

DON'T BE FOOLED

During the COVID emergency - there's been plenty of offers of help for Pensioners. Most are genuine, but it's a sad reflection of our times that some try to take advantage of others their own gains.

Police have warned of an increase in the on-line fraud. Many of us have seen an increase in the nuisance calls warning of "problems with your Computer", etc

Be on your guard. If you don't KNOW the caller, hang up don't let yourself be fooled!

Be 'extra careful'

BEWARE THE SCAMMERS

Police sources have reported that there's been a considerable increase in the number of reported 'SCAMS' with cases of gullible citizens being conned into parting with their life-savings and investments. You can avoid it happening to you if you follow some very simple rules

What you should DO

- If someone offers to do your shopping, no matter how close a friend, ask them to get a receipt so you can pay them to cover the cost of the items.
- Pay people by bank transfer instead – if you aren't sure how to do this, ask your bank for help.

If someone claims to be from a recognised organisation - Bank, or utility service Building Society) -

don't be afraid to ask to see proof or check with the organisation.

- Don't be bullied. One common 'scam' of late has been the telephone call saying your phone/computer wi-fi/television is going to be cut off unless you make an immediate payment. Don't believe them. Hang up!
- NEVER give your bank details anyone. Genuine callers (Banks or utilities) will NEVER ask for them

What did YOU do during Lockdown?

Many of us found something interesting to keep ourselves occupied during the lock-down. The good Spring & Summer weather was just right for those who enjoyed walking. Others were happily totally immersed in the Garden.

I make up regular Pub Quizzes for charity and had one ready for 9th April (for Motor Neurone Disease Research). When that was cancelled, I sent it out just for fun to the teams that had registered. Eight rounds of questions - one each day - with the answers the following day.

I sent it to 25 teams. All responded saying they enjoyed it. It gave me something to do so I did another - which led to another and another I ended up doing 8 quizzes - all with 8 rounds of 10 questions each. I ended up sending to 70+ teams.

When one of the recipients commented that I "should have charged" I put out an appeal for donations for Motor Neurone Research. We collected over £400 for Big Daddie's Fund.

HOW ARE YOU WITH QUIZZES?

Try these 10 questions - all are significant dates in the last 60 years. What memorable events happened in these dates ?

I've given some clues to make it easier (answers right)

No peeking at the answers first.

QUESTIONS

1. **2nd March 1960**
Do you remember when "The King" visited Scotland?
2. **25th May 1967**
They're tops in Europe
3. **20th July 1969**
It was a long way to go for such a short walk
4. **30th April 1975**
Cancel all our Protest marches
5. **29th July 1981**
Rejoice! At least we got an extra day off work
6. **11th February 1990**
He'd to wait 27 years for this day
7. **1st July 1993**
We three are now in Union
8. **9th October 2004**
When Sheena sang "A Man's a Man for a' that"....
9. **7th July 2013**
The big Scotsman was all set for it
10. **23rd June 2016**
Was this one of the blackest days in our history?

Keep fighting the Coronavirus

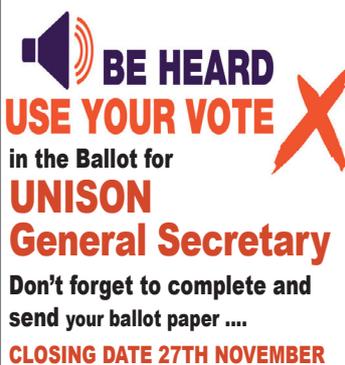
We've a long way to go to beat the virus. It will test us to the extreme, but if we stick together we can beat it!

Play your part ... Follow the rules

- Wear Face coverings (mask)
- Avoid crowded place
- Clean your hands regularly
- Stay a two-metre distance from others
- Self-isolate - book a test if you have symptoms

As we've said, it will test us, but we can do it if we work together.

By the way, don't be shy about reminding others - your kids or grandkids, friends and neighbours that they also have to follow the rules.



Contact your local Trading Standards office or Citizens Advice office to ask if an offer of help is genuine or not.

What NOT to do ...

- Don't feel obliged to accept an offer from someone who turns up on your doorstep.
- Don't feel pressured to accept help from a stranger.
- Don't hand over money to someone you don't know and who is offering to help you. Genuine offers of help for most things should be free of charge.
- Don't ask anyone you don't know well for help with financial matters.
- Don't give anyone your bank card, even if you are running low on cash.

This article hasn't been intended to frighten readers. but it should serve as a real warning.

Follow the advice shown here and you and your money and belongings should be as safe as houses. Treat all telephone or doorstep 'offers' with suspicion. Remember the old adage "If a bargain seems too good to be true it isn't!".

Visit the Age Concern Scotland website page for further information and advice. It has helpful Scam Prevention Information Guides available online - several dealing with dementia sufferers.

QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Elvis Presley touched down at Prestwick Airport
2. Celtic won the European Cup
3. The First Moon Landing
4. The End of the Vietnam War
5. The wedding of Charles and Diana
6. Nelson Mandela was freed from prison
7. NALGO - COHSE - NUPE formed UNISON
8. The Queen opened the new Scottish Parliament
9. Andy Murray won Wimbledon
10. The Brexit Referendum