

## Age Concern Hampshire honoured the heroes of D-Day

Tuesday 2 July, 2024

Age Concern Hampshire paid tribute to the heroes of D-Day, through a series of commemorative events at their Care and Wellbeing Centres, Hospital to Home Wards, and wellbeing services. The celebrations offered an opportunity for reflection, gratitude, and community support, allowing attendees to honour the bravery and sacrifice of those who served 80 years ago.

During an event at Petersfield Community Hospital, supported by Age Concern Hampshire's Hospital to Home Services, patient Eric "Pony" Moore, a 108-year-old war veteran, recounted his wartime experiences. Affectionately known as "Pony," Eric shared personal stories from his time as a Second World War veteran. Serving in the army, he spent time in Palestine at an RAF dental hospital and held the rank of Lance Corporal during his eight-year stationing in Egypt.

The Petersfield Royal British Legion also participated in the celebration at Petersfield Community Hospital, enjoying tea and cake with staff, volunteers, and patients. Additionally, the event welcomed a visit from Jo Gray from Shine Radio, who conducted interviews with patients, ensuring that their stories were not only heard but also honoured and respected during the commemoration.

"We were honoured to commemorate the heroes of D-Day across a series of events," said Helen Callen, CEO of Age Concern Hampshire. "These events not only allowed us to pay tribute to the incredible bravery and sacrifice of our veterans but also provided an opportunity for our community to come together in solidarity and gratitude."

At the charity's Care and Wellbeing Centres, the celebrations continued as clients and staff paid tribute to the heroes of that momentous day. Engaging in activities and joining together in moments of reflection, participants honoured the courage and selflessness of those who fought for freedom eighty years ago.

Founded in 1985, Age Concern Hampshire provide services to the older community of Hampshire. The charity currently deliver support at their Care & Wellbeing centres throughout the county, as well as Help at Home, Information via their Information Hub, Foot care clinics, Hospital to Home Services, Community Information Volunteer Services and a variety of other activities.

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