre.”

“Thanks for all your wonderful newsletters, keeping us all in the loop. A lot of effort goes into them and it is much appreciated.”

“A big thank you for all your emails in the last months. They have been great for keeping us informed about what has been going on in the world with the Coronavirus in a way that we have been able to understand.”

Online Activities

Recognising that we could not provide activities in real life, we decided to provide online activities using the Zoom and Facebook platforms.

Sue Johnson and Diana Askew, who have led classes at the Jubilee Centre for over 12 years, became the online faces of our charity and between them, led 162 activities during the year.



A newly retired member wrote to us explaining how Diana's online sessions helped her.

"At the start of the pandemic and lockdown in March 2020, like everyone else, I was suddenly without my usual activities. I started off well and would regularly go out for walks locally but began to get a bit more lethargic and missing the interaction with others and being able to visit family. I also became conscious that my fitness levels were dropping and was really beginning to feel my age. In addition to this my weight was steadily rising which was quite depressing. I knew I had to do something about this but it was proving difficult as gyms, clubs, etc, were closed due to lockdown. It was then that I read on the weekly Age UK Bury newsletter about Diana's weekly online fitness classes.

I was so pleased to learn that Age UK Bury were providing these classes, as they really ticked so many boxes for me. I could do regular exercise in my home, at a time that suited me best. It was something to look forward to as well as being able to put a date in my diary! But to be honest, it hasn't been just about the activity. Diana has such a bubbly personality and makes the class both a fun and inclusive activity. Although you are doing it on your own, she has the ability to make you feel you are sharing a room with others (but with the added bonus that no-one can actually see you and you can make believe you look just like the fabulous Diana.)

At the end of each session, I feel elated as well having a real sense of achievement. I truly appreciate this service provided by Age UK Bury, who have been there to help me through this challenging time."

Other participants wrote in to say how Diana's classes supported them.

"Watched your show today really enjoyed it. I felt I must do something because I have put on weight and feel very unfit. Didn't put nail polish on for ages but I am now back to loving putting all the lovely colours on my nails & experimenting latest nail fashion."

"I am good but limited with arthritic hip. Doing over 10,000 steps a day then at least half an hour exercise is just about what I can manage. I'm 73. Thank you so much Di. Very enjoyable. Will remember to dress down and turn my heating off next time"

"Seeing your happy face encourages me."

Sue Johnson ran the Tai Chi class on Zoom every Friday Morning attracting 15 regular members and after Christmas set up a Coffee and Chat session aimed at those who just wanted to talk with others informally, attracting 8-10 members.



A couple told me how very grateful they were for this opportunity as it was a vital way of keeping everyone in touch. Another lady echoed the sentiment "we need each other's company to get through this" and that "the Coffee and Chat was a good substitute to the real thing until we can reopen the Jubilee Centre again."

Information and Advice

For the first part of the year, our I&A service was very limited. By September, the service was back to full strength but our staff, Louise and Ruth, had to work from home and deliver the service by phone or video conferencing.

Our I&A service supported **1,817 people** during the year and helped older people in Bury to claim **£680,715.86** in benefits.

Albert was referred to us by his sister, who was extremely concerned about his health and financial position. We carried out a benefits check, supported Albert to make an application for Attendance Allowance and he was awarded the higher rate of £89.60 per week. Applications for housing benefit and pension credit were also successful and Albert is now receiving a total extra income of £171.53 per week. Albert is now eating properly and has the heating on when he needs it. His sister is a lot less worried about him now as she can see he is coping with life much better.

Brian, 68, is a carer for his son but suffered health problems himself. We carried out a benefits check and determined he would be eligible for the higher rate of Disability Living Allowance. We helped him with the application, and he received an extra £29.60 per week. Because he was a carer, he had not built-up sufficient contributions for his pension. We helped him apply for Pension Credit and he gained an extra £66 pounds per week, plus a free TV license, council tax reduction, free dental treatment, a voucher for glasses or contact lenses and much more.

Colin visited our Ramsbottom Charity Shop and spoke with Carole, the shop manager, about his wife, who had just suffered a stroke. Carole referred him to our service and we helped him to apply for Attendance Allowance for his wife, which was awarded at £89.20 per week. Colin also got a care assessment with Bury Council to gain additional help for his wife. Colin popped back to see Carole and to say the help the I&A service had provided was immeasurable and he is now in a much better place.



Home Energy Checks

Our I&A service and Handy Person service worked together to deliver 70 Home Energy Checks (HEC) to older people in Bury. The was funded by the Age UK Warm Homes Programme.

HECs help make homes more energy efficient and warmer in the winter by having an assessment with advisors and energy saving equipment installed by our Handy Person manager.

This new project helped older people in the following ways.

Anne contacted us regarding a faulty boiler that had exposed asbestos. We conducted a HEC and contacted the local council to remove the damaged boiler. We were able to assist Anne in securing a boiler grant and she was able to get a new one. We also supported Anne with completing Attendance Allowance and her being successful with an indefinite payment of £3120 per year. Anne also benefited from home energy products to help with draught proofing and lighting. Anne said "Thank you so much for your advice and help you have given me, I was able to get a new central heating boiler".

Betty has been on a pre-payment meters for electricity and gas for several years. Due to her chronic health conditions she had to rely on family to top up her cards. Having a HEC and advice on switching from her pre-payment meters, created the opportunity for Betty to save money. Betty has had new meters installed and now on direct debit with an approximate annual saving of £233. Betty said "Good to know it can be managed by direct debit and save money in the long run, thanks for your help".

Celia is 84 and lives alone. Although she has a positive attitude to life and works hard to keep herself fit and busy. Celia does suffer from arthritis and a disability resulting from an injury. However she likes to be as independent as possible and wants to remain in her own home for as long as possible. We made Celia aware of the equipment available for saving energy and reducing heating costs and she was able to choose the goods best suited to her needs. She chose night lights, low energy bulbs, radiator foils and draught excluders. Celia gave the following feedback on the items chosen. The plug-in night lights make her feel safer moving about during the night; the light given off by the LED lights is really bright and helps her to read better; she has found the letter box brush to be quite efficient in reducing draughts and keeping the heat in and the radiator panels/foils have made a noticeable difference in warmth of the rooms.

Celia said "This is a very good scheme as it makes fuel economical and saves money. I would never have known of these things being available without Age UK Bury making me aware of what was available".

We are repeating the Health Energy Checks Service in Winter 2021/2

Key Safe Service

Andrew, our Handyperson Manager started a few weeks after the lockdown started. We made a bid to Forever Manchester and then to Standing Together for the purchase of key safes. This was a service we offered to frontline agencies who were supporting people who were moving from hospital to home and needed carers to enter the home.

We provided an efficient and speedy key fitting service to Bury social welfare teams including Rapid Response, Older People's Staying Well Team and local hospital Social Teams with most of the key safes being fitted within 24 hours of a request being raised thereby helping to ensure minimum delay in clients having secure access to the care required.

It has also raised awareness within these teams of other work that can be undertaken by our Handyperson Service to assist in helping clients to remain in their own homes, for example, moving furniture, relocating beds, fitting handrails and grab rails etc.

Feedback from Sister, carer of Doris: Doris is not mobile and therefore unable to answer the door herself. Her sister takes responsibility for organising carer visits sorting shopping etc. Before the key safe was installed, her sister was the sole key holder which meant she had to be at the house every time access was needed. This put a lot of pressure on her sister who is also the main carer for her own husband. The key safe has given Doris's sister peace of mind that Doris is still getting the care she needs without her having to be onsite all the time. It has also meant that she can arrange for other family members to assist in caring for Doris.

Feedback from friend of Ethel. "Ethel is a 93 and lives alone. She likes to be as independent as possible but due to mobility and breathing issues answering her door is very challenging. At first, she was a little nervous about having a key safe fitted but now realises what a benefit it is for her. It has taken away the stress and risk of trying to get to the door. Ethel also feels safe in the knowledge that her home is secure but her friend and other carers have quick access when needed.

Feedback from Bury Adult Care Rapid Response Team: "Thank you for the support offered by Age UK Bury to the Rapid Response Team in relation to fitting of key safes for a number of patients who have required urgent input from our team. The service has been a great aid in helping rapid response access patient's properties who are not able to facilitate their own access due to deteriorating health needs. This has enabled patients to be visited in a safe and timely manner and visits to be facilitated by support staff following assessment."

Friends Together

Our Friends Together service supports those who need extra help and support to get out for the day. During the pandemic, it was impossible to run this service as all members were required to shield. Stella, the Friends Together Organiser, phoned all members on a weekly basis, keeping them up to date with the news and addressing their problems. The team arranged four doorstep visits so we could see people at a distance, deliver donations of goods that Age UK had sent to us, and most importantly, say "hello".

"Thank you for the flowers and cards from Age UK Bury staff on the occasion of my 100th birthday. Also, for all the care I have received during this pandemic. You are a very wonderful caring group of people."

"Thank you very much for the unexpected gift bag of goodies, delivered by Stella and Michael. I enclose a cheque which I hope, in some small way, your kind help to those less lucky than I am, can continue."

Irene, Janet and Juanita kindly changed their roles and helped with the Keeping In Touch service to meet the growing demand.

We are grateful to Bury Council for their support to this service and allowing us the flexibility to support older people in these difficult times.



Reopening The Jubilee Centre and Our Charity Shops

Between April 2020 to March 2021, there was limited scope to reopen services and shops in the way that we would have liked. Every plan we came up with had to be scrapped the following week, to adapt to changing circumstances and new government regulations.

Diana started the Nordic Walking for five people per session in June and Dougie Warrington restarted the Footcare service in July, meeting all the requirements of providing personal care in a covid-19 secure setting.

Karen and her team reopened The Jubilee Centre Café in August. Within a month, they had to rewrite the rules for customers three times to comply with government rule changes. Special measures on cleaning and sanitising were implemented to reassure people. A couple who were extremely vulnerable from the virus expressed their thanks to the staff for making it a safe place for them to come to.

Debbie and the shop team the Bury charity shop reopened in August for limited hours, doing their best to keep the shop safe from Covid. We closed the shop when the second lockdown was announced and although we could legally reopen retail in November, we took the decision not to do so to protect staff and customers.

The third lockdown took effect from January 2021 and we decided not to bring back those who delivered face to face services until they had the opportunity to get the Covid-19 vaccination.

Whilst staff were unable to work, we used the time to make significant improvements on our Jubilee Centre and our shops. All the lights at the Jubilee Centre were replaced with energy efficient LED panels to reduce energy bills in the future and the emergency lighting system was bought up to date.

The shops were painted and significant improvements to the first and second floors at the Bury shop increased the storage space.

Michelle oversaw the implementation of Microsoft Teams to improve the sharing of information across the staff teams, and enable people to work from home, reducing the need to be in a busy office.



Can we help you?

Information and Advice

Our Information and Advice Service supports people with benefit checks, filling in application forms for Attendance Allowance and information about local services for older people. Please send an email to info@ageukbury.org.uk or call **Louise** on **07872 067662** (Monday to Thursday) or **Ruth** on **07547 400142** (Tuesday to Friday).

The Jubilee Centre Café, Mosley Avenue, Bury, BL9 6NJ

The Jubilee Centre is a unique activity centre for older people, offering over 20 activities per week. The timetable is available from The Jubilee Centre and online at our website. Our café, overlooking the beautiful Clarence Park Lido, is open from 10 to 4.00, Monday to Friday.

Friends Together Groups

Our four Friends Together groups offer extra support so people can meet up with others and meet once a week in North Bury, Radcliffe, Prestwich and Whitefield. For more details, call **0161 763 9030**.

Keeping In Touch

Our Keeping in Touch telephone service offers older people in Bury a regular, friendly phone call from one of our volunteers. For more information, call **0161 763 9030** (Monday to Friday 10.00 am to 2.00 pm) or email jane@ageukbury.org.uk to sign up.

Handyperson Service

Our service helps with small DIY and repair jobs such as fitting handrails and security locks, putting up shelves, curtain rails and wall decorations; assembling flat pack furniture; minor plumbing, and changing light bulbs. . Written quotes will be given for all work. Prices are dependent on the scale and length of work being done. If you have a couple of small jobs which could be completed in an hour, it will cost £30 plus materials.

Contact Sue on **0161 796 6949** (Office hours 08:30 am – 4:00 pm, Tues / Wed / Thurs) or email hp@ageukbury.org.uk

Foot Care Appointments

Dougie, our Foot Care Practitioner, will be at the Jubilee Centre from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm on **Tuesday mornings**. Each appointment costs £20. Please call **0161 763 9030** in advance to make an appointment.

Online support

Our regular email newsletter comes out on a monthly basis. Email news@ageukbury.org.uk for your free copy.

We will update people with latest news on

- ◆ Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ageukbury/>
- ◆ Twitter: <https://twitter.com/AgeUKBury>
- ◆ Website: www.ageukbury.org.uk

Can you help us?

Become a volunteer

We always need volunteers at our charity shops, in our café, on our telephone scheme, in our befriending service, helping people with transport and fundraising. If you can spare a few hours, please consider joining our wonderful team of volunteers.

Donating goods

All money raised from our charity shops at 91 The Rock in Bury and 32 Bridge Street, Ramsbottom supports our charity to deliver services in the borough of Bury. Donations are accepted over the counter at our shops or we can collect, if you call us on **0161 763 9030**.

Donating Money

- ◆ Giving online is quick and easy. You can make a one-off donation or a regular monthly donation to support our work through our Just Giving page, where you can gift-aid your donation. Go to <https://www.justgiving.com/ageuk-bury>
- ◆ If you would like to write us a **cheque**, please make it payable to **Age UK Bury** and send it to our Jubilee Centre or drop it off at one of our shops.
- ◆ Donations can be transferred directly to Age UK Bury. Our Sort Code is **09-02-22** and our account number is **10442229**.
- ◆ If you would like to set up a regular **standing order** with your bank, we can supply you with all the necessary forms.
- ◆ Leaving a gift in your **will** enables us to provide services in the future and you can reduce your Inheritance Tax bill. Every gift in a will, no matter how large or small, makes a difference.

Fundraise for us

If you would like to raise money in memory of a loved one, jump out of a plane, run a marathon, give up chocolate for a month or ask your friends for donations in lieu of birthday gifts, we can support you with your fundraising ideas.

Other ways to support our cause

Join our **100 Club** which for just £5 a month and you could win one of three cash prizes, announced every month.

For every purchase made through **Amazon Smile**, Amazon donates 0.5% of the net purchase price to us, at no extra cost to you. Click onto <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/> and choose Age UK Bury.

For more details about any of these options, please

- ◆ Call Michelle Goodwin on **0161 763 9030**,
- ◆ email Michelle at admin@ageukbury.org.uk
- ◆ or write to Age UK Bury, The Jubilee Centre, Mosley Avenue, Bury, BL9 6NJ.

Thank You

We give our thanks to the families and friends who gave donations in the memory of Herbert Ogden, Lawrence Tan, and Kath Woodward.

We are very grateful to Derek Pepperdine for remembering us in his will.

Our thanks also goes to Dave Berry, who gave up drinking his beer for a month to raise funds for our cause.

We would like to thank the following for their support to our charity over the year:

- ◆ Bury Council Department for Communities & Wellbeing for funding our Friends Together Service, Befriending Project and Information and Advice.
- ◆ Bury Council for their support with the distribution of Covid-19 grants.
- ◆ Age UK Coronavirus Emergency appeal, which was used to help us sustain and develop new services through the difficult year.
- ◆ Forever Manchester for funding for Key Safes, and advice-line running costs.
- ◆ NHS Bury CCG for their support to the MCI Project.
- ◆ Sports England for funding to pay the running costs at the Jubilee whilst we could not run activities.
- ◆ Standing Together (administered by Bury VCFA) for the purchase of key safes to support hospital discharge services.
- ◆ Age UK / Eon Engage fund for Information & advice and Home energy checks.

We are extremely grateful to Horsfield and Smith who kindly donated their expertise to file claims for the Coronavirus Job Retention scheme.

We really appreciate the kindness we have received from the following people and organisations:

- ◆ Age UK and local Age UKs throughout Greater Manchester and the North-West
- ◆ Avoira
- ◆ Bury Lodge of Relief No 42
- ◆ Bury Society for Blind and Partially Sighted People
- ◆ Bury Voluntary, Community and Faith Alliance
- ◆ Charity Digital Trust
- ◆ Dumers Lane Community Centre
- ◆ Egerton Lodge
- ◆ Greater Manchester Police
- ◆ Info-tech Bury
- ◆ Moving on Together
- ◆ Phoenix Footcare

Our greatest assets are people. We would like to thank our staff, volunteers, fundraisers, tutors and trustees for all the support they have given to us, and to each other through this difficult year.

We are also very grateful for the support of the beneficiaries of our charity who all their understanding, support and kindness.



Passing the Time

by Jill Pemberton

My house has never been so clean!
To believe it my house has just got to be seen!
But you can't see my house; you'll have to believe –
'Cos no-one comes in and no-one can leave!



I'll tell you about my most hated chore.
I haven't cleaned my kitchen floor.
Besides, I need to replace my mop
And guidelines forbid me to go to the shop.
To leave my house, I need "Credentials"
And a mop will be one of those non-essentials!



My hubbie has tidied the garden shed.
He has planted his seeds, they are watered and fed.
He has turned the soil over with fertiliser.
He hasn't forgotten the hand sanitiser!

In the evening, when I am forced into sitting
I get out my needles and do my knitting!
I have lots of wool, but nothing matches
So I'm knitting creations involving patches
Plus various colours of teddy bear -
I'll give them to children to show them I care.
When my knitting gets a bit better
I'll make a multi coloured sweater!



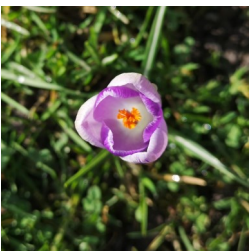
Different forms of exercise –
Don't forget to sanitise!



An ocean of bliss is our writing group
An email address and you're in the loop.
A raft of ideas to keep us afloat,
Keeps us smiling and fills us with hope

The virus has taken over the news
Endless expert interviews.
Many questions, many replies.
Don't forget to sanitise!

Stories to sadden, or lift the heart
We are staying at home, but we're never apart.
The world is becoming loving and caring.
If there's a breakthrough, the world is sharing.



Spring doesn't care about Covid 19
The flowers are bright, the grass is still green.
We'll steer our little raft together,
Getting us through the stormy weather.
Aiming for the sliver of light
Where the grass is green and the flowers are bright.





**The Jubilee Centre (Age UK Bury HQ)
By Clarence Park Lido**

Mosley Avenue, Bury, BL9 6NJ

Tel:0161 763 9030

admin@ageukbury.org.uk



Our Charity Shops

Bury Shop

91 The Rock

Bury

BL9 0NB

0161 761 2780

Ramsbottom Shop

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