# **VETERANS AND** FAMILY HUB **NEWSLETTER**

**NOV 2023 ISSUE 92** 





VFHub@improvinglivesplymouth.org.uk



Our building at Ernest English house is now running a weekly drop in COVID vaccination clinic. No appointment is necessary, just pop in and get jabbed.

The NHS is offering its free flu and COVID-19 vaccines to people at greater risk of serious illness this autumn and winter and those who come into contact with them. This includes:

Everyone aged 65 and over

Pregnant women

Care home residents

Those aged 6 months old or over with certain health conditions Frontline health and care staff

**Unpaid** carers

People aged 12 and over who share a house with someone who's at increased risk.



Do you know how vaccines work?



**USEFUL CONTACTS** 

**NHS Non-Emergency** 111

Police Non-Emergency 101

South West Water 0344 346 2020

British Gas (Emergency Number) 0800 111 999

Western Power Distribution Contact in the event of a power cut) 0800 678 3105

> **Adult Social Care** 01752 306900

Livewell Plymouth mental health support (24 hours) 01752434922

> **Veterans Gateway** 0808 802 1212

> > Samaritans 116 123



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# Party of Light













Our very first Party of Light in conjunction with Aggies, was a roaring success. Children and adults had the most amazing time and enjoyed doing something a little different. There were crafts, food, games and so much laughter. We hope those that attended had as much fun as we did.











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# Skills Launchpad Plymouth - the city's one-stop-shop for skills, training, education, careers and jobs

Skills Launchpad Plymouth offers targeted support for young people aged 16 to 24-years-old, including those with additional needs through the Youth Hub and supports those aged 25 years+ who are seeking work, facing redundancy or changing careers through the Adult Hub. The intention of the 'Skills Journey' through the Launchpad is to put the individual at the heart recognising that not one size fits all and that anyone in Plymouth can access this free help. We especially acknowledge the pressures of the cost of living and that is why our service offers an ethical and inclusive front door, designed to help residents make independent and informed skills and training choices, leading to better access to real employment opportunities.

Supported by Barclays Plymouth (located 140-146 Armada Way in the city centre), Skills Launchpad Plymouth is home to both the Youth Hub and Adult Hub, providing bookable appointments for face to face coordinated services for young people and adults, and a range of activities are delivered each week including a Tuesday drop-in service to help anyone interested in joining the construction industry, and health and care sector.

As well as supporting local people, Skills Launchpad Plymouth's online Employer Hub brings together localised solutions to help address recruitment, employment, workforce skills and training challenges. Aimed at helping local small to medium sized companies as well as offering additional support for larger businesses, the Employer Hub provides advice, guidance, and access to information setting out clear options to help employers better navigate the complex skills, training and employment landscape.









Information and images sourced from https://www.skillslaunchpadplym.co.uk/



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Autumn is here, and the nights are drawing in! With the winter fast approaching, you may be looking ahead to the new year and fresh starts! One of the great things about living in Plymouth is that there are lots of opportunities for people to develop new skills, different training, and education options, and lots of ways to gain experience to find your dream job or career. Whether you are thinking about a new career, considering a lifestyle change, or need support more generally, there's lots of local

support on offer. Below are some of the latest opportunities - including some great events that you can attend for free! If anything catches your eye, simply get in touch by emailing skillslaunchpad@plymouth.gov.uk, or texting 07917 264736.

## **Upcoming Events**

#### **Sector Drop-in Sessions**

For anyone interested in the construction and built environment, or the health and care sectors, Skills Launchpad Plymouth hosts weekly sector drop-in sessions. Join our experienced sector coordinators for practical advice and guidance, and to discuss the latest skills, training, and job opportunities.

When: Tuesdays

Where: Frist floor of Barclays, city centre Time: 10am to 3pm

## University of Plymouth Open Day

Get a taste of university life and see the courses that are available to you. You will get to talk to lecturers, attend talks around student finance and explore the student village and campus.

When: Saturday 18 November

Where: Plymouth, PL4 8AA Time: 9am-3.30pm

Click here to register and attend.

#### City College Plymouth-Open Day

Want to improve your job prospects, start on a new career path, or develop different skills? City College Plymouth has lots to offer. Explore their adult education offer.

When: Saturday 4 November

Where: Kings Road, Plymouth, PL1 5QG Time: 10am-1pm

Click here to register and attend.

#### **Access Creative College**

Are you interested in the gaming industry? Or the music industry? Access Creative College have some great creative courses that can pave the way for working in the industry. They have both open days and taster days to showcase the variety of courses that they have on offer.

Click <u>here</u> for upcoming dates.

Information and images sourced from https://www.skillslaunchpadplym.co.uk/



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# The Sailor's Friend - Aggies

If you are interested in booking onto any of these events, please contact the details on the relevant poster. If you would like to book onto wreath making, you can book directly <a href="here">here</a> for Radford Centre or <a href="here">here</a> for Crownhill













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### **Community Conversations**

#### How it works

Our friendly experts will share helpful fire safety tips to keep you safer in your home and community. We'd also like to hear about anything else fire service related that's on your mind, and ask your opinion about ideas we've got too.

- Listen to seasonal fire safety advice from a fire service officer.
- Ask your questions about fire concerns.
- Tell us what you think about our ideas.
- · Bring drinks and biscuits!

•

The event will take place on Microsoft Teams and will last an hour. We'll start with a 10-minute presentation on seasonal fire safety advice, followed by a general discussion and question and answer session.

Our next event is on Thursday 23 November at 12-1pm on winter safety.

# Take part

# Join the meeting here

These events are free to attend and are for anyone who lives or works in Devon or Somerset. It doesn't matter what your background or experience is, whether you represent an organisation or are speaking as an individual, you're very welcome. Is there something you'd really like to find out about? Share your questions in advance by emailing <a href="mailto:PressOfficer@dsfire.gov.uk">PressOfficer@dsfire.gov.uk</a>
If you're having a problem joining, please call us on <a href="mailto:01392.719999">01392.719999</a>.

Information and images sourced from https://www.dsfire.gov.uk/safety/home/community-conversations



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#### **Veterans Hub Bingo**

Our monthly Bingo sessions are run by our new Event Coordinator, Jo.

Bingo is always held on the first Wednesday of the month, located at Honicknowle Youth Centre, it is easily accessible for all, with ample free parking.

For the wonderfully low price of just £1 for 3 games, you have the chance of winning yourself the highly coveted prize of a box of Dairy Milk!!

There's plenty of fun and laughter, this is a friendly and welcoming group, so pop along and grab yourself a cuppa before eyes down at 6.

### Veterans Hub Fish and Chip Evenings

Our monthly fish and chip evenings are extremely popular. On the third Wednesday of each month, we invite you to join us at Ernest English House for a delicious meal of fish and chips. The food is ordered and collected from Harbourside Fish and Chips which are based on The Barbican.

We have a maximum capacity of 40, which unbelievably, fills up EVERY month. Due to this, we do unfortunately, have to turn people away. With this in mind, we ask that if you plan on attending a fish and chip evening, you book with the Hub by the 7th day of the month in which you intend on joining us. This gives us enough time to get our orders together and across to the Harbourside chefs so they can ensure they have enough food for us.

A £5 per person payment is required at the time of booking.





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1st Cardiff Christmas Market £18



6th Christmas Bingo £1



7th Veterans Carers Support Group £0



8th Dec Veterans Carol Service £0



15th Dec Brew and Banter Lunch £12.50



22nd December Theatre Royal Panto £22\*

\*Max 2 tickets per household

Pre-booking is essential for all activities.

We are happy to assist you to spread payments, please call and see how we can help.

01752 241057

vfhub@improvinglivesplymouth.org.uk







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# Pop-Up Choir

We are forming our first ever pop-up choir to sing at our annual Carol Service. The choir will get together for the first time on Wednesday 22nd November, this will be the first of 3 meetings, before performing at the Carol Service on Friday 8th December. The choir is open to all ages, no experience necessary. If you'd like to be involved, please contact the hub.

















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# **Thursday 9th November**

1st Crownhill Beavers have once again invited us to join them for a Hero Hunt at Plymouth War Memorial on Thursday 9th November. During the evening, the young and old will get together to look at the memorial and think about those who have and are still fighting for our freedom. We would love as many of you as possible to join the children in finding certain names on the memorial and talking about what they think the memorial stands for. We will be at the memorial for about an hour, before heading to Ernest English House for hot chocolate, hot dogs and cakes.

#### Service of Remembrance

City College Plymouth have invited Plymouth Veterans and Family Hub to join the on Friday 10th November in a Service of Remembrance.

The college will be providing refreshments on completion of the service.

If you can attend, we, as a Hub, would be grateful if you could wear your medals and berets so others can be as proud of you as we are.



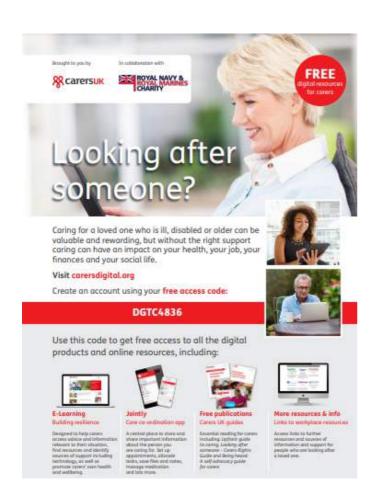


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## Support for Carers

Do you know what is on offer to help support unpaid carers in their caring roles? Would you know who or where to turn if something in your caring role changed? Why not pop along to the Crowne Plaza on 23rd November, you will find different services aimed at supporting carers and their cared for. Plymouth Veterans and Family Hub will be there to let you know how we can help and support you. There will also be the opportunity to have your NHS hearing aids serviced, view demonstrations of aids specifically related to visual and hearing sensory needs.

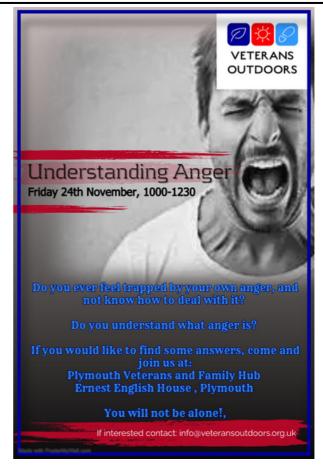


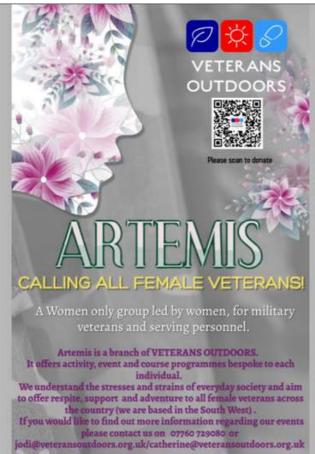
















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#### Events November 2023 -April 2024

Saturday 04 November 9-11am Breakfast at Drakes Kitchen, Plymouth University (Added Extras)

> Saturday 18 November 9-11am Breakfast Venue to be conj

Saturday 02 December 9-11am Breakfast at Drakes Kitchen, Plymouth U

Saturday 16 December 9-12am Festive Breakfast at Drakes Kitchen Plymouth University

(Added Extras) Festive hats and jumpers very welcome Saturday 06 January 2024, 9-11am

Breakfast at Drakes Kitchen, Ply

Saturday 20 January 9-11am Breakfast at Drakes Kitchen, Ply

Saturday 03 February 9-11am

Saturday 17 February 9-11am

Breakfast at Drakes Kitchen, Ply

Saturday 02 & 16 March 9-11am

Saturday 06 & 20 April 9-11am

\*\*A Sunday roast and Curry & Bingo Night planned for early 2024

Any questions, please contact us: 07568 148685 nsBreakfastClub@outlook.com

afybc. AXMED FORCES & VETERANS
BREAKFAST CLUBS





#### HOW CAN WE HELP?

We're here to support over 50s in our community to love later life with dignity and independence. Our free and friendly counselling service is here to help Veterans access the support they need to build and maintain good mental health.

This flexible eight week programme supports people living with a range of challenges to their mental wellbeing including PTSD, low level depression and social isolation

Our fully qualified, independent counsellor will guide and reassure you through your journey to better mental health, at your own pace and with full confidentiality.

#### WANT TO TALK? WE'RE HERE TO LISTEN

Face to face counselling for individuals through a series of regular free sessions in a comfortable and confidential environment.

Explore new possibilities, and enable the opportunity for change at your twn pace.

INDEPENDENT. CONFIDENTIAL. **GET IN TOUCH...** 



and confidence to self-manage the challenges you face

Set and achieve your own goals

Meet others, share experiences and learn new coping strategies

# Are you living with a **Long-Term Health** Condition?

Would you like to achieve a better quality of life?

Why not sign up to our FREE 4 week, half-day workshops:

# My Health, My Way

2024 Workshops Afternoons for 4 weeks 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm ILP, 156 Mannamead Road, Plymouth,

> 10th to 31st January 6th to 27th February 4th to 25th March 3rd to 24th April 8th to 29th May 4th to 25th June

**REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED** 

Call us on: 07305 006522 self-management@improvinglives plymouth.org.uk www.improvinglivesplymouth.org.uk















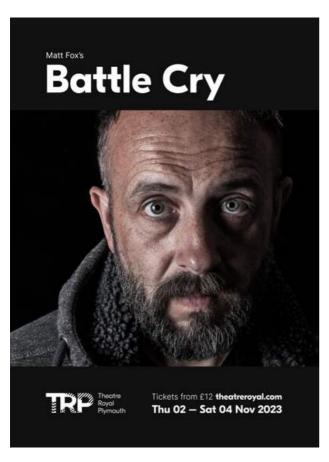








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November 2023 Devon

"We are Sport in Mind – the charity that uses sport and physical activity to improve the lives of people experiencing mental health problems". Our sessions take place every week, all year around. To find out more about sessions near you, check out our Activity Map on sportinmind.org or contact Claire on 0118 947 9762!

Tai Chi  Table tennis & Badminton	Tom 5 Mike	The Mint Methodist Church Centre Fore St. EX4 3AT (in the Epworth Room)  Riverside Leisure Centre, Cowick St. Exeter, EX4 1AF
230		Riverside Leisure Centre, Cowick St, Exeter, EX4 1AF
200 Tai Chi	less	The Moorings (Crisis Cafe) Wonford House, Dryden Rd, Exeter EX2 SAF
		2.00 Tai Chi less

Mon	130-230	Men's Badminton	Brendan	Plymouth Life Centre 40 Mayflower Dr. PL2 3DG (Sports Hall)
Tues	230-3.30	Men's Tennis & Pickle Ball	Paul & Harry	South Devon Tennis Centre, Erme Playing Fields, Ermington Road, Ivybridge PL21 9ES
Thurs	130-230	Men's Table Tennis	Martin & Russ	Plymouth and District Table Tennis Club, 11 Desborough Lane, Desborough Road, St Judes, PL4 9PJ











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### What's On November

Wednesday 1st - Bingo - Honicknowle Green Youth Centre - 17:30 - £1

Thursday 2nd - Woollcombe Yonge Legal Clinic - Vets Hub pre booking needed

Thursday 2nd - Unpaid Carers Support Group - Ernest English House - 13:30 - 15:00

\*\*Friday 3rd - Brew and Banter -Union Rooms Wetherspoons 10:30 -12:30 prices start at £2.50

Saturday 4th - Armed Forces Breakfast Club- Drakes Kitchen- 09:00 -11:00

\*Monday 6th - Age UK Walking Football - Harpers Football Centre - 14:00 - 15:00 £2

\*Tuesday 7th - Veterans Sticky Bun Morning - Age UK Mount Gould 10:00 - 12:00- £2

Thursday 9th - Stand Easy - Southway Youth and Community Centre - 09:30 - 12:00

Thursday 9th - Hero Hunt with 1st Crownhill Beavers - Hoe War Memorial - 4:45 - 18:30

\*\*Friday 10th - Brew and Banter -Union Rooms Wetherspoons 10:30 -12:30 prices start at £2.50

\*Saturday 11th - Veterans Brunch - Age UK Mount Gould- 10:00 - 12:00- £5

\*Monday 13th - Age UK Walking Football - Harpers Football Centre - 14:00 - 15:00 - £2

\*Tuesday 14th - Veterans Sticky Bun Morning - Age UK Mount Gould 10:00 - 12:00- £2

\*\*Tuesday 14th - Podiatrist - EEH - By appointment

\*\*Wednesday 15th Fish and Chips evening - 17:00 - 19:30 - Vets Hub, must book in advance- £5

\*\*Friday 17th - Brew and Banter - Union Rooms Wetherspoons 10:30-12:00 prices start at £2.50

Saturday 18th - Armed Forces Breakfast Club - venue tbc - 09:00 -11:00

\*Monday 20th - Age UK Walking Football - Harpers Football Centre - 14:00 - 15:00 - £2

\*Tuesday 21st - Veterans Sticky Bun Morning - Age UK Mount Gould 10:00 - 12:00- £2

\*\*Friday 24th - Brew and Banter - Union Rooms Wetherspoons 10:30-12:00 prices start at £2.50

\*Sunday 26th - Veterans Brunch - Age UK Mount Gould - 10:00 - 12:00 - £5

\*Monday 27th - Age UK Walking Football - Harpers Football Centre - 14:00 - 15:00 - £2

\*Tuesday 28th - Veterans Sticky Bun Morning - Age UK Mount Gould 10:00 - 12:00- £2

Thursday 30th - Stand Easy - St Budeaux & Barn Barton Wellbeing Hub - 09:30 - 12:00

\* Cost payable

\*\* Booking Required









