ILC Friday three - 25 August 2023

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International Longevity Centre UK

Latest news

ILC Friday three

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- "Longevity and..." - a series of joint IFoA and ILC webinars

Solution of the week - a culture pass for 18-year olds



The latest ILC Europe Network newsletter tells of this Summer's initiative by the German government means people turning 18 in 2023 can receive €200 to be spent on a variety of cultural activities. The "Kulturpass" app allows people to register and receive money to spend it on activities including museum visits, films, theatre, and concerts, or on items such as records, books, and musical instruments.

The money must be spent "locally" and excludes large sales platforms streaming and subscription services, like Amazon or Spotify. One-time large purchases in Germany are also limited, which would disallow the post-exam results rite of passage for the 200,000 plus young people heading to Reading or Leeds music festivals in the UK this weekend. But these limitations to the "Kulturepass" encourage young people to discover more of their local cultural offer, such as smaller bands, independent cinemas and art galleries.

scheme last year and, according to the Spanish government, 57.6% of all those who turned 18 in 2022 registered for the €400 culture voucher. France also introduced a €300 culture pass for 18-year-olds in 2021. In the first year alone the pass was downloaded by over 750 thousand teens providing a €225 million investment over two years for French culture and its popularity led the Macron Government to introduce a mini pass for 15 to 17-year-olds. Italy's scheme introduced in 2016 is the most established and generous, with a €500 culture bonus for 18-year-olds.

All too often, it feels that we are existing rather than living. So, the introduction of a similar scheme in the UK would not only provide a much-needed post-pandemic boost to the creative industries but perhaps also inspire thousands of young people currently facing uncertain futures.

For more information on ILC's Europe Network and to sign up for further ideas and stories from our European neighbours see here.

What do you think? We are collating ideas into a Longevity White Paper which will be launched at our Future of Ageing Conference on Thursday 7 December 2023. Do you have better ideas? Let us know via the button below.

LET US KNOW

Being needed - fulfilling the potential of mutual relationships



Encouraging and promoting improvements in the care of older people is long-standing, helping society move on from the dark days of the Victorian workhouse. More enlightened times have seen the emphasis shift to person-centred adult social care, with great and acknowledged benefits. But focus on the individual as a collection of needs to be met by carers can have its own problems: one-way care can be disempowering, re-enforcing assumptions about frailty and lack of autonomy for the older person on one hand, coupled with depersonalising carers as never-ending providers on the other.

recognising that in the home, family, and society most people are interdependent, expecting and requiring to both give and receive care. This mutuality promotes self-worth, a sense of life meaning, and a feeling of being still part of the community (whether that be in a residential or daycare setting).

The concept itself is not new – in fact, it's millennia-old – but studying and explaining how it works and feels has only recently happened. Now, seminal research from the Open University: The value and practice of relational care offers not only an analysis and definition of the concept, but also the basis for an accessible practitioners' toolkit: Making every relationship matter for providers and professionals as well as a forthcoming OpenLearn course.

This is an overarching approach that demands shifts in attitude, but relatively modest changes in the physical and organisational environment to create a purposeful focus on relationships. In return, it brings improved wellbeing for all concerned, with older people enabled to contribute and re-experience self-worth; and an increased sense of value and involvement for carers. Further, with better retention rates, investment in recruitment can be diverted to improved staff conditions, creating a beneficial circle.

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"Longevity and ..." - three challenges faced by ageing populations



Over the last year, the ILC organised a series of three webinars with the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries (IFoA) to explore the role of longevity in the greatest policy challenges we face as an ageing population. These were:

Longevity – the missing link in the climate change debate?
Climate change and ageing are arguably the two most important and pressing issues facing the world today. Both require visions for the long term and an urgent interconnected and collaborative approach. If we don't start addressing both together, real threats and inequalities in healthy ageing and environmental impact will

the lifespans of both us and our planet will be greener, healthier and longer".

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Pandemics and longevity: Will we die, survive, or thrive next time?
In March 2023, the IFoA and ILC held the second of their webinars looking at the relationship between the pressing challenges of today and longevity. A range of experts including Anjana Ahuja, Science Commentator at the Financial Times, and Bath University's Dr Kit Yates, author of The Maths of Life and Death explored the lessons learned during the Covid-19 pandemic and whether our ageing populations were now better prepared for the next one.

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Pensions and longevity: Provision for an ageing population
As the UK population continues to age, albeit more slowly than previously, can our pensions system properly support us in the years to come? In June 2023, a range of experts including John Cridland, the first independent reviewer of the State Pension age (2016-17) and Sir Steve Webb, former Minister of State for Pensions, explored this and other burning pensions issues in the third and last of the series of joint webinars.

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To keep up-to-date with ILC events throughout the year, please continue to check our website on a regular basis.

Future of Ageing 2023 takes place on Thursday 7 December. If you haven't got your ticket yet, please register here.

Please follow us on social media via the links below for our latest news and event updates.

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