



MARIA'S STORY



Until her retirement two years ago, Maria (67 now) worked as a professional caregiver in a nursing facility for demented people. Apart from the satisfaction and joy she felt by helping people, she also thought her work was quite stressful as a result of the responsibilities and time pressure. When her husband was still alive they would do many pleasant things together, like visiting museums, cities with a rich history, theatres etcetera. Now, without him, she finds it difficult to go out on her own, so she restricted herself to gardening, knitting and other hobbies one can do without company. She would like to do some sports or go walking, but she lacks the right friends or mates to do that with. She is to a certain extent digitally literate, but ICT does not appear on her list of hobbies ...



Still, also in this case PaletteV2 appeared to be helpful: it was again the automatic matching facility that helped her to find peers who fancied walking and knitting, she even found a group of 60+ sporters who get together every Wednesday evening to play volley for a few hours and on Saturday morning to go running in the nice scenery around the small town where she lives. Her social network is expanding again since then.

After a while she was confident enough with the system to post calls for help, like the one in which she asked for assistance doing her annual tax report, which resulted in two responses from pensioners with a lot of professional experience who were happy to make once again good use of their skills.



A recent development was that Maria enlisted to an online course in financial administration, one that she found through the PaletteV2 search facility; she wanted to know more about the subject in order to organize her finances better than before. The funny extra here is that she goes to class with quite a number of young people, a group that supports each other by doing their homework together at the homes of the students. Maria will be hosting a session soon and looks forward to welcome these young adults in her home.



For Maria, the next age of her active life is just starting.