



THE SMBP 44 ASSOCIATION

Newsletter – South Wales Chatterbox SPRING 2020

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30 March 2020

Hi Friends,

South Wales branch had their Spring meeting at The Norton House Hotel, Mumbles on 10 March 2020. Just when the outbreak in China (and subsequently Italy) of COVID-19 or Coronavirus became an issue. A great deal of concern was expressed by everyone on the progress of this epidemic.



Conversation really concentrated on the potential difficulties and how much we all could be affected. One of the greatest concerns for everyone was with an extended isolation period was loneliness.

The next publication of the 44 Club magazine is going to have some guidance and help. Part of it signposts members to Age UK and/or The Silverline should they feel vulnerable and too isolated. Don't forget Samaritans is also there. Their service operates 24 hrs and calls are free (116 123).

We did discuss remaining in touch with our all pensioners and although we have a website everyone can use remember you can see what going on in the branch through the link for the South Wales page: <https://www.44club.co.uk/south-wales.html>.

We thought of other alternatives. Social media is now gripping the world with things like FaceBook, Instagram and many more sites but all accessed via the internet which many pensioners do not use. We currently have some e-mail addresses, but I was wondering if we could use the telephone network using texts. If you would like to receive information in this way please click on this link to send me your mobile phone number and email: <https://www.44club.co.uk/email-south-wales-branch.html>

The data you provide will be stored and used in line with GDPR regulations. The Club's data privacy statement can be viewed from this page on the website: <https://www.44club.co.uk/privacy-policy.html> However, if we agree to keep in touch via WhatsApp, please be aware that your mobile phone number will be visible. Emails to members will conceal email addresses (bcc).

Chatterbox currently is posted to everyone and the cost of so doing is becoming more and more expensive. Hence it would be very good if we could send this via e-mail.

We have received notification that the SPA South Wales branch is folding. The SPA News coming out in April will show that the branch has closed due to a lack of members and volunteers to run the group. This was a topic of conversation and it was agreed that it is a shame to let this happen especially without any social media to plug the gap as yet. If anyone is interested in having membership of SPA, please let me know.

The 44 Club South Wales branch had agreed to meet every two months in 2020. The plan was to meet Tuesday 12th May, Wednesday 8th July, 9th September, 11th November and Christmas (date to be agreed). **All meetings are cancelled until further notice.** Please keep an eye on any news via the South Wales page on the website: <https://www.44club.co.uk/south-wales.html>

I'll be in touch again soon, best wishes to everyone.

Viv Perry

Tear off slip - Please print

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