



WEST LOTHIAN 50+ NETWORK

MEMBERS' MEETING – 19TH NOVEMBER 2022

1. **Our Speaker** this month was Philip Dodsworth from Blood Bikes Scotland who gave a most interesting talk about the free service the Blood Bikes give to the NHS by carrying small items from hospital to hospital; items which are often important even urgent.
2. **Holidays and trips** - Saturday 28th January 2023 – Rosslyn Chapel followed by a tour of the Parliament building. Departs Bathgate Railway Station at 10.am. Rosslyn was founded in 1446 and services continue to be held here weekly. Its popularity greatly increased with the publication of Dan Brown's novel, the Da Vinci Code in 2003. The trip then transfers to the Scottish Parliament building where there is time for lunch before a tour of the building. This will take approximately 45 minutes, then the group will be given the opportunity to explore the public gallery and the exhibition. Tickets on sale at the hub from Wednesday 30th November – cost £22.50.

Holiday to Northumberland 9 – 13 Jan. 2023. Balance due 28 November.

3. **Events** – A Heat Your Home workshop run by Age Scotland will be held in the Hub on Thursday 8th Dec at 9.30 am. If interested, please give your name in to the Hub. The workshop is free. We hope to hold more in the next few months; these include Advice on allowances available and Dementia Awareness. Feedback from the first one would be helpful. We have also ordered 500 thermometers from Age Scotland; they will be available in the Hub when we get them so watch out for them.
4. **Coffee Morning and Craft Fair** – Proved very popular and raised £814. Many thanks to the Bakers, the Patchwork Group, the Craft for Enjoyment Group, the tea ladies and all the volunteers who supported this event.
5. **Panto** – Wizard of Oz on 8th Dec. at 12.30. 44 tickets sold - the list is now closed.
6. **Christmas Cantata** - Monday 12th Dec. at 7 pm.in Armadale Parish Church. There is some limited free transport available for this event with pick-ups from Rosemount Gardens and South Loch Park. Please contact the Hub if you need transport. The cantata is now open to friends and family. Tea/Coffee and mince pies will be available in the hall after the event.



7. **Staff** – You may have met some temporary staff over the last few weeks who have been holding the fort till full time staff is appointed. We have now appointed a permanent staff member for the front desk, her name is Sheila. She has been with us for a week now and is getting to know us and our systems. Natasha will continue to temp till the permanent post is filled.

8. **Survey** - It has been some time now since we last conducted a members’ survey. We now have a 2022 survey ready to be sent out in the next few weeks. For those of you who do not have e-mail we will be sending a paper copy to go out with the Members’ Minutes. The feedback is essential as it helps inform the Committee, and is vital for our funders to let them know the benefits, activities and social interaction their funding allows. It is therefore important that as many members as possible complete the survey. It is entirely confidential, and the results will be published in the new year.

9. **Next Meeting**- There is no December Meeting as it is replaced by the Christmas Party. Free tickets were available on a first come first served basis.

10. **Question from the floor** – A member questioned the Committee as to why only 100 tickets when we have 600+ members. Anne explained that the hall can only seat 100 and, while the Committee had tried to source a bigger venue no suitable venues were available.

11. **The speaker for January** will speak on the Armadale Shed on 21st January 2023.

A. Webster

Anne Webster – Chair

West Lothian 50 + Network