

Well worth the wait! The Stained Glass Centenary Window now installed in North Camp Methodist Church—looking rather splendid!



We've been following the progress of this project since the idea was promoted at the March Voluntary Sector Forum.

Thanks to the dedication of the volunteers at the Farnborough Branch of the Royal British Legion, the window is complete.



They needed to raise £4,600 for the window, plus £600 for the security grill. The Military Trust paid for the installation (£400) and thanks to fundraising efforts the rest of the money was found. This included a donation from the Army Catering Corp fund which Rushmoor Voluntary Services oversee.

The window was installed in time for the unveiling on Sunday, 11th November. A fitting tribute to remember all those who lost their lives in the wars.



Rushmoor Voluntary Services

Staff

Greg Alexander
 Sue Hathaway
 Viv Walker
 Terry Snuggs
 Hazel Chant
 Suzie Wright
 Pam Hammond
 Sue Chadwick
 Rachel Thomas
 Caroline Colwill
 Tracy Bowden
 Mike Frost

Chief Executive
 Development Officer
 Administrative Support Manager
 Volunteer Centre Co-ordinator
 Lead Project Support Worker
 Project Support Worker and RVS Admin.
 RVS Home Help Operations Co-ordinator
 RVS Home Help Administration Co-ordinator
 Transport Organiser, Rushmoor & Hart
 Transport Scheduler/Administrator
 Service Manager - Community Access Project
 Community Mental Health Worker (part time)

Dial-A-Ride Drivers

Peter Hyde
 Nick Molloy
 Karen Dawson

Age Concern Driver, Thursday and
 Friday Lunch Club
 David Buckler

Fleet Link

Tony Thomas
 Paul Roberts



Sally Anne Garner (formerly Saunderson)

We send our condolences to Sally's family who passed away on 26th September 2018. Sally joined RVS in 2001, initially as the Development Officer and then became Chief Executive. Sally left RVS in 2007. During that time, Sally got married and moved to Alton.

Sally was passionate about the Voluntary Sector—some of our members may recall that despite her health conditions, in June 2004, she abseiled down St. Omer Barracks and raised over £200 for Parity for Disability!

Rushmoor Voluntary Services
 exists to serve all the communities of Farnborough and Aldershot

NEW MEMBERS

We extend a warm welcome to the following groups who have become members of RVS over the last few months:

Blackwater Valley Countryside Trust

Just Wellbeing (Southern) CIC

The Cambridge Primary School

Women's Institute, Aldershot Branch

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

We also welcome the following group who has recently become an associate member of RVS:

Yateley School



Broadhurst Welcome Home Community Trust provides funding support to the Blooming Marvellous Supported Volunteering Garden Project (BM). This has enabled the project to develop and grow to give the supported volunteers a variety of opportunities as well as doing some great work in the community. BM also helps residents of Rushmoor with a one-off gardening service.

THANK YOU BROADHURST FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

DO YOU KNOW?

Rushmoor Volunteer Centre find and place over 200 new volunteers each year and can provide all the help and information you need to get involved in local voluntary work. For more information, please contact Terry Snuggs at Rushmoor Volunteer Centre on 01252 540162 or visit www.rvs.org.uk



CONGRATULATIONS HAWLEY COMMUNITY GARDEN



For their High Sheriff of Hampshire Award plus a Rushmoor in Bloom Gold Award

Well Deserved!

HCG is a unique project that fosters good relations within the local community of Hawley.

Volunteer Centre



Thank You to local Volunteers—Rushmoor Celebrates Volunteering 2018!

Volunteers who support local voluntary groups and charities in Rushmoor were given formal recognition and thanks for their contribution to the community at an Awards Ceremony held in Farnborough on 14th November 2018.

The annual event to formally recognise the contribution made to the community by local people was hosted by Rushmoor Voluntary Services (RVS) and Rushmoor Borough Council.

Over 50 volunteers and their guests from 25 different organisations were nominated and attended the event, which was hosted by the Mayor of Rushmoor, Cllr Steve Masterson. The volunteers received a Certificate of Thanks to mark the occasion. The Deputy Leader of the Council, Cllr Ken Muschamp and Cabinet Member, Gareth Lyon also gave words of support to the volunteers, RVS and local voluntary action.

Cllr. Steve Masterson, Mayor of Rushmoor, seen below with some of the great volunteers who attended the event, paid tribute to the large numbers of volunteers in the borough who work with so many different organisations to support the community in Rushmoor.



Greg Alexander, Chief Executive of RVS said 'Volunteering in Rushmoor continues to thrive with people supporting many causes to help people from all walks of life. The contribution of local volunteers cannot be underestimated – whilst we have many willing and skilled people who are regularly giving their time to support local people, we need more people to come forward as volunteers to replace those who are retiring or stepping down. Many local charities are looking for new Trustees to ensure good governance and organisation. RVS are working with others to look at new ways to encourage people into voluntary work.

As services provided by Government and our statutory partners are reduced, we in the voluntary sector are committed to working with other agencies to help fill gaps and **develop new ways of working**'.

Terry Snuggs, the Volunteer Centre Coordinator who helped organise the event, with **support from Rushmoor Borough Council** said, 'our event brought together volunteers from a range of different community groups. They all make a fantastic contribution to other people and the organisations they help'.



Halloween happenings and fantastic pumpkins at Farnborough Community Centre with Blooming Marvellous Gardening Group.



Blooming Marvellous volunteers got stuck into pumpkin carving this year, enjoying an opportunity to carve some of the fruits of their labour into ghoulish lanterns.

Some of our Wednesday crew sliced, diced, scooped, pared and carved their creations ready for the spooky celebrations. From Jake's Riddler-Ween, Chris's Night-Mare, Laura's Winky to Heather's Happy pumpkin carving, much fun was enjoyed.

Pumpkin pie to follow



Blooming Marvellous help with Manor Park's Peace Garden make-over



The Blooming Marvellous Supported Adult Gardening Group have worked hard in conjunction with SERCO preparing what was an overgrown former bowling green into the beautiful area you see today. Clearance of the previous overgrown garden started back in March removing the huge amount of ivy and old climbing shrubs from the south facing wall and dead shrubs from the three diamond shaped island beds. Over 200 perennial plants and over 500 spring bulbs will ensure this garden looks its best throughout the coming years.

The Peace Garden at Manor Park, Aldershot was opened by The Mayor of Rushmoor, Cllr. Steve Masterson on 8th November ready for Remembrance Day.



R.V.S. Training 2019

'Emergency First Aider at Work' - one day courses for 2019

Dates: Wednesday, 13th March

Time: 9.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.

Cost: £60.00

Venue: Farnborough Community Centre, Meudon Avenue, Farnborough GU14 7LE

Trainer: MCG Training

Details: 'Emergency First Aider at Work' is regulated by HSE and effectively replaces the Appointed Person Course - Certification is valid for three years with HSE approval (No 38/04)

For information and a booking form please call 01252 540162 or email: support@rvs.org.uk



'MiDAS Training' for 2019

Dates: Wednesday, 6th February—Refresher
Wednesday, 6th March—Full
Wednesday, 3rd April—Refresher

Costs: Full Courses:

RVS members: £60 (non accessible) and £80 (accessible)

Non members: £70 (non accessible) and £90 (accessible)

Refresher Courses:

RVS members: £40 (non accessible) and £60 (accessible)

Non members: £45 (non accessible) and £65 (accessible)

Venue: Farnborough Community Centre, Meudon Avenue, Farnborough GU14 7LE

Trainer: Sue Smith

Details: Accessible training enables the driver to use the tail lift and take wheelchair passengers. The Trainer will arrange a suitable date and time for the driving assessment.

For more information, please contact Viv on 01252 540162 or email: viv@rvs.org.uk



Hawley Community Garden—Harvest Festival Event Saturday, 22nd September



Despite the unpredictable weather, 150 visitors enjoyed a range of activities (archery, leaf rubbing, craft, a petting farm, seed bombs, storytelling, scavenger hunt) plus a great variety of food and drink.

This event was organised by Mayfield Community Partnership, Hawley Community Garden and Church of the Good Shepherd, with funding support from the Uniting Communities Fund.

A real sense of team work and community spirit was evident with so many local organisations keen to help—Rowhill Nature Reserve Society, Cove Brook Greenway Group, Hawley Activity Centre, 7th Farnborough Scouts, Farnborough Grange Nursery & Infant School, Mill Farm Animals, South Coast Medics and Rushmoor Voluntary Services.

Visitors included The Mayor of Rushmoor, Cllr. Steve Masterson and Jib Belbase, President of the Greater Rushmoor Nepali Community.





DIY SOS IN YATELEY

Spie Facilities in collaboration with B&Q renovate living and working accommodation at Yateley Industries for the Disabled

Yateley Industries for the Disabled began discussions with B&Q in July about the need to refurbish two of the on-site bungalows. This work will increase the independent living facilities for adults with disabilities. We have in total 48 units currently with 38 Residents. By refurbishing two bungalows we can now accommodate another six residents into the bungalows which we have previously been unable to rent due to the condition of the property.

B&Q engaged with the company refurbishing their Reading store, Spie Facilities, who were able to call upon an army of volunteer tradesmen and women to spend the weekend transforming the accommodation for the charity. This band of wonderful people came from places as far afield as Manchester, Newcastle and Plymouth.

In true DIY SOS fashion, the volunteer army started work at 1pm on Friday, 19 October and worked through until 2pm on Sunday, 21 October. At its peak on Saturday there were more than 50 people working. Their tremendous efforts delivered new kitchens, bathrooms, flooring, lighting, electric sockets, as well as decorating throughout both bungalows, and supplying a fridge-freezer. They also installed new lighting in the factory, where we employ 88 people with disabilities or long term health conditions through the Work Choice contract, which is run by the Department of Work and Pensions.



A smaller team of volunteers returned to the Yateley site on to complete the refurbishment, ahead of a celebratory handover ceremony at 11am on Friday, 26 October.

Contd. on page 9

Yateley Industries for the Disabled, located on Mill Lane, provides independent living and employment opportunities for adults with disabilities. Established by Jessie Brown (MBE) 80 years ago it continues to grow from the foundations she originally established. The workshop was opened in 1952 and the first bungalows in 1956.

Linda Matthews (CEO - **Yateley Industries for the Disabled**) stated "Everyone in our Yateley family, whether residents, employees or trustees would like to thank all the men and women who gave up their time and used their skills to improve our facilities. This work will enable us to provide more opportunities for adults with disabilities and the spirit of everyone who helped was humbling. Special thanks go to those who got behind our cause and rallied the troops to deliver: Paul Lawrence (Spie Facilities), Kevin Williams (Ride Levitt Bucknall), Chris Piper (Positive Waste Solutions) and Vicki Knowles – Décor Manager, Jenny Velvick – Showroom Manager and Karen Beales – **HR Manager (B&Q).**"



WELLESLEY WOODLANDS

The woodlands cover 110 hectares across **Duke's Wood, Canal and Lakeside, Heather Hill and Thorn Hill**. Each of these areas is distinctive and linked via a network of footpaths.

A booklet has been produced for people to follow a Rubbings Trail to discover some of the nature and heritage of the woodlands.

Copies of these booklets are available at the Rushmoor Voluntary Services office in Farnborough Community Centre or contact Jenni Upstill at Grainger plc (JUpstill@graingerplc.co.uk)

More information about Wellesley Woodlands can be found on the website:
www.wellesleywoodlands.co.uk/where-to-go



Senior Moments Tea/Coffee Club

The West End Centre
Aldershot
GU11 3JD

Every Thursday during the School Term Time

10.30 a.m. to 12 noon

An opportunity to meet people over a cuppa!
Donations welcome to cover cost of refreshments

Free Parking

For more information please
The West End Centre on
01252 408040



Information/Community

Small Grants for Voluntary Groups and Carers – RVS manage several charity funds. The grants are aimed at small groups and are normally in the region of £300.00. Our Carers respite grants are available to individuals.

We have a simple and quick application process. Full details can be found on our website:
<https://www.rvs.org.uk/group-support/funding-help/#RVS%20Grants> – or contact us on 01252 540162.



The Basingstoke Canal Society has just been awarded the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service for its role, over 50 years in the restoration and support of the Canal.

Small teams meet regularly to tackle the towpath vegetation and carry out general tasks.

They also undertake project management, local planning, press & marketing, fundraising, supporting local events, running narrowboat trips as well as maintenance. All these tasks are carried out to ensure the Basingstoke Canal is kept in good condition for all to enjoy—the wildlife as well as people!

If anyone is looking to volunteer and would like to support The Basingstoke Canal Society, they would be pleased to hear from you. You don't have to be an expert, jut keen to work in a small team.

More information can be found on their website: www.basingstoke-canal.org.uk
 You can give them a call on 07850 652769 or email volunteer@basingstoke.org.uk

They would love you to join them!



IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS CONCERNING HAMPSHIRE PLEASE CONTACT THE FOLLOWING:

HAMPSHIRE INFORMATION CENTRE
 VISIT US AT FARNBOROUGH LIBRARY OR TELEPHONE HANTSDIRECT ON 0300 555 1387

2018 has been a very busy year for RVS. Everybody has worked hard to maintain our services to the community and ensure we offer value to our funders. We are continuing to develop new partnerships and maintain our services to the community.

You will be aware that Farnborough Community Centre will be closing in the coming months. The closure of the building is part of the regeneration planned for the new Farnborough Civic Quarter. The eventual closure of the building will mean that RVS will move to different premises. We are being supported by Rushmoor Borough Council to find a suitable location for our operations. Our aim is to continue as one unit where our staff team and transport operation can function in a way that is accessible to all members of the community. We will keep you advised on this. You can read more about the Farnborough Civic Quarter here: [Farnborough Civic Quarter Information](#)

We were delighted to host our annual Volunteer Recognition event in Farnborough on 14th November. Hosted by The Mayor of Rushmoor volunteers supporting a wide range of causes were presented with certificates to mark their contribution to community life in Rushmoor. Local volunteers are making a significant contribution to the community and their contribution is greatly appreciated. Our most recent survey told us that there are at least 3600 active volunteers in the borough making an economic contribution of over £7 million! We should all be very proud of this.

Finding new volunteers is becoming a challenge to many projects – we will be hosting a conference in January to identify new ways of encouraging people to come forward as volunteers so that our diverse community can continue to play a strategic part in maintaining the wellbeing of individuals and organisations here in Rushmoor.

Our training programme for volunteers and voluntary groups continues. We are working more closely with our colleagues in Basingstoke and Hart to join up some of our training and are exploring other ways to collaborate further with support to our sector.

We are all pressed for time and it is often difficult to give up a day to attend training. On-line training is now available on many topics related to our sector. RVS are looking at how we can broker on-line training for our members. I would very much like to hear any views you have on this subject so that we can plan accordingly.

Despite the challenges we are all facing, 2019 will no doubt be a new era for RVS – Our commitment to supporting voluntary action in the borough will continue. We welcome your views and thoughts on any issues related to our services and will shape our priorities around your needs and ideas.

If you would like a discussion on any matters affecting your work, then please do not hesitate to contact me. In the meantime – Seasons greetings from everyone at Rushmoor Voluntary Services.

Greg Alexander, Chief Executive



What's On!



Important dates for your Diary!



Rushmoor Voluntary Sector Forum

Wednesday, 19th December

Wednesday, 20th March 2019

Wednesday, 26th June 2019

Wednesday, 25th September 2019
(including RVS AGM)

Wednesday, 18th December 2019

Has your Club/Group done some exciting things
which you would like to share with others?
Or, would you like to let people know about your
organisation?

Why not use the RVS Newsletter to promote what you
do?

The RVS Newsletter is produced three times a year—
March, July and November.

Once you have read this Newsletter, please pass on to
other members and colleagues within your club or
organisation. Many thanks.

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