

Later Life Newsletter

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individuals and organisations

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Avoiding unnecessary hospital

admissions: the Social Care Institute for Excellence has issued a [press release](#) announcing the launch of three short films looking at the subject of avoiding unnecessary hospital admissions. Launched on social care TV these films explore the realities behind the headlines - older people often have complex health care needs which require a range of health and social care interventions, including hospital admissions when necessary. The films look at what steps can be taken to help avoid unnecessary hospital admissions. [view the films](#)

Awards for All: Grants available: £300-£10,000

The Big Lottery Fund is the largest distributor of lottery monies to good causes. Awards for All is a small grants programme set up to help small local groups and communities. Voluntary and community groups, schools and health organisations, parish and town councils can apply for funding. The application form is short and simple, and the programme aims to make a difference to communities and the lives of those most in need. [Read more](#) or call 0845 4 10 20 30 or textphone 0845 6 02 16 59

Commission for Rural Communities publishes major report into social isolation experienced by older people

The Commission for Rural Communities (CRC) has published a major report into social isolation experienced by older people in England's rural areas. At a time when spending reductions are leading to changes in the way that public services such as care, housing and transport are provided in rural areas, the report considers the impact of those changes on the lives of older people. [The report can be found on-line here.](#)

Publication of Rural Statement 2012

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has just published its Rural Statement setting out the Government's support for rural areas, underling its commitment through the broad range of policies from across the different Government departments. It sets out a positive new agenda for Rural England, a contract with rural areas, so they can hold the Department to account on its promise to grow the rural economy and support thriving rural communities. [Rural Statement 2012](#) (PDF)

Older People's Day is on October 1st: visit the Full of Life website where you can register your event, find tips and ideas for organising an event, and find out what's going on where you live: [Full of Life website](#) If tweeting is your thing please use #olderpeoplesday when tweeting about the Alliance and this shortened version of the Full of Life website address: <http://bit.ly/MHKjX5>

Warm Home Discount Scheme 2012/13

starts: Letters will be sent until end February 2013 to pensioners on Pension Credit Guarantee who are or may be eligible for the £130 off their electricity bill. Most discounts will be paid automatically, but some people will need to phone the Helpline to claim. You do not need to do anything unless you receive a letter. Details, including eligibility for 2012/13 and details on how to claim are available at www.direct.gov.uk/warmhome. The Warm Home Discount Scheme Helpline - 0845 603 9439 - can also provide advice.

Auto-enrolment: workplace pension changes

There are new duties on employers, to help more people save for their retirement. All employers will need to act to comply with the law. The Pensions Regulator has published an [online leaflet](#) explaining new rules about pensions. DWP have also provided an [on-line toolkit and information](#)

“What about end of life care?” Toolkit launched

The National Council for Palliative Care has launched a new toolkit to empower professionals and members of the public to work with new local decision makers to secure the right end of life care services following reform of the health and social care system. *What about end of life care?* is designed to help individuals and organisations understand the new health and care structures and develop the relationships required to secure high quality end of life care and support locally. [find out more](#)

To subscribe, or provide contributions to future Later Life Newsletters contact: Simon.wilkinson1@dpw.gsi.gov.uk