

VOLUNTEERS NEWSLETTER ISSUE 2 — JANUARY 2017

If life was a Twitter page, #kindness, #benevolence and #compassion would be trending because of you.
~ #Author Unknown

Happy New Year!

With Christmas now a distant memory we look forward to another great year for Age UK Richmond. We are thankful for your continued support.

We will soon be launching our new E-learning system. This will benefit all our volunteers who will now have access to ongoing online training. We hope to run a couple of courses to help you get on line if you are not already.

Jackie Marie

Volunteer Co-ordinator, Age UK Richmond

Sign up to our weekly news bulletin and get the latest updates delivered directly to your inbox!

Keep your details up to date

Received this newsletter and no longer volunteer with us?

Received this newsletter by post but now have an email address?

New address / phone number /email address?

Congratulations Volunteers!

This Autumn you volunteered for an incredible 3972 hours

That's a BREATHTAKING 331 hours a week!

~ THANK YOU ~

Getting to know.....Don Barrett

There is more to our Trustee Treasurer than numbers! We asked Don a few questions and here is what he had to say.....



How did you come to join AUKR? Keith Atkinson, the previous treasurer, is a friend and when he heard that I had retired and was also a treasurer for other charities he asked me if I would be interested. After an interview with Jeff Harris I was offered the role.

We know your background is in finance, but is there anything else which contributes to your role as a trustee? A long career in BP Exploration gave me experience of commercial development, business process improvement, management of change and large scale IT projects and not least the management and development of a team of 135 finance staff across 6 countries.

Has being a trustee of an organisation like ours been challenging? AUKR is much bigger than the other charities where I am a trustee. The challenge is that we are operating in increasingly uncertain times. Local authorities face a reduction in government funding at a time when demand for services is increasing. We have to look ahead to plan how we can respond to this situation and mitigate risks to our funding.

Have you found your role to be fulfilling so far? I am very proud to be a small part of AUKR and of what we have achieved. This is reinforced as I gradually meet more of our customers and see what our services mean to them. Seeing how new services such as Nightingale have been introduced to respond to new needs is fascinating.

What skills have benefited you most during these difficult financial times? The trustees are in the fortunate position of being able to stand back and see the bigger picture rather than being involved in day to day issues around delivering services. Having been in an industry where results wildly fluctuate as oil prices rise and fall, risk management and planning are two skills that are particularly useful.

Where would you like to see AUKR in 3 years? As a larger stable organisation that has been able to adapt to meet the challenges and uncertainties we face whilst still delivering excellent services.

If you have any spare time, how do you like to spend it? I borrow a neighbour's Golden Retriever and spend many hours in Bushy and Hampton Court Home parks. Having persuaded my wife to finally retire, we can now increase our visits to the theatre and those exhibitions we did not have time to see.

Dates for your Diary

Limited time ~ Doorstep Crime Prevention Campaign

January

15th ~ World Religion Day

27th ~ Holocaust Memorial Day

28th ~ Chinese New Year

February

4th ~ World Cancer Day

14th ~ Valentines Day

20th ~ World Day of Social Justice

~ LGBT History Month

March

8th ~ International Women's Day

13th to 31st ~ RuT Music & Drama Festival

17th ~ St Patrick's Day

20th ~ First Day of Spring

20th ~ International Day of Happiness

26th ~ Daylight Savings Time begins

26th ~ Mothering Sunday

Volunteering Opportunities

We are in urgent need of volunteers for our Nightingale, Handyperson Services, for the First Contact Helpline and IT one-to-one at home tuition. We are also looking for volunteers to distribute leaflets and posters in the community for our Community Services and Marketing team.



If you or someone you know might be interested please contact Jackie for more details.

Did you know....

- Our Gardening service is an all year round service
- Barnes Green Social Centre is available to rent for your Birthday party, exercise class, book group or any other activity you like to do at the weekend. All money raised goes directly back to the charity
- Older people in Richmond Borough are getting healthier and fitter, thanks to our regular health walks, table tennis clubs, walking football and all our activities

Age UK RuT news

Funding.. RPLC has recently awarded us a grant to run a 'Doorstep Crime Prevention Campaign' over the winter months. We will be working with Trading Standards and the Richmond Safer Neighbourhood Police Team to raise awareness amongst older people of what to do when strangers knock on the door. We (Handyperson Service) will also be fitting (free of charge) spyholes, door chains, window locks etc.

Volunteer Annual Thank You Event.. will this year take place in May. Please keep an eye on your in-box and post for more details.

Annual Review 2015 to 2016.. It has been a big year for Age UK Richmond! Our Annual Review is now available to be viewed on our website: <http://www.ageuk.org.uk/richmonduponthames/news--campaigns/age-uk-richmond-upon-thames-annual-review-2015-to-2016/>

Can you help.. We would like to provide our Nightingale volunteers with a personal safety kit for when they are visiting clients in their homes; do you have a contact we can reach out to who may be able to help sponsor this small but essential kit?

Staff update.. Sadly, Sandra Morrison, our Chief Officer of 12 years has decided to step down from March 31st 2017. She will be able to enjoy a better work/life balance with her new found spare time. We wish her all the best! We have also welcomed our new Operations Manager, Gavin Shand who has come to us from Age Concern Slough & Berkshire. Finally, we will be saying good bye to Allan Lockett. He will retire at the end of March after more than 10 years as the Manager at Barnes Green Social Centre and more recently as the Nightingale Service Manager. Good Luck!

Are you planning a special fundraising event? Let us know, we can spread the word and help you raise even more!

Volunteer Views

Your views matter. Join in the debate on Twitter, follow us on Facebook and send us your feedback



Contact us

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