



The Wise Owl

Issue: Sept 2006

Employers sacking older workforce prior to October Anti-Ageism legislation

STOP PRESS

➤ Lifelong Learning, Older People and Society seminars recommencing: Fri 22 Sept. Prof Alan Walker reports on 'New Dynamics of Ageing'. For more info and bookings (free) contact Isobel Woodliffe [by email](mailto:isobel@wiseowls.co.uk) or tel 0116 252 5914

➤ Big Peoples' Theatre / Station FM running Sunday acting course (six weeks) for 30s - over 65s at Garman Road, London N17 (no experience necessary). Tel Lorna on 0208 376 1919.



Wise Owls website has relaunched
... www.wiseowls.co.uk
for all the latest info

Middle Age and older workers are being fired so that companies can avoid dealing with the new Age discrimination law, according to the Citizens Advice Bureau. The new law will make it illegal to force workers to retire before they are 65 years old leading some companies to take action now.

Alongside the increase in calls from angry employees, has been the rise of claims made for unfair dismissal. Compensation for these claims are capped at £58,400, whereby claims under age discrimination made next month will be unlimited.



Older workers face being fired in lead up to law change

People and companies looking for evidence that those over 65 are capable of high standards of work need look no further than the recent centurion Buster Martin who continues to work as a plumber.

Older people make better workers than younger counterparts, claims survey

Younger people in their 20s are up to three times as likely to take a day off through sickness as their colleagues who are aged 50-plus, according to research undertaken by superstore Asda. 42 per cent of those



Hard working: Older workers are increasingly valued workers

people surveyed explained that they 'pulled a sickie' as a result of unhappiness rather than hangovers. People splitting up with boyfriend / girlfriend; pet death and servicing the were also cited as reasons to phone in 'sick'.

In a further blow to ageist attitudes, older workers also proved less likely to take time off with a cold or flu. Workers aged 60-plus were least likely to take a day off sick.

URGENT !!!

☐ On October 1st 2006 it becomes illegal to discriminate against anyone on the grounds of age in the workplace.

Check out Wise Owls' network of increasingly popular websites:
www.wiseowls.co.uk and www.enterprisingeastend.co.uk
Call the Wise Owls / Age Works / Enterprising East End teams on 020 8983 9716 or email: admin@wiseowls.co.uk