



## THEY CALL US BABY BOOMERS: A MANIFESTO

They call us Baby Boomers  
The post-war wave of hope  
We're 60, 70, 80 plus  
Beyond the lazy tropes

We are feisty over fifties  
Diverse in thought and deed  
Creative as we move through life  
Determined to succeed

When the journey is full of complexity  
And has us searching for reason  
We're flexible time travellers  
Adapting to each season

We're skilled and great Mancunians  
Imbued with memories  
We've set up women's refuges  
We're social pioneers

We were marching on for Pride  
We were Women's Liberation  
We were allies 40 years ago  
Reading lesbian, erotic fiction

They call us Baby Boomers  
So sick of stereotypes

So sick of being pigeon-holed  
And ageist slurs and snipes

We're a fed-up generation  
We're a radical tea mob  
We're a silver haired land army  
We're a blunt and foul-mouthed gob

Don't think we're past our best now  
That weakness equals age  
Don't mistake our shakes for frailty  
We're full of dormant rage

Don't think that we can't cut  
it Just because of how we  
walk  
Strength and wisdom can be  
measured Just watch a lion stalk

Well, we're writing our own  
narrative We're scoring our own  
songs  
We're crafting a new tapestry  
That maps where we belong

They call us Baby Boomers  
But we have some adult plans  
The time for being nice has  
passed So here are our demands

We want an end to bigotry!  
And capitalist malarky!  
No more MP millionaires!  
An end to patriarchy!

We want some recognition  
Of the value that we bring  
Of the fact that things would fall  
apart Without our free caring

We expect complete equality  
In housing, at work and at play  
Can't treat us like we're second  
class It's illegal, the government  
says

We want a commitment to progress  
With an Ageing Commissioner in  
place It's plain wrong to consign us to  
boxes After working so hard for our  
space

It's time that we get proper pensions  
Fit for purpose, index-linked, future  
proofed And we want joined up financial  
planning And investment to help with our  
youth

We'd prefer our environment healthy  
To have parks and green spaces to be  
In two billion years, we'll be subsumed by the  
sun But right now, we want air we can breathe

We expect to have age-friendly spaces  
That are shaped to meet our current  
needs To be able to turn on the heating  
And stop fearing that we might freeze

We reserve the right to be joyful

We reserve the right to slow down  
To be treated as whole, valued and  
unique Have our rights and have them  
right now

They call us Baby Boomers  
And booming we'll be as we go  
You need to take hold of our learning  
It could make all the difference, you know

Written by Age Friendly Manchester Board Members,  
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