

## NEVER TOO LATE

Cindy was contemplating her life and now, in her 60's, couldn't help think that it had passed her by. Never married, always looking for a handsome Prince in shining armour on a white charger to whisk her off her feet. All she'd managed to attract was total wrongens in rusty armour riding clapped out donkeys!

Cindy loved her family but because she was the single one it always fell to her to do the 'family stuff'. Christmas lunch, family get togethers and, for the last 15 years, caring for her Dad and Step Mum. Her two half sisters were always appreciative but never had time to help. Cindy couldn't help but feel taken advantage of but didn't have the confidence to stand up for herself.

Still, there were two highlights in her mundane life. A weekly visit to the charity shop to find a treasure, a book or a bargain....and if she was honest, to sneak a peek at the lovely volunteer there - such a gentleman who always made time to say hello. Then there was the weekly afternoon Puzzle Club. All helped to have contact with the outside world and a provide a welcome break.

Rummaging around the Charity shop Cindy spied a pair of black low healed court shoes very similar to her current pair which were getting rather worn. After trying them on, sadly she decided they weren't quite right and after a shy smile and a quick wave at her favourite volunteer she started the walk home. Goodness me she thought, these roads are in a terrible state and so uncomfortable to walk on - she was tripping and stumbling all over the place! A call to the Council this afternoon she thought with gritted teeth, thinking of how much she paid in Council Tax.

It was only when she got home she realised she had one of **her** shoes on and one from the Charity Shop. Mortified and embarrassed she decided she'd have to find another Charity Shop as she would feel such a fool returning it and asking for her tatty old shoe back.

2 weeks later Cindy was playing Solitaire at Puzzle Club. Not many attendees this week and the ones that were there were playing Canasta in a group. Then, something caught her eye and she looked down to see what it was. She gasped as she realised the volunteer from the Charity Shop was on his knee beside her holding her tatty shoe!

"There you are - I've been looking for you, I'm Philip by the way"!

After hours of laughter and non-stop chat, Philip invited her to afternoon Tea. He picked her up in a beautiful white Rolls Royce saying "it's not far, I live in a penthouse flat in the old castle at the top of the hill".

Cindy smiled, thinking maybe there are Princes and fairy tale endings after all - those sisters are going to have to free up their diaries, it's my turn!