#### Monthly Newsletter Wirral Older People's Parliament



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# HAVE YOU SOMETHING TO SAY? JOIN US!

Find out how to join us and add your voice to the many older people who live in Wirral who want to make sure that decision makers know what they want! julie@wirralopp.co.uk 07587167098





#### NATIONAL ISSUES

Here at OPP we are very lucky to have our very own political guru Bernd Heerwagen. Bernd works tirelessly reseaching and writing letters to MP's and ministers on behalf of older people living in Wirral on a variety of subjects. The current ones are below to give you an idea of some of the things that are concerning us at the moment. Bernd's letters challenge the government to consider carefully any decisions they make on subjects that affect the lives of older people, whilst also reminding them that we are keeping an eye on what they do!

- health inequalities among older people
- state pension changes
- self funding care home residents
- ending the triple lock guarantee
- cash systems not being used due to infection concerns



#### JULY NEWS

by Julie Kay Project CoOrdinator

Another busy month at Sewing HQ. Thanks to the wonders of digital technology I have been able to attend several big Liverpool City Region meetings this month. First one up was Voluntary Sector respsonse and recovery to covid-19. An excellent speaker and smaller groups discussed the issues that have arisen for older people due to corona in the region and the importance of older people's voices.

Secondly I attended the Merseyside Community Police meeting to discuss how the police have been managing the region and what more could they do to support groups across the region. In addition we continue with our weekly coffee mornings on zoom, and our monthly meetings have resumed online, with phone and email feedback also available. Please get in touch with your ideas and feedback.





### **Digital Survey**

Zoom, microsoft teams, facebook live! What on earth are these? Technology surrounds us in the 21st century but it has certainly exploded during the unusual times we have experienced with covid-19. The Older People's Parliament is currently gathering information on how older people on Wirral use (or don't use) technology. In the next few days a postal survey will go out to our postal members asking some simple questions on digital 'stuff'. If you are on our database you will already have had an email with the survey attached. I would be so very grateful if you could take a minute to complete it and return if you are aged over 55. This survey is part of a wider city region project that will be launched later in the year by Steve Rotherham, Metro Mayor, on digital inlcusion and the more information we gather the more useful it will be. The outcomes could be digital funding, training or even devices being made available for some people.

#### WHAT'S GOING ON?

- Weekly coffee mornings on zoom. Thursday 1030am
- Health and Social Care Committee, second Friday of each month, zoom and email meeting
- Housing Committee, zoom and email meeting
- Disability Forum, zoom and email meeting
- Special zoom events such as crafting or book clubs
- facebook and twitter comments and information
- email and postal information on services and issues

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# SUPPORT AND INFORMATION LINKS

https://healthwatchwirral.co.uk/

https://www.wirralinfobank.co.uk/

https://www.ageuk.org.uk/wirr

https://www.gov.uk/governme nt/publications/covid-19guidance-for-the-safe-use-ofplaces-of-worship-during-thepandemic/covid-19-guidancefor-the-safe-use-of-places-ofworship-during-the-pandemic

Wirral Council. For further help and advice call COVID-19 helpline: Mon to Fri 9am - 5pm on 0151 666 5050

If you need urgent support for your mental health, please call mental health helpline on 0300 303 3972



#### **Lockdown Tales of the Wirral**



## **Bernard's story**

Well believe or not we have been making videos and enacting the singer and performers and posting them on our face-book pages. <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Wirral-Older-Peoples-Parliament-616347571779134">https://www.facebook.com/Wirral-Older-Peoples-Parliament-616347571779134</a>

They appear to be a great success and we have amassed a great following world-wide and we are receiving requests from near and far. I have also been writing short stories to raise more funds for the Chernobyl children's visit to the UK. <a href="https://www.ccll.org.uk/">https://www.ccll.org.uk/</a>. To be published after the lockdown. I have also written short stories about my time as a Black Pearl Pirate and my communications with the children that visited the Black Pearl before she became wrecked.



