

Citizen Advice Oxfordshire puts a call out for memorabilia and memories for their 80th anniversary

Citizens Advice was founded on September 4 1939, the day after WW2 broke out. 80 years later we are still helping people with complicated and stressful problems. The first Citizens Advice or CAB as it was known then, staffed by volunteers, operated on the underlying principle that the service should be “for the citizen by the citizen”.

Citizens Advice Oxford was one of the very first Citizens Advice offices to open. From 1940 – 41, Citizens Advice Oxford helped 1,780 people. Since then, the number of people we help and the complexity of issues have grown.

Last year, Citizens Advice offices across Oxfordshire provided advice to **24,500** people face to face, by phone, email or web chat.

This autumn, Citizens Advice will celebrate our 80th anniversary. We are asking people who have memories and stories of Citizens Advice to share them and let us know how the charity has helped them over the years.

“It’s quite something that having been here for everyone for 80 years, the service still remains free, confidential and impartial. This is more important than ever for people in such uncertain times. Our advice helps people get on top of the problems they face from benefits, tax credits, debt and employment issues to housing, broadband and utility bills. Whatever the problem, our dedicated and highly trained staff and volunteers do all they can to help people find a way forward. We are here for everyone and we will continue to help make things better.” **Jon Bright, Chief Officer of Oxfordshire South and Vale**

The charity would welcome any old photographs, stories or other memorabilia from the early days which people are happy to share. Get in touch about any items you would like to share by e-mailing communications@caox.org.uk.