

Check it out, Gladys is still working at 90

CHECKOUT 'girl' Gladys Smith started her part-time job to get a bit of money together for Christmas.

Now, 22 years on, she has celebrated her 90th birthday and claims to be Britain's oldest till worker.

What's more, she has no plans to quit her two shifts a week at Sainsbury's.

'I hope to work for longer because it keeps my mind going – working is good for you,' said Mrs Smith, a grandmother of seven. 'The best thing about it is the cus-

By **Ross McGuinness**

tomers. I have my regulars and they are lovely.' She has worked in the same store in Basingstoke, Hampshire, since 1988.

'I needed the money to pay for Christmas presents and have been here ever since,' added Mrs Smith, who lost her husband, Will, 17 years ago.

She has seen at first hand the changing buying habits of the British public.

Chinese food has become a big seller and

wine, once thought of a luxury, is now a weekly purchase.

In her long working career, she has also had jobs with an undertaker, a publisher and a trade union.

Checkout team leader Niamh Fagan said Mrs Smith was a 'people person'. 'You would not think she was 90 because she is the life and soul of the party,' she added.

And deputy store manager Andy Pugh said: 'It is a massive achievement to be working at 90. She is our matriarch.'



Still going strong at 90: Supermarket checkout worker Gladys Smith
Picture: Solent

Institute of
Psychiatry **KING'S**
College
LONDON
at The Maudsley

Are you depressed?

Do you feel depressed or tearful most days?
Do any of the following apply to you?

- Trouble concentrating
- Run down and tired
- Changes in your sleep pattern
- No interest in doing things
- Changes in your appetite and weight
- Feelings of hopelessness about the future

If so, you may be able to take part in a new clinical research study looking at the differences in brain patterns between people with and without depression.

If you are not currently taking antidepressants, are aged between 25 and 65 years, and are right-handed, you could join us in this important research, taking place at the Institute of Psychiatry in London.

- You will receive antidepressant treatment during the study.
- You will have a full consultation with a qualified psychiatrist and undergo MRI brain scanning.
- You will be paid for your time and for travel expenses.

To find out more, please contact the study team, quoting study reference 'Metro'.

Telephone: 020 7848 5350

Email: reshma.kerai@kcl.ac.uk

Patient Advert, protocol number F1J-US-HMG0, version 2.0, dated 15 September 2009

new

Thornton's
melts

...deliciously melty

Try me for free...

Get your free Melts mini box, containing 3 delicious Melts chocolates, in Thorntons stores with this voucher.

Free Thornton's Melts Mini Box Offer Terms & Conditions: 1. This promotion entitles the customer to one free box of three Thornton's Melts chocolates. 2. Only one Melts mini box can be claimed per person. 3. Free Melts chocolates are only available in Thornton's stores and franchises. 4. Offer valid from Friday 5th March 2010 up to and including Monday 22nd March 2010. 5. Offer valid in the UK only. 6. Offer subject to availability. 7. Thornton's reserve the right to withdraw the offer at any time. 8. No purchase necessary. 9. This voucher is worth 0.001p.

MET001