



ALTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

EDITION No. 15

SEPTEMBER, 2011

MANAGER'S UPDATE

Welcome back to all our regular students and visitors after the long Summer break. I hope you all had a great Summer and are ready for the run up to Christmas!

Forthcoming Fundraising Events:

We are planning a Curry Night with Race night entertainment on 7th Oct, 2011. Tickets will be £12 per head and include a delicious curry from the Balti House and a glass of Pimms to get everyone in the mood for an evening of Racing.

We also have our next Psychic Fair on Saturday October 29th, 2011. This event has now become firmly established in our fundraising calendar.

Our Christmas Cracker event is

planned for Sunday 4th December, 2011 to coincide with the town's Yuletide Festival. There are many stalls booked already so please get in touch if you wish to book a space. The Christmas Cracker will be even bigger this year with lots of stalls selling unusual and original Xmas gifts and goodies so please come along and do your Christmas shopping.

Should you require information or tickets for any of these events please contact reception.

Staff News:

Miranda returned to us in the middle of August following her maternity leave and we said goodbye to Diane, who had done an amazing job holding the fort while Miranda was

away. We are all pleased to welcome Miranda back into the fold.

Building Refurbishment Project:

EHDC commenced building works at the beginning of August and will hopefully be finished in the middle of September. The building will have had roofing, guttering, external painting and many other problems rectified during these works. It will, we hope, look more appealing and be ready to face the winter weather this year.

We would like to thank the builders, who have been sympathetic to our needs and worked around any bookings we have had during the Summer months.

Maria Elliott

Alton Community Club

Apart from going to the usual garden centres, we have found a new one in Bagshott, and we have been to the following places:

Lasham Gliding Club, Grayshott Pottery, Selbourne Museum, Seale Tea Rooms and twice to Frensham Pond.

As the weather was nice we went down to Emsworth to watch the ducks and swans and we have been to Lee-on-Solent twice. We also attended the re-opening of the Allen Gallery.

Bob McKenzie and Sheena his Carer were very kind to invite us to spend the day at his house, where we were truly spoilt. Thank you so much, Bob, Ruth and Sheena.

We also went to Acres Down Farm near Minstead to have a cream tea, which was delicious and extremely good value for money. We are delighted to say that three new people have joined the Club, Mary,

Pat and Jeanne, with the possibility of Helen (Pat's friend) also becoming a permanent member.

The Sobell Foundation has once again come to our financial aid and is giving us a further £15,000 over the next three years. They have been so kind to us, and have enabled us to continue providing the much needed service of our Day Club.

Congratulations are in order to Heather and Bungle on their recent marriage. We wish them all happiness for the future. However, we are sad to learn that they are giving up the Wey Cafe and wish them all success in their future ventures.

Unfortunately our summer trips have been scuppered this year because the mini-bus had to be taken to hospital with major injuries. Once repaired we still intend to go to Staunton Park with the Monday Group, and the D Day Museum and

a trip on the harbour down at Portsmouth, weather permitting, with the Tuesday Group. Please come and see us, pop in for a chat and a drink.

Marilyn Archer



Dozens of educational and social activities for our 450 members— contact Elaine Constable on 01962 772279

LEISURE LEARNING

This year we took part in Hampshire Learning's Inspire Awards, which asked students to nominate a particularly inspiring tutor. We received a large number of nominations from our students and are delighted to announce that one of our tutors, Francesca Ardiccioni, has won this year's Award. Francesca teaches a range of Italian classes in Alton, Alresford and Liss received very high praise from her students. They described her as 'truly inspirational', 'the most enthusiastic teacher' who 'makes the experience of learning extremely enjoyable'. We would like to congratulate all our nominated tutors and thank them for their continued hard work and dedication to our Leisure Learning programme.

Marie Nottridge

SHOPMOBILITY
We are really short of manual wheelchairs. If anyone has one they could donate to the shopmobility scheme we would be very grateful.

PLAYGROUP NEWS

Playgroup ended the pre-school year with two special events, firstly the Summer outing on Thursday 21st July, a day out on the Watercress line. The weather held for the day and the train rides, millennium walk and picnic was enjoyed by all the children their parents and staff.

On Friday 22nd July the group hosted its end of term leavers party. The children's parents joined us for the party to celebrate the moving on of their children to school, with a buffet lunch, games and presentation of certificates to those leaving to go to school in September.

Playgroup has been closed for the summer holidays but looks forward to the start of the new pre-school year. Term commences on Monday 5th September with eleven children returning, however, there are still places available. Please phone 01420 85057 for details.
Vicky Cox

It is with sadness that we report the death of June Stratford who was a past Chairman of our Association from 1979-1982. She will be sadly missed.

The Brand New ACA 100 Club

The Trustees are planning to run a 100 Club with members paying £1.00 per week and a prize draw each month with cash prizes.

This will help to boost our funds and be a fun way for our members to support us.

Anyone interested please contact Maria on 01420 85057 for further details

BOOK STALL

All books 50p . Come and browse our large selection of used books.

RIVER WEY CAFÉ

**Will be closing on 23rd September, 2011
And will be reopening under new management on 1st October, 2011.**

We would like to take this opportunity to wish Heather all the best for the future and to welcome Cathie our new café proprietor.



JAM NIGHT

THURSDAYS FROM 7:30 p.m.

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DRUMS & MIKES AVAILABLE

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LOUNGE BAR

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Here at Alton Community Centre
Every Tuesday 10:00 -11:00 am