



### **Ageless Thanet**

The Pioneer Team attended the Ageless Thanet event on 4<sup>th</sup> September at St Georges School in Broadstairs to promote Room for Life and our new sister Scheme Home for Life. The event was well attended and had a huge variety of exhibitors from belly dancers and choirs to charities and a wide range of companies and providers. There were a range of talks held for people to find out more about the topics that were important to them and interactive sessions being held to give people the opportunity to try new things.

Home for Life aims to offer volunteers the same experience as Room for Life but in their own home rather than moving into one of the Room for Life Flats for 1 – 2 weeks. Like Room for Life, Home for Life gives volunteers the opportunity to start thinking about their older age and how they can live independently at home without having to rely on statutory services. Similarly to Room for Life volunteers will have the same opportunities to test and try a range of technologies but within their own homes and meet with an Occupational Therapist. Through conversations with project workers issues and concerns may be identified and the Menu of Services and general signposting can be used to identify organisations or activities within the community that can help with these.



The Pioneer Team had a room located just off the main exhibition area, in our area we put together mini stands to demonstrate the technology available for testing and trying as part of both room and home for life. Visitors were welcome to try the technology themselves, this included reminder watches, telecare equipment, such as the pendants, falls detectors and a mobile form of telecare equipment that works outside the home, monitoring systems and the star of the show our robotic hoover which drew a lot of interest from visitors. Overall Room and Home for life were very well received with people keen to

take away the information available on the projects and a number left their contact details for further information to be sent to them or to discuss the projects further.

Both Room for Life and Home for Life were received positively with many commenting on what a good idea they were, it is hoped from attending this event we have raised the profile of these two projects and hopefully will lead to us next volunteer.

If you would like further information on Room for Life or Home for Life or you or someone else you know is interested in taking part please contact:

**Email:** [roomforlife@kent.gov.uk](mailto:roomforlife@kent.gov.uk)

**Phone:** 03000 412626

**Website:** <http://www.kent.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/care-and-support/room-for-life>