

Befriending Forum Agenda

Thursday 16th 2019, 12.30-4.15pm
RVA, 3rd Floor, Reading Central Library, RG1 3BQ



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| 12.30 pm | Arrival Reception, lunch and the opportunity to say what you think are the burning issues around loneliness and social isolation in Reading – and to put a shout-out for partners, resources, expertise and volunteer vacancies. |
| 1 pm | Hello Welcome, introductions and sharing notices and good news. |
| 1.15 pm | Launch & workshop <u>Ready Friends Toolkit</u> Rhiannon Stocking-Williams will be launching this new toolkit for Reading, designed to inspire and encourage local action to reduce loneliness and social isolation. Hard copies of the toolkit will be available at the event in addition to the online version. |
| 2 pm | Learning / sharing Feedback from the working group (set up following the February Befriending Forum) on plans to celebrate, promote and share learning from local befrienders. |
| 2.15 pm | Break and networking |
| 2.30 pm | Film A short film about the Talking Buses project between Age UK West Kent and the Arriva bus company. |
| 2.40 pm | Discussion <u>Transport and its role in reducing loneliness and social isolation in Reading</u> Peter Absolon, GM of Readibus, will facilitate a discussion on identifying local need, capacity and gaps in supporting people to access events, services and their family and friends. |
| 3.45 pm | And finally Themes for future Befriending Forums and any other business. |

