



Camberley Care
Help in the Community

Christmas Newsletter 2023

In this issue

♦ Message from the Chair	2
♦ Office News	3
♦ Camberley Care is 50.....	5
♦ Volunteer's Christmas Tea Party.....	6
♦ Voluntary Support North Surrey Volunteer Awards.....	7
♦ Comments from clients	7
♦ Obituaries	8

As 2023 draws rapidly to a close we can look back with pride on another successful year where we have made so many people's lives a little bit better, and in doing so enriched our own lives. As Arthur Ashe once said : "From what we get we can make a living; what we give, however, makes a life".

It was lovely to see so many of you at the Christmas tea party and even Mayor Pat Tedder commented how enjoyable it was chatting to everyone.

The number of trips and handyman jobs has returned to pre-COVID levels and demand for our services has grown to the point where we can't always fulfil all requests. Yes.... we are always looking for more volunteer drivers :)

This year we made the difficult decision to increase the suggested donations in order to help secure our long term future. Initial feedback from clients has been very supportive which indicates that it was the right thing to do. Fundraising efforts have also been stepped up and there are changes in the pipeline for our IT system which will make it easier to use and more efficient. It will be interesting to see at the financial year end what impact all that is making.

As you will know 2024 will be the year of our Golden Jubilee, which is a fantastic achievement. Wednesday 15th May has been set as the date for our main celebration party with volunteers, staff and trustees both current and past. We are also working on some ideas to let our clients share in our celebration.

Thank you all for the amazing work that you do and I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2024.

Tony

Transport Service Stats 2023

From 01 January to 01 December we have completed 2837 trips. This is an increase of 1041 trips on the same period last year, wow! Thank you for all your help in taking our clients.

For the same period, we are currently completing an average of 257 trips per month. That's approx 257 calls into the office to book the trip, 257 calls to find a driver, 257 calls back to the clients to confirm the name of the driver.

This year we have taken on 119 new transport clients.

Handyperson Service Stats 2023

From 01 January to 01 December we have completed 147 jobs. Many of these are returning clients who trust our handymen and the work they do.

37 new clients have been registered for the Handyperson Service this year.

Office payment clients

Our list of Office Payment clients now totals 60.

We are able to offer these clients the ability to pay their monthly donation statements over the phone, using Square payments. This is proving a popular option.

New Volunteers

During 2023 we have increased our volunteer numbers by 7 and have a couple of volunteer enquiries to hopefully start in the New Year. A huge welcome to Camberley Care!

As always, we are still in need volunteers, both drivers and for the office. Give us a call in the office for more details. If you have anyone in mind.

Mileage claim forms

We have placed a new column on the mileage expense claim forms that states 'Tick if double return' This enables us to apply the correct suggested donation for the Office Payment client's monthly donation statement.

Date of journey	Client Name	Diary No	Miles	Please tick if Double Return	Office Use Only

We

have copies of these in the office to pick up, or copies can be printed from [CCare.mileage expense - blank.xlsx \(camberleycare.org\)](https://camberleycare.org/drivers/) . If you prefer to type your mileage claim form, please type D if a double return on the Excel file here <https://camberleycare.org/drivers/> and click on the [Mileage Expense Claim Form V6](#) - online, then click on the Enable Editing box at the top.

Could we ask that envelopes are brought into the office TOGETHER with a mileage expense claim form? This will really help us in the office.

2024 for the Camberley Care office

Natwest in Camberley will be placing donation buckets in branch for foreign coin collection in aid of Camberley Care. We will be able to exchange these donations for sterling and add to our fundraising.

2024 will see upgrades to our Charity Portal. These changes will mostly be to bring the back office procedures up to date, but will also include a clearer, more user friendly trip email for drivers.

Donations

We were fortunate to receive the following donations this year

Our Lady Queen of Heaven Church	£150	Mrs Thomas	£25
Molly McColgan (part of her funeral collection)	£200	Wessex Lodge	£30
Inner Wheel Club	£100	Katherine Court	£132
Mr Webb	£50	Wellington Lodge	£20
Martin Christopher (Marathon fundraising)	£1100		

Plus we have received a number of Christmas donations from clients.

Retiring Volunteers

Maureen Taylor
Anne Brown
Julie Hurst

We are so grateful for all of the years that these volunteers have given to Camberley Care

Camberley Care is 50!



2024 marks the 50th anniversary of the founding of Camberley Care.

In 1974 the Minister of Camberley United Reformed Church suggested a project whereby church members might offer assistance to the needy of the area by means, initially, of a volunteer manned telephone helpline. The idea was adopted by Camberley District Council of Churches and “Camberley Care” was set up under its auspices. Duty officers and other volunteers were recruited and several who came from outside the churches were made welcome.

Requests started to come in and it became apparent that the majority were for transport to and from a variety of medical appointments. As a consequence, the volunteer transport service was created.

“Camberley Care” became Camberley Care Trust in 1987 when a charitable trust was created and duly registered with the Charity Commission. In 2000 the Care and Repair service was established. Camberley Care became a Charity Incorporated Organisation in July 2020.

Save the date!

Our 50th celebration will be held in the afternoon of

Wednesday 15 May 2024

At Camberley Heath Golf Club

Please keep the date free in your diaries. More details to follow in the New Year.

Volunteer's Christmas Tea party

On Tuesday 05 December we held our annual Christmas Volunteer's Tea Party at St Paul's Church, Camberley. There were 32 attendees who all seemed to enjoy meeting up and having a yummy tea.



Our second guest of honour—Ben



The Major, Pat Tedder attended, drew the raffle and chatted with all the volunteers.



North Surrey Volunteer Awards

On 24 November Voluntary Support North Surrey held their Volunteer Awards at Chobham Golf Club. Nominations from voluntary organisations throughout Surrey Heath were made and winners selected. Congratulations to Rosemary Ball, Sue Collett, Dave Currie, Tim Fitzgerald and Tim Harrison for their nominations.



Comments from clients

Thank you for all your help and kindness, you make life much easier for us. Don't know how we would manage without the volunteers with the cars taking us to our appointments. Also the friendly people on the telephone when I phone to book a car.

Mr and Mrs Williams

It's a lovely organisation, I really appreciate it

Mr McCarthy

*Magnificent Organisation
Mr and Mrs Wain*

Thank you so much for all your help.

Mr and Mrs Barker

In an uncertain world, you can rely on Camberley Care

Mrs B

Mark Dewey is a magician!

Mr and Mrs Amos

We were extremely said to learn of the passing of
Mrs Molly McColgan
Mr Ken Hollis

Thank you to you all
for the time you give
to Camberley Care!

Have a lovely
Christmas and a
wonderful New Year.