

THEME 6: SOCIAL BUTTERFLY

I'm Torhild, nice to meet you!

I have always been very social and I like being around other people. Since my husband died two years ago I live alone in my own house so I'm visiting my friends all the time. Even though I'm already eighty. I visit the elderly centre almost every day to meet with others, play cards and have lunch together. It would be so boring to just stay home alone, so I rather go and socialise with others. I like to go there by bus and the good thing about it is that you often meet some of the neighbours already at the bus stop so you can catch up on the latest news in the neighbourhood.

I don't want to be only with one group of people as people often talk about the same

things over and over again. Sometimes I take the bus to the elderly centre a bit further away or take a course at the Open University to meet new people and discuss new things. Mostly I stay quite close to home because I can't walk long distances.

The phone is the most important technology I have in the house, because it gives me possibility to call my friends and it makes me feel secure as well. My children call me on a daily basis to check how I'm doing. I think it's really nice that we share our thoughts and have stayed close over the time. They still appreciate my musings even though I'm old. That's not the case for everyone.

” I attended a painting class once a week. It was a lot of fun, both the painting itself and hanging out with the other participants.



DESIGN DRIVERS KEEP THESE IN MIND

1. ENABLE SOCIAL CONTACTS ALL DAYS OF THE WEEK

For people living alone the weekends might become lonely. Create possibilities for socializing during quiet times as well.

2. THE SOCIAL BUTTERFLY AS CREATOR OF ATMOSPHERE

The social butterfly is nice to be around, she includes people in her network and is welcoming to newcomers. This ability can be turned into an advantage when arranging events or starting new groups.

