# About the Project

Folk Like Us provides free support and advice to people over the age of 55, living in the borough of Southend who are experiencing loneliness and isolation.

#### Folk Like Us aims to address:

- Older people in Southend feeling • isolated because they can't participate in local social or community activities. This could be due to poor health, lack of confidence, transport issues or just not knowing what's available.
- Older people feeling disadvantaged because they can't easily access information which could lead to an improved quality of life.

### Benefits to members include:

- Having more confidence to access ٠ services and social groups.
- A decrease in isolation and loneliness.
- Improved access to information in a way that suits them.
- Learning new IT skills, e.g. using smartphones and the internet.

"I have been a widow for three and a half years after 43 years of marriage. I can be at home and not see or speak to anyone for days. There is such a loneliness after losing your partner and no longer working or being in the middle of family life. Thank you - 'Folk Like Us' has helped me become 'me' again!" Annette - Folk Like Us member

# The Community Support Team



The Folk Like Us Team have 30+ years combined experience working with and supporting the community of Southend. Compassionate and friendly, they are always willing to help.

Anthony Quinn - SAVS Deputy CEO Heather Ward - Project Support Co-ordinator Lee Bagnall - Community Support Team Lead Paul Blackburn - Community Support Team Sarah Bower - Community Support Team

## Get in Touch

**Turning Tides Team** SAVS Centre 29-31 Alexandra Street Southend-on-Sea **SS1 1BW** 



Phone: 01702 356070 Web: www.savs-southend.org/turning\_tides Email: turningtides@savs-southend.co.uk Twitter: @Turning\_Tides





SAVS





Folk Like Us: Breaking Loneliness & Isolation for over 55s

01702 356070 turningtides@savs-southend.co.uk

A project of Southend Association of Voluntary Services **Registered Charity: 1063655** 

# The Folk Like Us Hubs

Anyone can drop into our Hubs whether they are a registered Folk Like Us member or just a member of the public seeking information.

Hubs are places that you can come to:

- have a chat with the team
- meet other people
- learn about local services and support
- get involved in one-off special days

Speak to us to find out more and how you can be involved!

#### 1. Central Hub Open Monday - Friday 10am - 2pm SAVS Centre, 29-31 Alexandra Street, SS1 1BW

2. Shoebury HubOpen Mondays 10am - 2pm151 West Road, Shoeburyness, SS3 9EF

**3. Muddy Hub** Norwich Avenue, Southend and Edwards Hall, Eastwood

**4. Sandy Hub** Open during summer months East Beach, Shoeburyness

# **Connect Events**

Connect Events are run every 3 months. Members are invited to come along and hear from guest speakers covering a variety of subjects, e.g. health, local history, fraud avoidance.

This is a fun way to meet other members and share experiences. Lunch is provided and activities like quizzes or raffles are often part of the event.

### **Home Visits**

We know that some older people are housebound through mobility or health conditions and are not able to visit the Hubs.

Our Team Leaders provide home visits to those who are unable to leave their house, ensuring that Folk Like Us support is accessible and inclusive to all. Call us on 01702 356070 to book a visit.

### **IT Support**

Technology moves fast and it can be difficult to keep up with how things work, especially if you are not used to using computers and mobile devices. Our team offer IT training and support both in the home and at our Hubs. We can offer support for mobile phones, computers and tablets. Sessions are free but booking is required.

