

# Camberley Care Trust

[www.camberleycare.org](http://www.camberleycare.org) | Tel: 01276 707692

Registered charity number: 298419

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## Camberley Care by Numbers

558 car trips, Dec-Jan

51 volunteer drivers

73 volunteers

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## Waitrose Green Tokens

Thanks to employees at Waitrose in Bagshot who voted for Camberley Care to be part of its in store charity green token collection, last month.

It's great to report that a total of £465 was raised to support our work in the community!

## Duty Officer Appeal

We are on the look-out for additional duty officers to support the smooth running of our subsidised car service. If you know of anyone with a couple of hours to spare each week who might consider volunteering please contact Natasha or Sue.

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Welcome to our first newsletter of 2018 – it's good to be back after a few months of challenges and change and, as we start to see the days draw out, look forward and think positively as Spring approaches.

This month I am delighted to inform you that the reintroduction of a subsidised handyperson service for Camberley and Frimley has taken a significant step forward.

In doing so, we will soon be able to offer even greater support to the elderly, vulnerable and disabled in our community. Our thanks to all the team at Surrey Heath Carers for making this affordable by donating a significant level of funding.

The new service recognises and addresses problems experienced previously when the cost of operation became prohibitive and a risk to our core car service.

It is a low-cost, low-risk solution that has funding already in place to secure it for the next several years.

We will utilize the services of a local handyperson who is providing a specific number of work hours to Camberley Care each week at a significantly reduced rate.

There are just one or two minor details to top and tail but do look out for more information and confirmation of launch plans in the next couple of weeks.

Developing this initiative from a clean sheet of paper into a proposal took a considerable effort.

Particular thanks to Roy Barnley, Natasha Foster and Derek Laken for their hard work in driving this initiative forward.

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## Hats off to John – Volunteer of the Year

Congratulations to our very own John Archer for being named *Volunteer of the Year 2017* at the annual Surrey Heath Volunteer Awards.

John is always among our busiest volunteer drivers and no task ever seems too much for him. This award recognises John's dedication and commitment over a number of years. Great work!

## Treasurer and Trustee Vacancies

Resulting from recent changes within our Board of Trustees, we are currently searching for a volunteer Treasurer as well as two other general Trustee members of our Board.

Please do let our office team know if you or anyone from within your network of friends and other contacts who may have the particular skills needed to be our Treasurer, a key position on the Board, or help manage the business of our Charity as a Trustee.

## Apologies for Payment Hiccups

From time-to-time problems can affect even the best of us and we recognize that the payment of some mileage claims has been a little slower than normal in the past few weeks.

Thank you to those who have been affected for their patience and understanding while problems caused by holiday and signatory changes at our bank are addressed.

## Christmas Cards Bring Festive Joy

We were delighted by the positive response to the production and sale of Camberley Care Christmas cards, for the first time this year and are pleased to report a profit of around £300. Thank you to everyone who supported this initiative.

## With a Little help from Our Friends

Easyfunding is a great way to raise money for Camberley Care every time you shop online and yet it takes next to no effort at all.

We currently have 45 Easyfunding supporters but would like to raise this to 60 or more. So let's try to enlist a little help from our friends (and relatives) to see if we can reach that target by Easter!



## Chairman's Corner

It is great to see Camberley Care Trust step into the early months of 2018 in rude health.

Those who attended our annual Festive Celebration will have heard that 2017 was another great year for our charity. We are financially strong and have a growing team of volunteers.

The last year was also one which saw us navigate our way through our fair share of turbulent water.

From addressing fears of financial difficulties to changes within our Board of Trustees as long-standing members, including our previous Chairman, elected to resign from post.

An unexpected need for me to travel overseas more than expected did not help.

Now the choppy waters seem to be calming, we have much to look forward to in 2018.

Thanks for your continued commitment and support.

## As Proud as Punch

For some people, it is making money that provides a sense of achievement. Many of us have probably been in that situation ourselves at some point in our lives. But it's not long before most realise that making a difference is actually what gives a sense of fulfillment. This is what drives many of volunteers and Trustees to join Camberley Care and other local charities.

Our office team recently took a call from the mother of a vulnerable son called Nick. Nick, an avid Arsenal FC fan, likes to keep fit and visits his local gym regularly to keep up his levels of fitness.

Nick has Downes Syndrome and his ability to travel to and from the gym each week was being hampered by security fears, especially during his travel to and from the facility by bus, alone, in the darker winter evenings.

Our reputation may be for providing support mainly to an elderly client base, but when we heard of Nick's challenges and the fears of his mother we were delighted to offer support to be sure the journey to and from the gym each Tuesday is a safe and secure one.

Nick's mum called again a little while later to thank Camberley Care for helping to change Nick's life for the better and enabling him to visit the gym without fear. She is used to fighting hard to win support for her son and could not believe how receptive and helpful our team has been. It was, she said, a huge relief and a weight off her mind.

Nick keeps fit for a good reason. He cycles for charity, not just in the UK but in countries as far afield as Sri Lanka and Israel, always sponsored to do so and always raising valuable funds for those who are in a less fortunate position than himself.

There are many good reasons to believe in the value that Camberley Care provides to the local community, day in and day out. This is certainly one of them.

To our volunteer driver John Devlin who was among the first to get to know Nick and other drivers who have supported him too, thank you!

## Car Canes are Here!

Not quite what some of you may be thinking, but a relatively simple but highly effective mobility aid has arrived at Camberley Care. Thanks to recent donations by local church groups, they are now available for volunteer drivers to collect from our office.

You may have seen the Car Cane on television. It can best be described as a portable handle which hooks instantly onto the door latches of any car. After use, it unhooks just as easily and stores away into the door or glove box.

A non-slip grip makes the device comfortable to hold and particularly useful for providing leverage needed a passenger to lift themselves up. It's ideal for anyone with limited mobility.

## Festive Fun Memories

A few memories of a wonderful pre-Christmas celebration event organised by our wonderful office team - Natasha Foster and Sue Pearson. Thanks to both for a superb event and fun raffle draw!



## And finally.....

Our thanks to everyone who helped transport clients to and from the Chum's lunch in Sunningdale on Saturday, February 3. Dinner, drinks and dancing ensured a great time was had by all!