

# Mindful of Investing in Retirement

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## the mature marketing experts



# Connecting with the 50-plus client

Avoiding clichés

Building better relationships

# Connecting with the 50-plus client

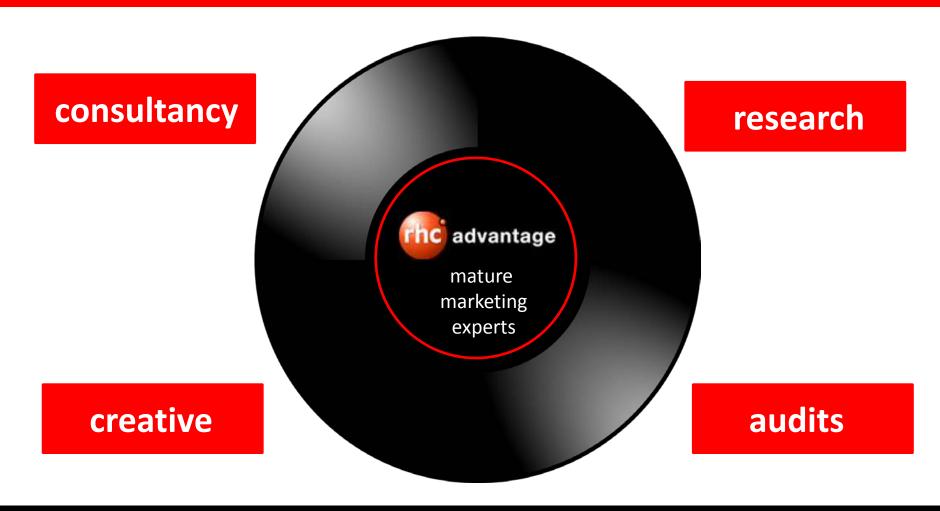
## What do we know?

- Demographics
- Economic
- Social
- Psychological
- Physical

## What could we do better?

- Planning
- Marketing Communications
- Digital
- Physical environment
- People

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# The Mature Marketing Association





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## The Mature Market Report

#### **Macro-environment**

- Demographic
- Economic
- Social & cultural
- Political & legal

#### **Marketing practice**

- Employment
- Marketing Planning
- Segmentation, targeting & positioning

- 300+ data & research sources
- 60,000 word document
- Presentation & seminar

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The Market Report

#### **Older Consumers**

- Income, wealth and expenditure
- Purchasing behaviour
- Attitudes to age and agein
- Attitudes to marketing

#### **Marketing Mix**

- The extended mix
- Marketing communications guidelines
- Digital

# **Demographics:** long-term structural change

More adults over the age of 45 than under 45 More people over the age of 65 than under 16 Massive growth in over-65s while under 65s static Over 65s: +1.1m in next 5 years Now: 'Baby Boomers' 4 + 50% next 20 years + 100% next 50 years Future: 'Seniors' From 17% - 30% of population

## **Economics:** impact of an ageing population



- Reduced output growth
- Expenditure peaks
- Savings & investment decline
- Smaller workforce, paying more tax
- Increased pressure on state
- Less state funding of pensions & care

- Inadequate provision for retirement (>33%)
- Private & state pension issues
- Poor return on savings & investments
- Health and social care funding
- Longer working life, equity release & entrepreneurship



## Economic behaviour of the over-50s

#### But...

1.6m people 65+ living on or below the poverty line (Age UK) The next generation of 45-64 year olds

will not be as well-off

35% of the population Income peaks at 50 70-80% of wealth 40%+ of expenditure Outspend younger age groups Mainstream and self-actualisation

# When do you stop being young?



# When do you start getting old?



## Social: old age is culturally unattractive

Old people seen as a burden, dependent, feeble, frail, inadequate, lacking in creativity & dynamism



"Ageism is now the most widely experienced form of discrimination in Europe." (Age UK report 2013)

64% think that age prejudice is a serious issue

# New stereotypes of older people



# New stereotypes of older people



## Old stereotypes? Social disruption



modernfamily



Traditional concepts of lifestage and family structure - increasingly irrelevant.

80% - non-traditional family set-up

## **Baby Boomers**



A "fortunate generation" (born 1946 – 1964) who have enjoyed dramatic improvements in living standards but are now "absorbing" more than their fair share of taxpayers' money – Bishop of London.

A set of circumstances which will not be replicated.

# Psychological ageing

## Are you talking to me?

Dislike of being defined, portrayed or targeted by age

**Increased diversity** 

#### Denial. I am not old!

Refuse to look, think, feel, behave or accept chronological age

The Psychology of ageing

The Happiness Curve Increased confidence, cheerfulness and optimism

#### Don't pigeonhole me!

Refuse to accept social stereotypes, assumptions and prejudice

#### I am an individual

I want to be defined by activities, attitudes, desires, interests, lifestyle and needs— not age

## Physical ageing

## **Physical ageing**

Inevitable – but varies by age & individual

#### Cognitive

Response, processing & retention of information

#### **Sensory**

Sight, hearing, touch, smell, taste, oral

#### **Physical**

Mobility, Dexterity, flexibility, weight & body size, digestion, muscle strength, hair, skin, menopause, (in)continence, nutrition

Physical ageing

#### Younger for longer?

People are living longer, healthier, more active lives

#### **Older for longer?**

Increased longevity – but with disability and serious illness

#### **Disablement**

50% of registered disabled people are over 65

## **Attitudes to marketing**

- "I am still an active and discerning consumer."
- "I feel ignored, excluded, misunderstood, patronised and stereotyped."
- "I am open to new experiences if there is a good reason."

- Experienced consumers, who have grown up alongside marketing
- Sceptical. High expectations. Low trust
- Require facts and information, not irrelevant creativity or emotion
- Active consumers, who make informed purchasing decisions
- Advertising and marketing do not speak to me, even though I purchase that category
- When I am spoken to , it is often in an offensive, irrelevant or patronising way
- I do not aspire to be young
- I will change my behaviour if I am given a good reason to do so

## **Marketing planning**

## Age is not sexy

- 'Age is just not a sexy word in marketing terms. Despite all the evidence, advertisers continue to pursue youth.' -— Szmigin & Carrigan, 2006
- 95% of marketing budgets are aimed at consumers aged under 50



## **Age Myopia**

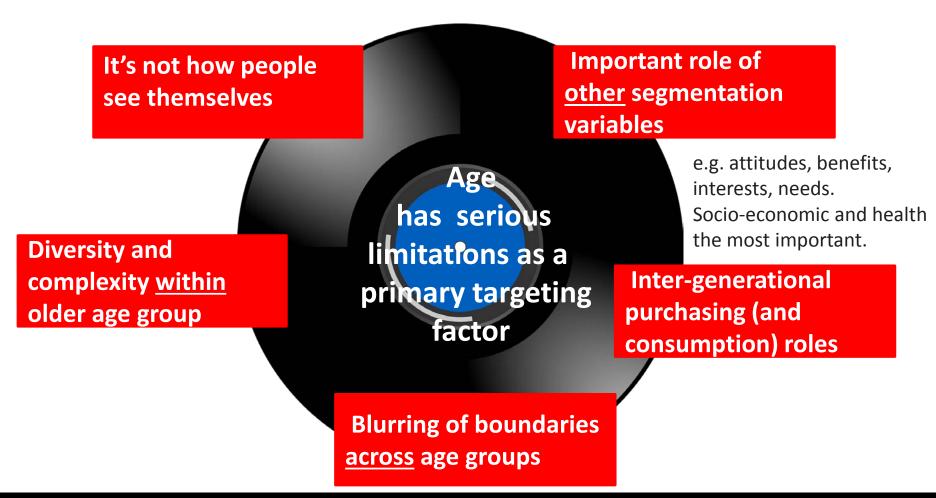
Marketing theory and practice are rooted in the past.

Targeting youth and younger adults is a habit many businesses have yet to break.

'An environment which lacks empathy with older people' - Director-General IPA

50% of employees under 30, 5% over 50

# Segmentation and targeting



## Positioning – two strategic options

### **Age Silo**

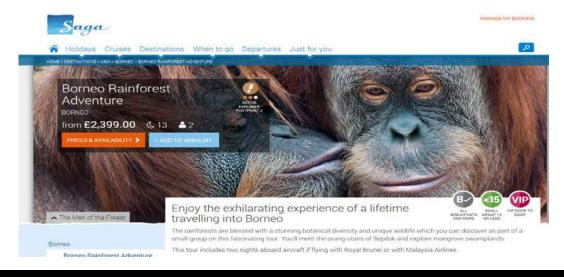
Products designed and marketed specifically at and for older people. May target end user and/or other audiences.



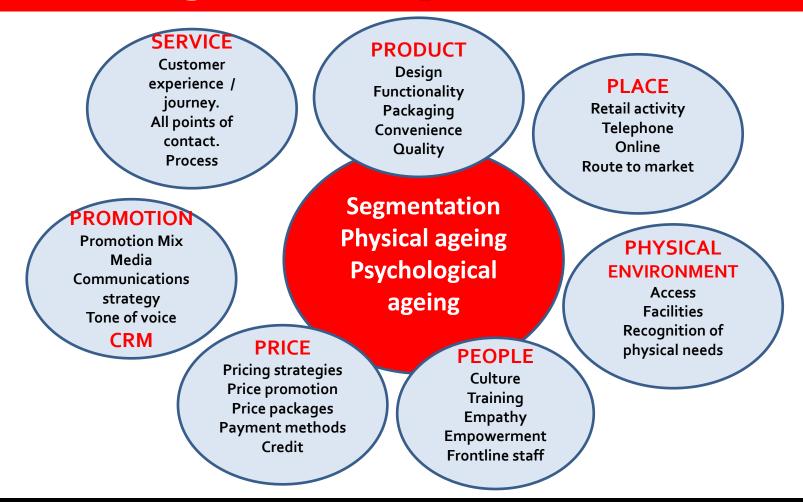
### **Age Neutral**

Products bought by all ages and marketed across the age spectrum.

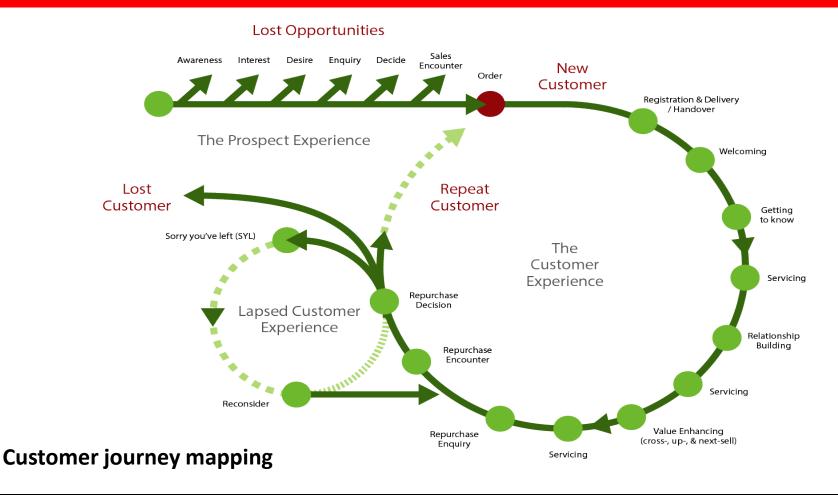
Barriers are removed. Inclusive Approach – not 'mirror



# Marketing Mix All aspects should be assessed



# Connecting with the 50-plus client



# **Digital**



#### Issues

- Language
- Assumption of knowledge
- Different usage: e.g. Multi-channel
- Physical ageing / design of digital tools
- Provision of help / support
- Non-internet alternatives
- Fraud

- Digital exclusion = social and economic exclusion
- 45-64 age groups extremely heavy users – especially men
- 65+ age group usage increasing fast. Heavy usage amongst sub-segments. But
  - Less than 40% of people over
     65 have used internet in past
     year
  - Only 50% of those want to use

# **Creative strategy - copy**

#### **Plain English**

Straightforward. Unambiguous. Immaculate grammar.

#### **Logic and structure**

A logical flow of information and clear signposting. Avoid cryptic headlines and sub-headings.

#### Be positive

There is still much to look forward to and enjoy. Positive emotions with a specific focus. Avoid negatives, even as comparison



#### **Value and Values**

Clear rational value proposition & benefits. Universal values, like family, nostalgia

#### Seek engagement and empathy

Treat as fellow adults. Talk don't shout.
Relevant personalities, humour, celebrities, real people and real stories, relevant associations, can all build trust

#### Be inclusive

Remove barriers, such as irrelevant references and language e.g. youth culture or industry jargon. And don't talk age, talk needs and benefits.

#### Inform

Provide information and facts. Substantiate all claims. Link features and benefits. Enable an informed decision to be made.

# **Creative strategy - design**

Design

#### Address physical ageing

Note especially sight and hearing.
Apply to ads, audio, brochures, web, etc.

#### **Get real**

Avoid stereotypes, caricatures, negative or humorous portrayals of older people. Avoid 'wacky' activities, tokenism (kind granny, token oldie, etc.) Seek realism. and relevance.

#### **Visual clarity**

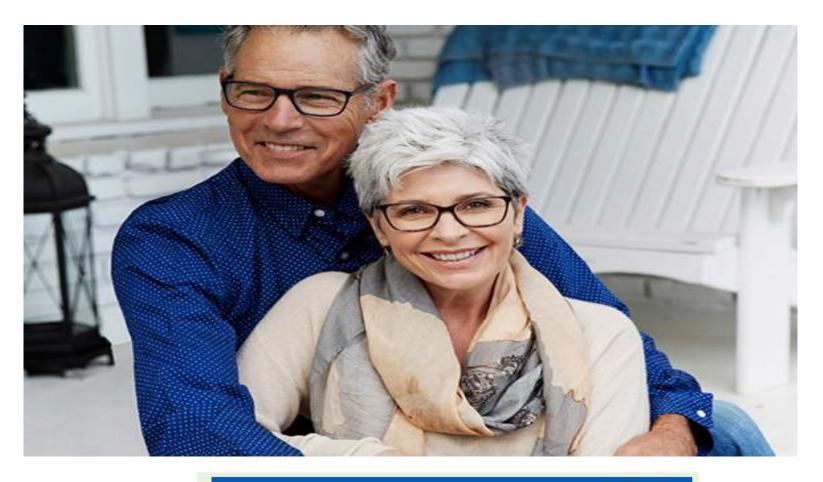
Font selection and size, colour contrast, use of white space, leading. One large image, not several small ones. Avoid obscure imagery.

#### People

Use older models, not 'aspirational' younger ones - but 'me on a good day'. Mixed groups, people being active, wide range of interests.







The UK's No.1 high street provider of hearing aids



Specsavers Hearing Centres



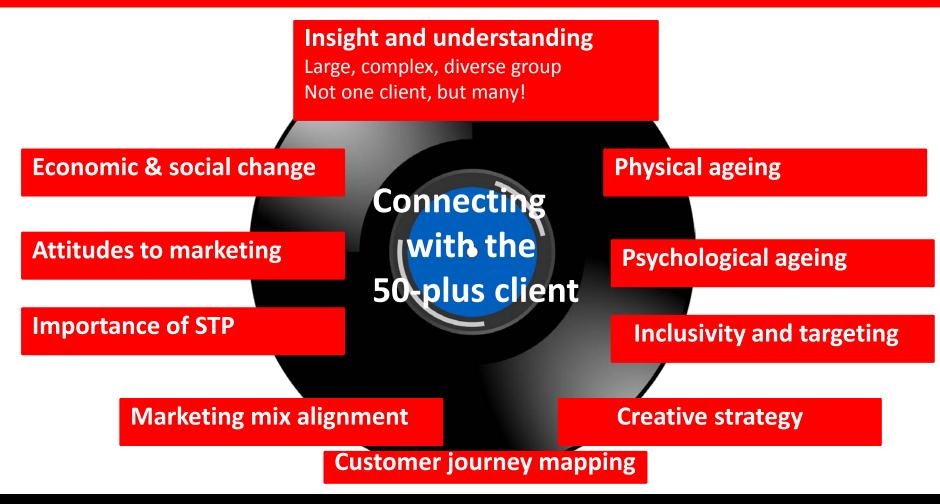






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