

Prism

Pilkington Retirement Information and Support Magazine



Gala Girl

Maureen Goodwin shares her memories with us.

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Around the world in 10 weeks!

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Celebrating 200 years of Pilkington

06-07



Pilkington Family Trust

Visiting our overseas beneficiaries



Viv meeting the locals

Recently, I had the great pleasure of travelling to Australia and New Zealand to meet many of our beneficiaries and see first-hand the impact of our work. This visit was especially meaningful, as so many of those I met devoted 30 to 40 years of their working lives to Pilkington Glass, often staying with the company right through to retirement. Their loyalty, pride and commitment continue to inspire everything we do as a charitable trust.



Geelong

During the trip, I was fortunate to attend reunions in Geelong, Adelaide, Sydney, Brisbane and Dandenong, as well as Whangarei and Wellington in New Zealand. Each gathering was filled with warmth, laughter and a shared sense of history. It was truly a pleasure to meet so many beneficiaries in person. To listen to their wonderful stories and memories of working life, friendships formed on the factory floor and the changes they witnessed over the decades.



Adelaide



“ They are the heartbeat of our charity, and their commitment makes a real difference to the lives of those we support.”

I was also delighted to meet our incredible local co-ordinators and volunteers. Their dedication in planning these events, maintaining regular contact and ensuring no one feels forgotten is nothing short of remarkable. They are the heartbeat of our charity and their commitment makes a real difference to the lives of those we support.

Australia and New Zealand are a beautiful part of the world. Wherever I travelled I was made to feel genuinely welcome, I return home encouraged and motivated. I look forward to exploring how we can continue to support our

beneficiaries and reach out to even more past employees in the years ahead.

Finally, my sincere thanks go to Arthur and Virginia Johnson, our national co-ordinators, for their commitment, care and tireless efforts in making this visit such a success.

Here are a few snaps! I didn't spot any sharks! But I did manage to spot a of few native animals!

Viv

Viv Simon, CEO



Sydney

Wreath making, laughter and festive fun!

Beneficiaries from North Wales Rhuddlan Club attended a wreath making event in December.

This was hosted by Kate Jordan from The Craft Shed Flowers and was held in the Tweedmill, St Asaph. Kate demonstrated how to make the wreaths and talked everyone through it step by step.



It was inspirational to see how a group of people could be brought together to enjoy this event. Their presence made this event feel so special.

If anyone is interested in attending the Rhuddlan Club please contact Welfare Officer, Catherine Ainsworth on 07927 133709 and I will be happy to provide you with the details.

Everyone showed fantastic Christmas spirit! They all created something beautiful and there was a big applause at the end for the wonderful creations made. The workshop was followed by a delicious afternoon tea which guests thoroughly enjoyed. They all particularly loved the selection of cakes for dessert!



Knitting for fun

Brenda Weigh, beneficiary widow from St Helens, hadn't picked up knitting needles for over 40 years when she was asked to knit 2 baby's pram sets about 12 months ago. She enjoyed it that much she decided to continue knitting and crocheting. She has knitting pattern books for dolls, animals, figures etc and finds that knitting helps the arthritis in

her fingers, and reading and understanding the patterns keeps her brain active.

However, she now needs help with suggestions on where she can donate her knitted characters to. So if anyone can recommend a good home for them, please contact the office on 01744 414831 and we will pass your suggestions onto her.



William Devine 100th Birthday

William (Bill) Devine celebrated his 100th birthday in August 2025 and wanted us to let all his ex-colleagues know in Triplex, that he is still very much alive and kicking! If anyone knows Bill and would like to get in touch with him, please contact the office on 01744 414831 and we will pass your details onto him.



Brenda with her ever growing hobby!

Special Birthdays

Congratulations to those who celebrated extra special birthdays in 2025.

100

William Devine, St Helens, Merseyside, 100 on 8th August 2025

Myra L Smith, Lesmahagow, Lanarkshire, 100 on 3rd November 2025

Isabel Moffatt, Liverpool, Merseyside, 100 on 20th December 2025

101

Eva Jane Lewis, Parr, St Helens, Merseyside, 101 on 7th September 2025

Rose Gordon, Doncaster, South Yorkshire, 101 on 26th October 2025



Eva Lewis

102

Edith Thompson, Droitwich, Worcestershire, 102 on 7th July 2025

Dorothy Prescott, St Helens, Merseyside, 102 on 28th July 2025

Daphne Youdale, Tamworth, Staffordshire, 102 on 26th October 2025

103

Arthur Gee, Skelmersdale, Lancashire, 103 on 15th August 2025

Kathleen Harrison, Kirkby, Merseyside, 103 on 21st August 2025

105

Freda Fox, Doncaster, South Yorkshire, 105 on 24th December 2025

Anniversaries 2025 / 2026

Congratulations to the following couples who have celebrated or who are about to celebrate their special anniversaries.

65th Sapphire

Stella and John Cunningham
Eccleston, St Helens, 27/08/25

Paul and Brenda Ryan
Sutton, St Helens, 19/09/25

David and Freda Ward
Parr, St Helens, 09/07/25



Paul & Brenda Ryan

60th Diamond

John and Lynda Finney, Moss Bank, St Helens, 22/01/26

Richard and Marion Gelder, Much Hoole, Preston, 21/08/25

Alf and Pauline Hickman, Shotton, Deeside, 18/12/25

Jim and Valerie Lee, Tarleton, Preston, 30/10/25

Kevin and Joyce Lockhart, Abram, Wigan, 28/08/25

Dr Fred W and Marian McDowell, Orrell, Wigan, 11/09/25

John A and Olwyn Preston, Standish, Wigan, 20/02/25

Dennis and Lily Price, Billinge, Wigan, 20/03/25

Alan and Edna Rowland, Thatto Heath, St Helens, 18/09/25

John M and Margaret Sanders, Glascoed, Abergel, 23/10/25

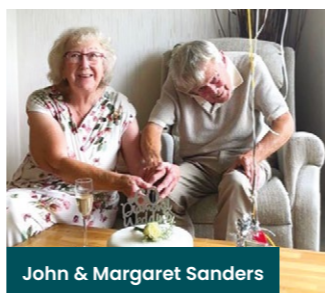
John and Carole Whittaker, Llysfaen, Colwyn Bay, 26/06/25



Richard & Marion Gelder



Alf & Pauline Hickman



John & Margaret Sanders

50th Gold

Raymond J and Beryl Jones, Wombourne, Wolverhampton, 02/10/25

Leavers

Sarah Johnson, Business Support Officer

Trish Toole, Kitchen Assistant, Ruskin Lodge

Pauline Middlehurst, Administrator, Ruskin Lodge

Stephen Wright, Team leader, Ruskin Lodge

Claire Owen, Team Leader, Ruskin Lodge

Denise Conroy, Team Leader, Ruskin Lodge

Staff changes



Jessica Garner
Business Support
Officer

Lily Mitchell
Administrator,
Ruskin Lodge



Karen Doran
HR and Training
Advisor

Joanne Hurst
Kitchen Assistant



Andrea Holden
Head of Human
Resources

Around the World in 10 weeks! ✈️

Ray Jennings a beneficiary from Ormskirk has kindly sent us his memories of going around the world with Pilkington in response to our article from Mick Moore in the last edition of Prism.

Ray advises, "In the Summer issue of Prism I found the 'Mick Moore Looks Back' article very interesting, particularly the final paragraph asking 'Do you have a story to tell of being sent around the world with Pilkington? If you do please let us know'.

visiting architect's practices at the drawing stage in the company of our representatives based at the various regional offices. One such representative was Jerry Dowling who was based in the Glasgow Office. He moved to Pilkington ACI in Australia and wanted to set up a similar operation in the Melbourne office.

I had the good fortune to be chosen to make the trip to train his Technical Advisory staff.

My pupils were an interesting team as it consisted of Australians of different original descents – Polish, Italian, Bornean and Indian. They were all keen to use the techniques and computer programmes we had developed for predicting air conditioning loads, daylight levels, noise and solar control measures.

The last part of the trip was a tour of the major cities by myself and Jerry, where I gave presentations to architects and building services engineers on the services that Pilkington ACI could now offer to help architects to choose and specify the best glazing solution.

The last presentation was in Perth, and from there I went on to New Zealand to give presentations (and a TV interview!) to architects on the advice and help from Pilkington that was now available in the Southern Hemisphere. As my return was from New Zealand, the Travel Department advised me that it would be just as easy to continue on heading Eastward and have



Yes I do, as in 1975 I was actually sent around the world – GB to Australia via Singapore, then on to New Zealand and back to GB via San Francisco. A 10-week journey of 2 months in Australia and two weeks in New Zealand.

My job at the time was that of an Environmental Engineer in the Environmental Advisory Service, giving advice at the design stage to architects, and air-conditioning engineers on how different glass and glazing types would perform in their buildings. We had developed various computer programmes to predict the performance of different glazing combinations but also spent a lot of time



my stopover in San Francisco – a genuine 'around the world trip with Pilkington'.

Later when I was in the Publicity Department, I had further business trips to America with various colleagues, visiting Seattle, Ohio, Dallas and New Orleans.

My claim to fame was, as a PR Manager, giving a 30-minute interview as a 'Pilkington Spokesman' on the John Dunne BBC Radio 2 Drive Time show about glazing related matters.

To my surprise I received a cheque in the post for £30 (which bought cake and wine for the department)."

Ray started work for Pilkington in 1965 and worked in the Daylight Advisory Service which was based in the UMBROC building in Sheet Works. UMBROC was its wartime code name as it was a Shadow Optical Factory making gunsights. He eventually became PR Manager in the Publicity Dept, which became part of Marketing Services and where he retired as manager in 1997.

Thank you to Ray for sharing his memories of travelling with work around the world. He is pictured then and now!

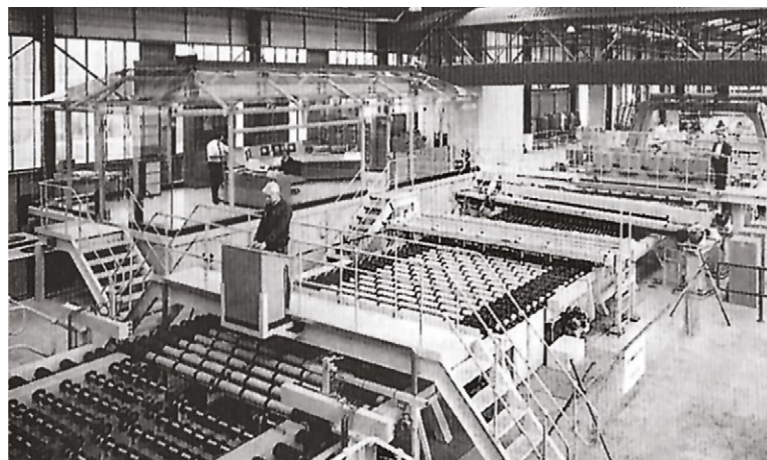
200 years of Pilkington

The Trust is Celebrating 200 Years of Pilkington Glass:
A Legacy of Innovation, Craftsmanship, and Community



For two centuries, Pilkington has been at the forefront of discovery—transforming glass from a simple material into a cornerstone of modern architecture, transport, engineering, and everyday life.

The company's pioneering **Float Glass Process**, introduced in the 1950s, revolutionised global production and cemented Pilkington as a world leader in its field. Whether in homes, skyscrapers, vehicles, or art installations, Pilkington glass continues to reflect the perfect balance of tradition and innovation.



1959
The float glass process is announced to the glass-making world.

But these 200 years are about more than industry. They are about **people**. Generations of skilled workers, local families, and dedicated communities have all contributed to the Pilkington legacy. Their stories, experiences, and memories are woven into the fabric of the company's success.

As we celebrate this remarkable anniversary, we want to honour not only the achievements of the company, but also the **unique stories** that make Pilkington Glass special.

1826

The St Helens Crown Glass company, one of many glassworks in the area, is founded.

This year marks an extraordinary milestone in British manufacturing history: **200 years of Pilkington Glass**. From its humble beginnings in St Helens in 1826 to becoming one of the world's most influential glass innovators, Pilkington has shaped the way we build, design, and experience our world.



2006

Pilkington plc is acquired by the NSG Group, a major player in the glass industry worldwide.

Share your fun and unusual Pilkington facts!

To mark this milestone, we are inviting our beneficiaries, supporters and everyone connected to Pilkington to join in the celebration.

Do you have:

- A quirky piece of trivia about Pilkington glass?
- An unusual historic fact passed down through family?
- A little-known story from the factory floor?
- A surprising place where Pilkington Glass has been used?
- A personal memory linked to Pilkington's history?

We would love to hear from you!

Your fun and unusual facts will help us showcase the richness of Pilkington's heritage and highlight just how far-reaching its impact has been – both locally and around the world.

How to contribute

Send us your fact, memory, or story by:

Email: enquiries@pilkingtonfamilytrust.com

Phone: 01744 414820

Post: The Enterprise Centre, Salisbury Street, St Helens, WA10 1FY

Please include your name and let us know if you're happy for us to share your contribution in our upcoming anniversary materials.

As Pilkington Glass celebrates 200 years of excellence, innovation, and community spirit, we look forward to commemorating this occasion with the **people who have been part of the journey**.

Your stories are the reflections that bring this history to life – just like the glass that has shaped our world for two centuries.

What does 200 years of Pilkington Glass mean to you?

We would love for you to send us one photo that represents what Pilkington Glass means to you. Your photo could be:



- Of a building or product featuring Pilkington glass
- A personal memory connected to Pilkington
- Something creative, fun, or unusual that reflects your experience

The photos you send will be used throughout the year at reunion events, in the Trust's calendar, and in *Prism*, helping us celebrate this historic anniversary together.

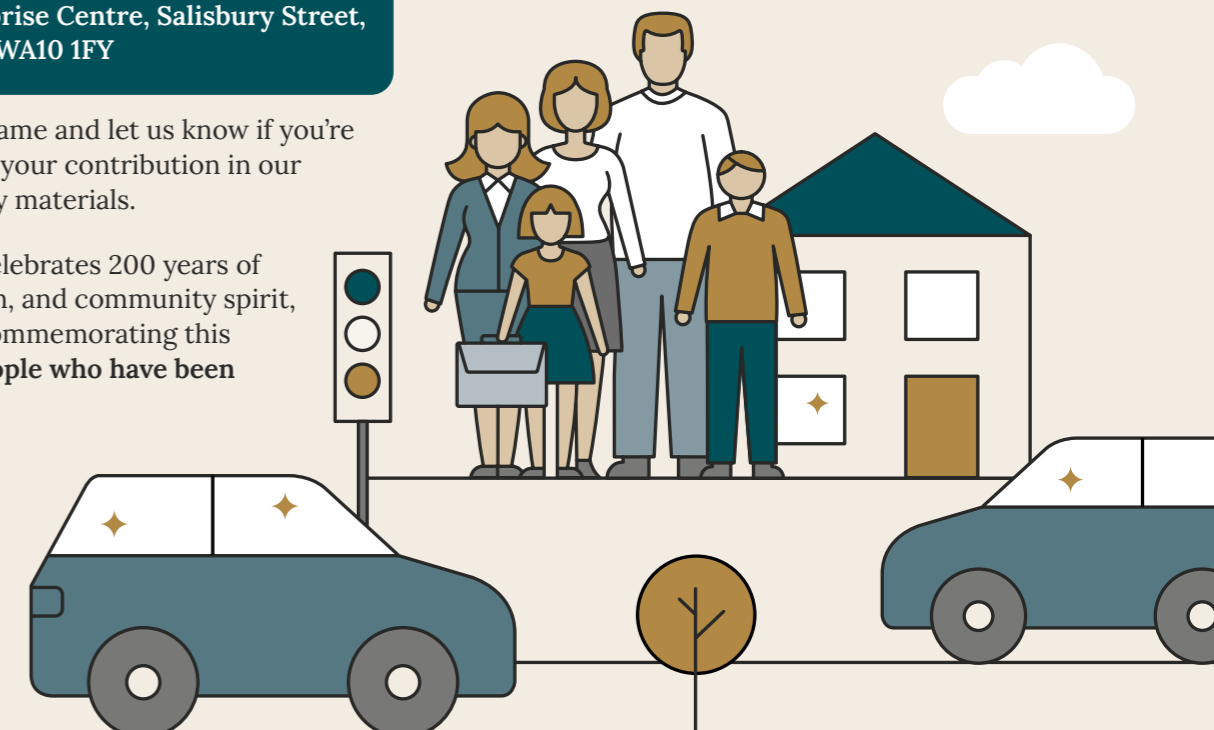
To mark this special occasion, Pilkington UK is offering a guided tour of its standard float glass production facility at Greengate – the only remaining Pilkington glass manufacturing site in St Helens.

Places are limited.

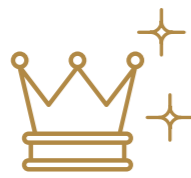
If you are interested, please contact us:

Phone: 01744 414820

Email: enquiries@pilkingtonfamilytrust.com



Gala Girl!



Maureen Goodwin (nee Williams) has very kindly sent some lovely photographs and details of her time as a Pilkington's Gala Girl in 1964.



Pilkington's Gala Queen, 1964

Maureen worked in the Jubilee Office in Sheetworks, St Helens for 5 years. A large proportion of her family also worked for Pilkingtons, including her father, uncle and aunts.

It was David, her then boyfriend, who persuaded her to take part in the Gala. The competition was held during a variety show at the newly refurbished Theatre Royal in St Helens. The judges were Lady Mavis Pilkington, Miss Sadie Warr, Mr J N Slater and Mr W H Darlington. All the contestants were asked to speak about themselves, hobbies, interests etc to the panel of judges.

Maureen was shocked when she was told she was the winner. She received 10 guineas (ten pounds ten shillings), two tickets to a show and a lovely meal at an upmarket restaurant in Altrincham.

Sir Harry Pilkington did the honours of placing the rather large(!) crown on Maureen's head.

David and Maureen are still together and will celebrate their Diamond Wedding Anniversary in 2026. They have 3 daughters, 10 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren. Thanks goes to Maureen's granddaughter, Nicola Johnston, for collating all the information and photographs for her nan.

Maureen and David were active members of the Pilkington Harriers and Athletic Club for 30 years.



Graham Milton and the Bristol Brigand



Graham Milton from Pontypool has kindly sent the Trust a photograph of when he was in the RAF. He is stood in front of a Bristol Brigand at RAF Leeming near North Allerton in North Yorkshire in 1948. He was part of the air and ground crew for the 228 OCU squadron (Operational Conversion Unit).

In brief, the OCU is a unit within an air force whose role is to support preparation for the operational missions of a specific aircraft type by providing trained personnel. OCU's teach pilots how to fly an aircraft, and which tactics best exploit the performance of their aircraft and its weapons.

The Bristol Brigand was a British torpedo fighter and light bomber developed late in World War II as a replacement for the Bristol Beaufighter, but arrived too late for the war. It was designed for anti-shipping strikes against Japan. It was built with a Centaurus engine and used in the Malayan Emergency in the early 1950s. However, the aircraft suffered from numerous defects, including cannon issues and propeller failures, leading to crews disliking it and ultimately

preventing it from fulfilling its potential. The aircraft was eventually retired in 1958 and replaced by the Bristol Buckingham.

Graham retired from Pilkingtons in 1985 after working in Pontypool and Pontyfelin for 34 years. He had many roles within Pilkingtons, including Cutting, Chargehand and Relief Foreman. Graham is pictured second from the left.

For those of you who like Trivia the Bristol Brigand name was reintroduced in 1982 but this time as a car!



Deaths

Below is a list of deaths for the period 1st July 2025 to 8th January 2026

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Adams, Lynn | Jackson, Alan George |
| Anders, Gerald | Jenkinson, Arthur Keith |
| Appleton, Dennis | Johnson, Kenneth |
| Ashton, Ernest | Johnson, Thomas |
| Baker, H J | Johnstone, J |
| Ball, A R | Jones, Gwyn |
| Beckett, Keith | Kenworthy, Ron |
| Berry, Derek T | Lamb, Kenneth |
| Berry, Peter | Large, Catherine |
| Blair, Andrew | Ledger, John |
| Bond, John William | Lever, William |
| Bretherton, Philip | Lloyd, Edward W |
| Brewer, Terence | Lyon, David |
| Brown, Allan | Manchester, Patricia |
| Burke, William | Manley, John Edward |
| Burkhill, Colin Michael | Martin, Frances |
| Carr, Alan | McFegan, William |
| Collins, Francis Brian | McNaught, Derek |
| Collins, H | Mellor, Leslie David |
| Cowie, H | Merryweather, Robin |
| Craig, John | Arnold |
| Davies, Arfon | Middlehurst, Edward |
| Davies, Michael John | Miller, Joan Olive |
| Dennis, Terence Sidney | Morroll, Stewart |
| Dimatteo, Filomena | Nightingale, Glen |
| Dunne, O F | Norton, Margaret |
| Dyas, John | O'Brien, Carol Ann |
| Essery, Joseph | Owen, Brigid Ethna P |
| Foster, Stanley | Parr, Brian |
| Gartside, Margaret | Potter, Margaret |
| Gibbons, Thomas | Power, John Kevin |
| Ginty, Terence | Prescott, James Joseph |
| Gittins, John Derek | Quinn, Bernard Joseph |
| Gleave, Alfred | Russell, Harvey J |
| Grant, Joseph | Said, A |
| Griffiths, Doreen | Sarjant, Freda |
| Hamilton, Charles | Side, Doug |
| Dixon | Sleath, Robert |
| Harris, John | Smith, Brenda |
| Henaff, Michael Albert | Smullen, Brenda |
| Henderson, Gordon | Stanley, Joseph |
| Henshall, James Robert | Stevenson, Patricia Ann |
| Hewson, Alan | Subramanian, Narayan |
| Hiles, C R | Tarr, Kenneth |
| Hill, John Francis | Thompson, Joseph |
| Hiscock, Eric | Vincent |
| Holmes, J | Thomson, J |
| Holstein, Thelma Stael | Turner, Terence |
| Hughes, Michael | |

Unfortunately, we can no longer report deaths along with the site information.

Sad News

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of **Glen Nightingale**, former Chairman of the Trustee Board and **Michael Davies**, former Board and Trustee member.

Glen joined Pilkington in 1962 as a Development Chemist, working on the relatively new float glass process. Throughout his career, he held a wide range of technical and production roles. In 1966, Glen was seconded to Canada for 3 years, as Works Chemist for the start-up of the Group's first overseas float line, SC2. Glen devoted an outstanding 52 years to actively serving the company and its retirees, leaving a lasting legacy of commitment and professionalism.



Glen Nightingale

Michael retired as treasurer of the Group having held a number of senior accounting and finance positions in the Group both in the UK and Australia, having come from Triplex. He chaired early versions of the Pilkington Family Trust Investment Committee. Many of the Trusts founding principles owe themselves to Michael's sound guidance; he was a significant contributor to the Trust and will be sadly missed.



Michael Davies

Kim Lympany apologies

In the last edition of *Prism* sent in July 2025 we incorrectly published that Mrs Kim Lympany had passed away. Sadly, we should have instead, reported the death of her husband Mr John Lympany. Both John and Kim worked for the Company for much of their careers and will be known to many of you. On behalf of both ourselves and the pensions team, we sincerely regret this error and wholeheartedly apologise for the distress caused to Kim, to their family and friends, and to our readers.

Please be assured we have reviewed this with the pensions team and are taking steps to ensure greater accuracy in our editorial process going forward.

Be aware and be smart

Consumers wanting to avoid financial fraud now have a secure and easy-to-remember phone number to contact their banks in order to avoid painful scams. It could prove to be the safest way for many to contact their provider if they have suspicions and concerns about their accounts, or even if they're struggling to find a customer services number.

Stop Scams UK and Global Cyber Alliance have launched the UK-wide 159 call service, which is designed to guarantee consumers a safe route to contacting their banks.

The scheme is urging people to "stop, hang up and call 159" to check calls are for real. The idea is to help those who believe they have been contacted by scammers claiming to be their bank, or by fraudsters who encourage them to transfer money.

Commenting on the new phone line, Martin Lewis, founder of MoneySavingExpert.com, said:

"Stop, hang up and call 159 is not enough. You can still be number-spoofed with the line being open.

The obvious thing that many people will do is to stop, hang up and call 159 back. But I'm afraid even that does not guarantee you safety, because sophisticated scammers can spoof a dialling tone so you think you're calling your bank – but the scammer provides a ringtone and an answer.

To be totally safe, dial 159 on another phone, or you could call a friend's phone first and if they answer 'Hello Barclays' you know there's a problem. Alternatively, you could wait half an hour and try 159 on the same phone. But you all have to be aware that these scammers are dedicated, talented and will stop at nothing to get your money – stay alert."

According to Stop Scams UK, criminal gangs stole over £470 million from individuals and small businesses last year by pretending to be a bank or other service provider, encouraging consumers to falsely make a payment or transfer money.



The Silver Line Helpline

The Silver Line Helpline is a free telephone service just for older people. They provide friendship and support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. www.thesilverline.org.uk



Are you or someone you care for living with dementia?

Currently Dementia UK are running a free online series that people can register for, to answer some of the questions that arise called 'Dementia: what next?'

When you or someone you are close to is diagnosed with dementia, it is natural to have lots of questions. Dementia UK know that many people receive little or no support after a dementia diagnosis. All too often, they struggle to know where to turn and are left feeling exhausted, overwhelmed and alone.

Dementia UK's new, free online series, called 'Dementia: what next?' is designed to help you learn more about dementia and the next steps you could take. Hosted by dementia specialist Admiral Nurses, the sessions will provide you with expert information and advice on topics frequently asked about. It can help you navigate the future with more confidence.

The programme covers:

Session 1

What is dementia? This includes types of dementia, common symptoms, maintaining wellbeing and medication for dementia.

Session 2

Financial and legal issues including, mental capacity, lasting power of attorney, benefits, paying for care and your rights.

Session 3

Planning for the future with information on care and support options, Health and Wellbeing, future wishes for health and care and mental capacity and decision making.

The sessions are for people who have been recently diagnosed with dementia and their families.

The sessions take place on Zoom from 10.00 am-11.30 am on the first three Fridays of every month and 6pm-7.30pm on the first three Tuesdays of every month. The sessions are repeated monthly. You are welcome to join any or all of the sessions in the same month or over several months.

Registering is online on the Dementia UK website under Information and Support-How can we help you- What Next?

Another initiative of Dementia UK as well as virtual clinics and the helpline they provide, are face to face clinics held at selected 200



Nationwide branches across the UK. The clinics offer free, face-to-face 45 minute appointments with an Admiral Nurse. Appointments are confidential and will take place in a private space within the branch. You do not have to be a Nationwide customer.

The appointments can be pre-booked on the website at a time and location that is convenient for you. Other people, such as family members, are welcome to join you.

Pilkington Family Trust employ their own Admiral Nurse, Gill Connor in St Helens, to support families living with dementia. She is also available to give advice to the Family Trust Welfare Officers.



More help is available on the Dementia UK website. www.dementiauk.org

Financial year 2024 to 2025

The C&A Pilkington Trust has continued to provide care and support to beneficiaries.

The total amount spent on services and support was

£4,000,000

in the financial year to 31st March 2025.



The income to fund expenditure is mainly generated by investments.

Independent living support in the home

26%

Direct contact with beneficiaries

11%

Overseas

4%

Support costs

22%

Donation

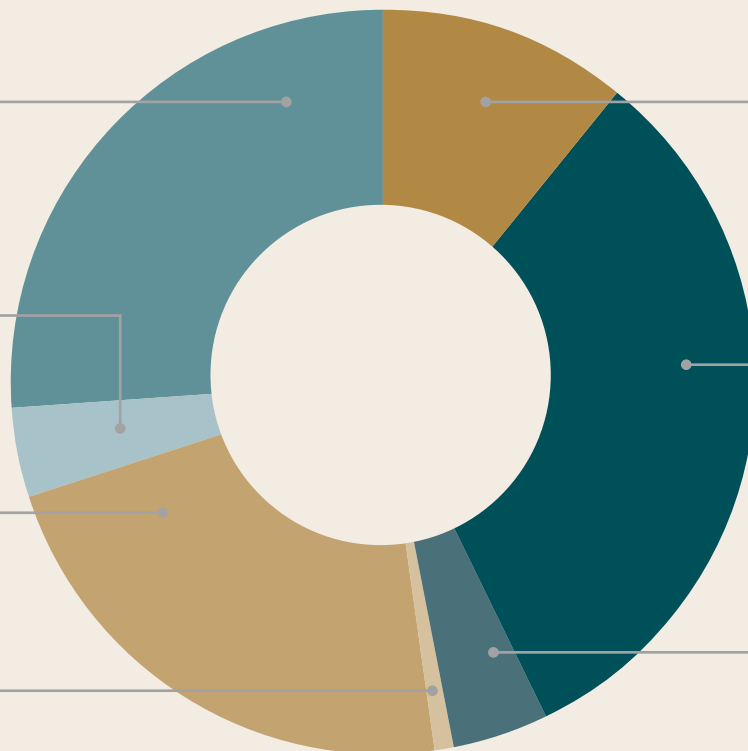
1%

Ruskin Lodge

32%

Day centre

4%



**Pilkington
Family Trust**

✉ enquiries@pilkingtonfamilytrust.com

☎ 01744 414820

📍 The Enterprise Centre, Salisbury Street, St Helens, WA10 1FY

The Pilkington Family Trust consists of the C & A Pilkington Trust Fund (Registered Charity No. 237623)

The Pilkington Family Trust is managed by Pilkington Retirement Services Limited, Registered Office The Enterprise Centre, Salisbury Street, St. Helens, WA10 1FY

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