



Camberley Care
Help in the Community



50



Camberley Care
Help in the Community

1974 - 2024

Summer 2024



In this edition.....

Chairmans message

Office News

Water bottles on tour!

Visit from Mr Gove

Surrey Heath's new Mayor

50th Celebration

Hampshire and Surrey Hills Mens Choir

Client feedback

Volunteer Catch up



Chairman's message

Summer is finally upon us and our 50th anniversary party seems a distant memory now. After months of preparation it felt like the event itself was over in a flash don't you think ? Lovely venue, great service, wonderful company. I hope you enjoyed it as much as we did. Some pictures are included elsewhere in this newsletter.

Mayor Pat Tedder also attended our party which was her last formal engagement as Mayor. That evening Mrs Sarbie Kang was installed as new Mayor and we were delighted to hear that the new Mayor has chosen Camberley Care as one of her two chosen charities for her year in office.

This is great news because it will raise our profile within the community and hopefully bring in some extra funding as well. Sue Collett and myself went to see the new Mayor recently and we had a wonderful time explaining about Camberley Care and what our challenges are.

She is keen to support us in any way possible and made some useful suggestions which we are following up. And yes, she has already been invited to our Christmas party!

As it happens, Surrey Heath Borough is also celebrating its 50th anniversary this year!

Another bit of good news is that the choir that sang at our party (the Hampshire and Surrey Hills Men's Choir (formerly the 'Rushmoor Odd Fellows') gave a concert on Fri 28th June in the High Cross church in aid of..... Camberley Care! Many people have commented on how well the choir sang. The choir did a collection on our behalf and also shared the proceeds of the ticket sales with us, resulting in a total donation almost £750 (plus a bit more after we claim Gift Aid) . If you enjoyed their performance why not check out their other performances on <https://www.hampshireandsurreyhillsmenschoir.org.uk> .

Linda Christopher and myself visited the choir to accept their donation and to express our gratitude. A picture is included in this newsletter.

Enjoy the summer weather, stay safe,

Tony



Office news

It is always busy in the office dealing with numerous queries everyday, but over the last few months, we have been busy behind the scenes to.

Wendy Bovenkamp, who is working on the IT for our Charity Portal, has been busy making numerous changes to it. The majority of the changes are for the office team to help improve how we produce our monthly office statements for both transport and handyman clients. Jen and I are now becoming more familiar with the process to produce these statements and Wendy has been invaluable, being on hand to train us and to make tweaks along the way. It is important for us to have the correct information on the portal in order for us to produce these statements so you may get asked for further information regarding a trip from time to time. This is a real step forward for us and will enable us in the future, to offer this to more clients

We are aiming to make the information you receive on your emails, more concise and easier to follow. We now have an extra field on our newc clients information screen, which will enable us to input any special directions you might need to help find their house, which we take from clients when they register. If you complete a trip and you have information about an address that you think other volunteers would find useful, please drop us an email so we can add it to their notes.

For the handyman service we have now mirrored what we do for the transport clients which means we can register a job as soon as it comes in. Producing the invoices for these clients has been automated from the portal which is much easier for us to do.

Many clients who use our handyman service liked to be invoiced but do not want to use this for their transport trips and we now have an option to show this on the portal.



Transport

	June 2024	July 2024
Transport trips	234	244
Previous trips in 2023	196	217

We are noticing a higher number of last minute trips as the hospitals attempt to fill any cancellations they have. We appreciate all the help you give in filling these trips.

From 1st Jan to end of July 2024, we have completed 1628 trips compared to 1230 by this time last year. This is an increase of 398 trips with an average of an extra 56 trips a month! We can tell the number of trips has increased, by the number of phone calls and we are banking almost every week.

We currently have 32 regular monthly clients and we have taken on 63 new transport clients so far compared to 54 at this point last year.

Handyman

	June 2024	July 2024
Jobs completed	11	2
Previous jobs in 2023	11	21

Handyman half year update

From 1st Jan to end of July, we completed 91 handyman jobs compared to 2023, when we completed 88 jobs.

We have taken on 33 new handyman clients compared to 26 last year.

Water bottles on tour!



At our 50th anniversary celebration the volunteers were presented with a water bottle. Some of these have been visiting a few places.....



Barbara and David Price cycling in France

Erika and Janet taking a break whilst out walking



And Sue's water bottle made it to Henley Royal

Regatta

If you have taken your water bottle on holiday or out and about with you, we would love to know. If you would like it to be included in the next newsletter, please send us a photo

Visit From Mr Gove

Following on from our 50th Celebration's we also had a visit from Michael Gove who was our local MP.

On Friday 17th May, Mr Gove and his team came in to find out more about the work we do and to see if he could help promote our services in any way.

We said we were looking for more Volunteers due to the increase in trips and he was happy to help us via his Social Media platforms.

He thanked us all for the work we do and what a difference it makes within the local Community.



Since the last Elections we now have a new MP - Al Pinkerton (Liberal Democrat)

We are in touch with his office to invite him in to meet us.

Hopefully he will continue to support the work we do in the local community.



Cllr Sarbie Kang
New Mayor for Surrey Heath



We would love to congratulate Cllr Sarbie Kang on becoming Surrey Heath's new Mayor. Several of us have now met her and she is excited to work with Camberley Care and help raise awareness of the great work we do!

She also chose us to be one of two Charities she will be supporting this coming year and we really appreciate this gesture.

"I will grab the opportunity with both hands to not only raise the profile of two very worthwhile charities, but also the much-needed funding they require to allow them to continue their incredible work. I hope everyone can join me to help raise as much as we can over the next 12 months." Cllr Sarbie Kang.....Very exciting!

50th Anniversary Celebration

Here are a few pictures of our wonderful 50th celebration







50th Anniversary Celebration



A fabulous afternoon of volunteers past and present to celebrate the charity reaching it's 50th anniversary. The cake was cut by Penny who was an ex Chairman helped by our current Chairman Tony.



Hampshire and Surrey Hills Men's Choir

In June, at High Cross Church, a wonderful evening of songs was performed by the Hampshire and Surrey Hill's Men's choir, in aid of Camberley Care. The Choir was formed in 1960 to compete at the Aldershot music festival and now performs across Surrey, Hampshire and Berkshire.



Our chairman Tony was presented with a cheque for a fabulous donation of £790. We thank the choir for choosing Camberley Care as the recipient of this fabulous donation.

The choir's Christmas concert will be at High Cross church on December 19th. Ticket details will appear nearer the time on their Facebook page - Hampshire & Surrey Hills Men's Choir and their website <https://www.hampshireandsurreyhillsmenschoir.org.uk>.

Client feedback

I am so grateful for all your help. Your volunteers are always so helpful and cheery. Mrs H

It was a real treat and a lovely pleasant trip – Mr L

What a lovely, lovely man and a wonderful volunteer—Mrs M

Volunteer catch up's

We've held a couple of successful volunteer catch ups over the last few months. St Pauls is proving to be a good place to meet with easy access and parking.



We are planning to hold a curry night very soon—keep an eye on your emails for more details.