

Welcome and thanks to our Friends.....

The last few months have been busy with fund raising activities and more to come. These one-off events have put us on a firm financial footing and are allowing us to expand with the Befriending Scheme. However it is the continuing and growing support of our 'Friends' that will help to sustain and grow our activities within the local community going forward and for this we thank you.

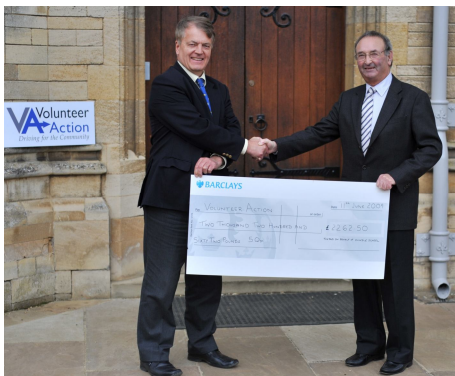
Now up and running – our New Befriending Scheme.....



We are delighted that the Oundle Befriending Scheme (OBS) is now up and running. This is a volunteer home visiting service run in partnership with the Oundle Churches offering support and companionship for the elderly in Oundle and nearby villages. We have 6 members being regularly visited and another 3 in the pipeline. Thank you to the OBS volunteers. We look forward to going from strength to strength.

We will be organising another half-day introductory course for volunteers so if you would like to consider volunteering as a befriender please speak to Nancy Taylor on 01832 275433. Likewise we still need a Befriending Scheme coordinator a half-day each week in the office.

Superb Voices from the Valleys.....



The concert featuring the London Welsh Male Voice Choir and Rita Cullis was an outstanding success. VA and the

Alzheimer's Society benefited by a substantial

amount and we are indebted to Andrew Forbes and Alastair Tighe who made it possible. Also many thanks to Richard Owen, Director of Oundle School Foundation whose idea it was, who helped with the organisation and who sang in the choir. Also a thank you to Amps Fine Wines for donating the refreshments.

Oundle Carnival – We were there.....

Thank you to Peter Atchison and Eric Grewcock for



driving in the Oundle Carnival Parade and Rosie Atchison for walking along

collecting for the Oundle Carnival Charities – Help for Heroes and Air Ambulance.

It was a lovely afternoon and thanks to those who gave them a cheer.

Are you rich and your friends bankrupt yet?..



Oundle Monopoly is a sell out thanks to the hard work of Managing Director Jacob Dillarstone

and his team. Pre-ordered boards were handed out at the launch event in June with many more ordered on the night. A customer commented *"It was great to see all the familiar places on the board. We especially thought that the Oundle Chance and Community Chest type cards were very humorous."*

In the leaflet inside the box VA were able to introduce an easy way of giving a further donation through www.justgiving.com/volunteeraction. This website is used by many highly recognised charities making it easy for people to make a donation.

Val Chesser, our Chairman said *"We were delighted that Oundle Charity Venturers chose to support VA and would like to thank them for all their hard work, professionalism and for their success."*

Funeral Collection.....

Sadly Dorothy Bristow died recently and George Bristow kindly organised a funeral collection for VA. *"Dorothy always said that flowers were a waste of money. If anyone wanted to give flowers, then give them to her when she was alive so that she could really enjoy them. As a result she always said that when she died she would like the money to go to where it would do some good. Her wish was for that money to go to Volunteer Action as she would say 'those lovely people'"* George Bristow. Thank you again George.

Everything Counts.....

Since our last newsletter VA has been supported by the following

- Oundle Inner Wheel
- Pilton, Stoke Doyle and Wadenhoe Parish Council
- George and Molly Simpson selling plants outside their house
- Bucket collection at Stahl Theatre 'Thin Blues Line' Concert.
- Plus other individual donations - many thanks to everyone

Some passenger comments.....

"The service is marvellous, without it I could not stay in this house and would be lacking in access to Oundle for shopping, appointments and bank business."

"I do not think this service could be improved and I have had wonderful help and care. The drivers are very patient and kind"

Welcome to new volunteer drivers.....

Giles Butlin – Glapthorn, Veronica Eames – Oundle and Robert Stead – Barnwell

More help always needed.....

VA is always looking for new volunteers to help people in our community live a normal and independent life. If you have a few hours to spare and

want to drive or help out in the office or if you know of others who may be interested please contact Nancy Taylor on 01832 275433.

Riverside Opera Saturday 22 August.....



We are delighted that international singing stars Rita Cullis & Friends have chosen to support Volunteer Action with a wonderful concert to be held in Tansor Church.

VA is indebted to Rita Cullis and fellow Artistes, the sponsors who have given freely and above all to the organisers – Pat Lyon, Margaret Butler, Lois Fletcher, Mary Laing, and Pru Swallow for all their hard work putting the event together.

If you were lucky enough to get tickets before they sold out remember to bring a picnic (from 5.30pm in Tansor Manor gardens).

AGM 2009.....

Our AGM is on Tuesday 15th September at the Methodist Chapel, Drummingwell Lane, just off Milton Road, Oundle at 7pm for 7.30pm.

Come along and hear in more detail about our activities over the past year, our finances and plans going forward plus a chance to meet up with the team. Also we would be delighted to hear any suggestions you may have for enhancing the service we give to the local community.

The Trustees and Team at Volunteer Action

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