



# Building a better community



A new community focused organisation, the Sale Square Mile, has been established recently to help residents to become more aware and involved in local activities and businesses.

The Sale Square Mile group came about after local residents and owners of care-at-home company, Home Instead, Alan Savage and Lucy Gill along with Rev Barbara Sharp of St Paul's Church, hosted a community event where 400 local residents donated a present for elderly people in the community. Lucy said "It was quite overwhelming for many to see. Have a look at the Sale Square Mile Facebook!"

Sale Square Mile monthly meetings are now held for people to meet, exchange ideas and listen to talks on local issues. A new website ([www.yourconnectedcommunity.org](http://www.yourconnectedcommunity.org)) which needs the community's input, allows organisations to publicise what they do on a directory or events calendar. There is also a 'Forum' for online discussions or 'blogs'. It allows residents to become more involved as users or customers of services but also as volunteers, employees or if they want to create their own community group!

On that theme, the Sale Square Mile will be supporting Rev Barbara to set up the St Paul's Community Choir which will start in June and allow locals to have a great time and meet others. 'Square Milers' have also voted to make Sale a 'Dementia Friendly Town' where, by giving advice and training to organisations and residents in the community, they will really be able to help people with memory loss issues continue to enjoy living in the community.

Alan said "It would be great to hear of organisations, families or local residents that want to be part of this special project. At Home Instead Senior Care we specialise in caring for people with dementia. Our caregivers benefit from a specialist dementia training programme developed in America and accredited by City & Guilds. So that we can all use the right techniques we also offer training & advice to client's families and also to organisations in the community."

If anyone in Sale wants to get involved in the Sale Square Mile, promote their organisation or any of the projects then go to the website ([www.yourconnectcommunity.org](http://www.yourconnectcommunity.org)) or **call/email Alan Savage on [alan.savage@homeinstead.co.uk](mailto:alan.savage@homeinstead.co.uk) or 07879 495 427**. To access the Home Instead training online then go to [www.homeinstead.co.uk/Family\\_Carer\\_Online\\_Training.do](http://www.homeinstead.co.uk/Family_Carer_Online_Training.do) .....**To help build a better community you're welcome to join the next meeting on 8th May, 12pm at St Paul's Church Hall, where we will be discussing how residents and businesses are going to develop a Dementia-friendly town, here in Sale.**



## Developing a Dementia-friendly town



**The people of Sale have recently demonstrated their caring side whilst joining together to help a local resident in need of support.**

Joanne Wallwork from Gascoigne Halman on School Road, first met the Sale resident in question, when she was enquiring about renting a property in the local area, she added, "The local lady had been living in a residential living facility whilst she was getting over a stroke but was now keen to downsize (her property) and move closer to the town centre.

"The lady seemed to have no-one to talk to and had no family or close friends. The fact that she was also less mobile, meant that she couldn't get out and about to chat to people and although an outgoing individual, it was quite clear she was feeling lonely and isolated.

**Joanne**

As part of Joanne's role as an estate agent, she was already aware of the types of services that were available in the area. She also had a close link with Hazel Kimmitt from Trafford Council's Stronger Communities project and the town's latest community group, Sale Square Mile, who she was contact with on a community level.

As a result, organisations from across the community came forward to offer their services and suggestions on activities that would allow the elderly lady to get out and about. One of the contacts Alan Savage, owner of local at-home care company, Home Instead Senior Care and also a member of Sale Square Mile, now provides companionship services to the local lady which will enable her to; visit the Light of Hope Centre for meditation & therapy, play a quick spot of Mecca Bingo, indulge in monthly afternoon teas and join local society & leisure groups.

**Sale**

Alan commented, "Joanne and other members of our community should be proud of themselves for going that extra mile, the support to this local resident has made a real difference to her life.

"Sale's not only a vibrant town to live and work but it also continues to harbour a strong community spirit. And as a community, it is so important that we share our knowledge of what is happening in the town and make others aware of the services that are available to them, in particularly older residents who often don't have access to this type of information. We hope that through regular Sale Square Mile meetings and the introduction of our new community website that we will not only be able to create an outlet for people to share information and opinions on Sale but also start to build a comprehensive 'What's on Guide' that people of all ages can access and contribute to."

Thanks to the following businesses which have shown their support and are willing to help the community including: The Salvation Army, Contact The Elderly, Trafford Housing Trust, Mecca Bingo and Home Instead.