



Aldingbourne Trust

Support Change · Live Life · Change Lives

Winter News 2019



Bognor Regis Library Community Garden


www.aldingbournetrust.org

Dear Supporter

This newsletter is a reminder of all the work we are involved in within and across communities. Special thanks to everyone who has been involved in creating the library garden in Bognor Regis. This will be a precious place for young and older people. In all parts of the garden there are examples of the skill, flair & imagination from across Aldingbourne and our supporters.

If you haven't visited MAKE in Portsmouth recently I would encourage you to pop in. It's a place where people learn, explore and laugh together. We are thrilled it has been recognised as the 'Best Cafe' & Takeaway in Fratton' - I think it's the best in Portsmouth!

I am so pleased WorkAid has been recognised with an award for Employee/ Team of the year. The WorkAid team continue to make a positive difference to employers and employees across West Sussex - we're doing our bit to improve the national picture of people with learning disabilities who want to work, to realise their potential and rights to a life that any of us would expect. Thank you to the Aldingbourne teams and our supporters for a busy and inspiring year.



Sue Livett - Managing Director

Celebration of Life Tree at Hotham Park

We are delighted to be part of a new project in partnership with Arun District Council. A silver birch tree in the historic Hotham Park Bognor Regis has been transformed into a 'Celebration of Life Tree Seat', which will feature messages from the public on engraved leaf plaques.

Customers can then dedicate a message to a loved one or celebrate a special occasion by choosing words to have inscribed on a leaf plaque. The plaques will be dedicated for a ten-year period, with the option to re-adopt for a further five years.

This will then be managed through the Wood Recycling Department at the Aldingbourne Country Centre.

Councillor Dan Purchase, Arun District Council's Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services, said: "We are delighted to be launching this imaginative scheme, which allows people to create a unique memory by leaving a personal message inscribed on a leaf-shaped plaque. The dedication will provide a long-lasting tribute that can be visited time and again."



Please visit aldingbournetrust.org/celebration-of-life-tree to find out more information

LOL - Living Out Loud

The Trust was proud to be involved along with other local community groups, including Apulstock, Stay Up Late and Gig Buddies, to launch the first Learning Disability / Autism-friendly club night in Bognor Regis, on Wednesday 6th November at TAO in Bognor Regis.

Community Solutions Manager, Casper Rioseco, said "The launch of Living Out Loud was a huge success with a resounding turnout. To see so many people enjoying themselves and feeling that they can be themselves and not have to worry about being judged, and in a safe and welcoming environment, was tremendous."

There was a huge turnout of nearly 250 attendees, with a variety of people of different ages and abilities coming together.

We are already planning for the next night, which will be taking place on Wednesday 4th December and hope to prove once again there is a demand for a full-on clubbing experience within the local area for people with a learning disability and/or autism.

You can purchase tickets online for the next event at www.aldingbournetrust.org

For more information contact
CapserR@aldingbourne.org



Small Biz 100

Aldingbourne Trust was selected as one of 100 trail-blazing small businesses in the official countdown to Small Business Saturday, which takes place across the UK on December 7th 2019.

In the 100 days running up to Small Business Saturday, the Trust took part in press and social media coverage to showcase the many social enterprises that form the Aldingbourne Trust. The campaign aimed to spotlight each enterprise to celebrate their small business success and encourage the nation to 'shop local' and support British small businesses.

Director of Small Business Saturday, Michelle Ovens MBE, said: "Each year this campaign has grown in support from government, business and communities alike. Small Business Saturday's increasing popularity means it was harder than ever to choose just 100 of this country's incredible 5.6 million small businesses to showcase, but we believe those we have chosen are true representatives of the diverse, creative and inspiring heroes at the heart of our communities."

Managing Director of the Aldingbourne Trust, Sue Livett, said: "We were delighted to have been chosen as one of the UK's small businesses to be part of this campaign; we are avid promoters of the small business, independent trader and keeping things local, so this is a fantastic opportunity for us"



Bognor Regis Library Community Garden

In our summer newsletter we announced our Bognor Regis Library Community Garden project. The library garden team have been very busy over the summer, planning and implementing their design. To celebrate their achievements so far, those who have been involved in the project recently gathered together at the garden to showcase the completion of their hard work.

Lisa Palmer, the community garden project coordinator at the Aldingbourne Trust, said "Thank you to everyone for your help and your ideas in creating this community space. We are so proud of the garden we have achieved together and we are so proud of you for showcasing your talents in a way that will benefit everyone".

The garden has been designed to create an inclusive environment for people of all abilities to enjoy and relax in, and will also host activities by the library for children and for people living with dementia.

All the garden furniture and planters have been made by the Wood Recycling Team at the Country Centre, and the artwork painted around the garden by the Trust's Creative Arts students from Aldwick Road.

Sue Livett, Managing Director of the Aldingbourne Trust, said "It's amazing! Everyone loves what you have achieved. You have created something for the community which will be here for years to come".



For more information or to get involved please contact lisap@aldingbourne.org

ALDINGBOURNE'S RESIDENT ARTIST – RICHARD NORRIS

Richard Norris is part of the Enterprise and Development Team and designs cartoon strips for the Aldingbourne Trust Newsletter.



Corporate Volunteers



Creative Arts Mural



Earthworks Mosaic



Wood@Aldingbourne's Planters



Horticultures Flower Beds



The Official Opening

Pre-School Activities

In September we launched our new Pre-School activity programme, which runs on weekdays during the West Sussex school term time. Classes take place in our dedicated pre-school activities room which is located in the newly refurbished soft play room.

The sessions run for around an hour, in both the morning and afternoon, being specially created for 0-5 year olds. Each session aims to promote children's physical, communication and social skills, whilst being fun, educational, interactive and inclusive.

Our first Pre-School session was a huge success, when parents and toddlers enjoyed a 'Messy Play' session, with activities with paints, play dough and edible materials. The 45 minute session allowed the children to explore their senses through touch and sight. Ginette Keet, our Pre-school Coordinator, said "The sessions are aimed at giving your child the opportunity to mould and manipulate materials. This has a huge impact on your child's creative and physical development".

'Music and Movement' is another activity, where children participate in singing, dancing and playing instruments in a fun and lively session.

Ginette explained "this session is structured to fully support your child's development in a fun and engaging way. During the session children will sing, dance, play games and be provided with opportunities to enhance their confidence and self-esteem with child-led activities".

"My little girl took part in some of the new pre-school sessions and we can't wait to book in again as they were brilliant!" said Sarah Jones from Chichester.

We have had a lot of feedback on our activities from the community, and as a result we are introducing different sessions in November and December and we are now planning ahead for the Spring term.

We are delighted to have Diddi Dance provide a dance class being hosted at our Country Centre on Monday mornings, which is organised by Liz Chisnall of Diddi Dance East Hampshire and Chichester.

For more information about our Pre-School Activities or to book a session please visit aldingbournetrust.org/pre-school

Use code WINTER19 to receive 20% off!



HRH The Duke of Gloucester

In the Summer, HRH The Duke of Gloucester visited us at the Aldingbourne Country Centre, to see first-hand how our charity Aldingbourne Trust supports adults with learning disabilities and/or autism to live an independent life and learn skills within a variety of social enterprises and to enter paid or voluntary employment.

On arrival at the Country Centre, HRH The Duke of Gloucester was received by John Shippam, Deputy Lieutenant of West Sussex and also a Trustee of the Aldingbourne Trust; Mrs Davina Irwin-Clark, High Sheriff of West Sussex; Cllr. Janet Duncton, Chairman at West Sussex County Council, and Miss Frances Russell, Chair of the Trustees of the Aldingbourne Trust.

Peter Stanley, General Manager of the Aldingbourne Trust, welcomed HRH The Duke of Gloucester and led a tour of our newly opened Quarry Building, highlighting the facilities and specially designed features of the new venue. HRH was shown how the new Quarry Building had been designed to promote sustainability and reduce its future environmental impact.

After meeting some of our Country Centre staff, HRH was given an escorted tour of the outdoor facilities, including the sand and water play area, and the new indoor soft play area.



Visiting the wood recycling enterprise and furniture restoration project, he was greeted by Brian Alden our Wood Recycling Enterprise Lead, and enjoyed meeting some of the people the Trust supports.

To commemorate his visit to the Country Centre, HRH The Duke of Gloucester planted an Alder tree near to our Country Centre orchard. The tree was grown from a seedling by James Simpson, one of the people we support, and has been planted to eventually grow and create a sheltered resting area for our future visitors.

Peter Stanley said – “It was an honour to provide a guided tour of our facilities and introduce HRH The Duke of Gloucester to the people we support. He was very interested in our charity and took the time to engage in conversation with staff and the people we support.”



Awards

Representatives from the Aldingbourne Trust attended the 2019 Arun Business Partnership Awards Ceremony on Friday 15th November at the Hilton Avisiford Park Hotel, helping to celebrate the success of many local community businesses.

Aldingbourne Trust's WorkAid team were honoured to win the Employee/Team of the Year award, and on being presented the award Rachel Benson, Deputy Manager of WorkAid, said:

"I am so immensely proud of our WorkAid team; without their sheer determination and hard work, people with learning disabilities or autism spectrum conditions would really struggle to access employment in their communities. Our staff change people's lives, not just for the people they are supporting but also for employers. Thank you to all of the employers across the Arun district who have welcomed people with disabilities so warmly into their teams."

The WorkAid team work across West Sussex to support people with learning disabilities and/or autism who have career dreams and aspirations but sometimes need a little support to help them reach them.

We would like to congratulate and thank the team for their hard work during 2019.



MAKE's Resident Artist

We are proud to welcome resident artist Clarke Reynolds to MAKE in Portsmouth, who is registered severely sight impaired due to living with retinitis pigmentosa, a condition affecting the retina at the back of the eye.

Clarke is an artist who creates art using texture and sound to enable it to be enjoyed by everyone. Working with the people we support at MAKE and the local community, he has created a large piece of artwork as part of the Snow Witch exhibition which took place in Cascades, Portsmouth from the 21st October until the 10th November.

The piece they created was also on display at the Hive in the Central Library, Portsmouth. Everyone was invited to pop into the central library to see, touch and hear the artwork, which MAKE, Clarke Reynolds and the Portsmouth Community Project have created. The piece was inspired by the book 'The Snow Witch' by Matt Wingnett, and created a signpost for everyone who viewed it to the wonderful work by other artists on display at the Cascades Centre, Portsmouth.

We are looking forward to taking part in many future projects with Clarke now that he has settled into his studio at MAKE.

For more information about MAKE please visit aldingbournetrust.org/make





FUNDRAISING APPEAL UPDATE

Thank you so much for the amazing support you are giving our lovely charity. It was with sadness that we were informed that Barnaby Evershed has died. Barnaby's mother was one of the founders of the Aldingbourne Trust. His family held a collection at his funeral and raised vital funds for the Friends of the Aldingbourne Trust.

Over the last few months our supporters have done some great things to support us including:

West Sussex Golf Club held its Charity Golf Day in aid of the Aldingbourne Trust in 2019. They raised over £23,000 for us!

Sainsburys have had collection tins in the petrol station in Chichester. Thank you Sainsburys and thank you everyone who has been donating their coins.

Tracy from MAKE@Aldingbourne ran the Great South Run for us raising money for our project in Fratton.

Littlehampton Golf Club has been supporting us in various ways. They kindly hosted the start of our Charity Walk from Littlehampton to Bognor Regis and in addition the Seniors recently raised £100 for us.

Huge thanks to the Rapid Relief Team for supporting our walkers in September. Having walked 8 miles from Littlehampton to Bognor Regis walkers (and dogs!) were greeted with a delicious barbecue.

Fontwell Racecourse recently held a raffle and we received £95. We very much hope that we will be able to work with Fontwell Racecourse in the future.

Wileys held an event and raised £350 for our charity. Over the years they have given us much support for which we are incredibly grateful.

We are looking forward to Christmas and have organised Breakfast with Father Christmas at the Aldingbourne Country Centre. Places must be booked and paid for in advance and we look forward to welcoming lots of families over the two weekends.

Our Christmas Cards, designed by students from the Creative Arts Studio, are stunning and available for sale in our shop and at Cards for Good Causes.

Santa is very busy as he is writing lots of letters to children in the area. We offer three different packages – they are all lovely and personal to each child. Please visit our website for more information.

The Nineveh House Players are busy rehearsing their pantomime. It will take place in Clymping Village Hall from Thursday 2nd January to Saturday 4th January.

If you are worried about eating too much over Christmas and look forward to getting fit, please register for our Charity Walk which we will be holding on Saturday, 14th March 2020 – walking 8 miles from Littlehampton to Bognor Regis along the coast. We are looking forward to working with Age UK West Sussex again for this event.

Andrew Robson will be giving a Masterclass to any interested bridge players on Friday 28th February.

If you would like to support any of our fundraisers or are wanting to raise money for us please visit our website: www.aldingbournetrust.org and click on 'Support a Fundraiser'.

We would not be able to raise the money that we have without the support we receive from local people: schools, businesses, Friends of the Aldingbourne Trust, volunteers, staff, family and the people we support who are our greatest ambassadors.

Thank you to everyone for your support – please get in touch - we would love to hear from you!
abigailr@aldingbourne.org

Our Volunteers

We have had a fantastic year of support from our team of volunteers: we now have over 210 volunteers across the whole Trust! All of our volunteers are 'super stars' and we could not achieve our work without their continued support.

Here are some updates of what they have been up to since the summer:

We celebrated Cheryl Yates' 70th Birthday. Cheryl has a long-standing history with the Trust, having previously worked at the Acorn Centre supporting adults with learning disabilities. She became a Volunteer as part of the Adopt a Station enterprise in 2014, and the team adore Cheryl. The team met up at Arundel Station to present Cheryl with gifts and cake to congratulate her on her special birthday.

Michael Groarke joined our Volunteer team in July 2014 and attends two days a week to support our Wood Enterprise Team, helping to settle in our new Volunteers. He has recently received an Aldingbourne Award for his work as a coach for the people we support.

Kenneth Gordon has been a Volunteer in the Charity Shop since September 2017. With the recent changes there, he has stepped up to take on more responsibilities to support the shop. He has received an Aldingbourne Award for his key role in the operation of the Charity Shop.



Our Volunteers are so diverse, regularly involved with their designated projects and offering additional support on new community projects like the Bognor Regis Library Community Garden. They have also supported our fundraising events run by the Friends, including attending the Friends Summer Garden party.

We have also had support from local businesses through Corporate Volunteering, with 260 individual Corporate Volunteers to-date (stats since May 2019). Corporate Volunteering not only benefits the supporting business and their staff, but also our charity and the local community.

Our existing and new Partners are:
Southern Water, Waitrose, Galliford Try, Profile Pharma, Body Shop, Mercers, Seaford College, Sussex Partnership (NHS Trust), The Kitchen Store, Natwest and Barclays Bank.



For more information or to become a volunteer please visit
aldingbournetrust.org/volunteers
 or contact TracyM@aldingbourne.org



**Aldingbourne
Trust**

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BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

AT THE ALDINGBOURNE COUNTRY CENTRE



It just wouldn't be Christmas without a trip to see Santa!
Santa is taking a short break from preparing presents to
join you and your little ones for an extra special Christmas
breakfast on the 7th, 8th, 14th & 15th December

£6.50/ £10.00 per adult and £12.50 per child
to include a breakfast & drink, gift from Santa & entrance to the site

Santa is a very busy man this season, so early booking
is essential for this festive breakfast. To book visit -
aldingbournetrust.org/breakfast-with-santa

Aldingbourne Country Centre, Blackmill Lane, Chichester, PO18 0JP
Charity No: 276484





Looking for that perfect gift to give this Christmas?

Pet Portraits

One of the people we support, Simon Rishworth, enjoys creating pet portraits and is now taking commissions ready for Christmas. You can see Simon's artwork on our website, and you can commission Simon to create a portrait of your beloved cat or dog, from £15. You can also have greetings cards or mugs made to order with the portrait he has created, which makes a perfect gift for friends or family.

Longbench Slat

Why not buy your loved one something different this Christmas, by creating a lasting memory though an engraved slat on the Littlehampton Long Bench? You can buy a bench slat and specify your own individual message to be engraved on a new hardwood slat and fitted to the bench. Slat costs £150 each and can be engraved with 1 line of text up to 72 characters long.

Adopt an Animal

You can adopt one of the animals on our open farm to help support their lives at the Country Centre. There are three packages to choose from: Bronze £25, Silver £45 and Gold £100. Each package includes a personalised certificate, photo of your adopted animal, badge and fundraising money box. With a Silver and Gold package you also receive an animal photo mug and a sponsorship plaque at the farm, and the Gold package includes family membership at the Aldingbourne Country Centre.

Annual Membership

Membership of the Country Centre is a gift that lasts a whole year. You can choose from individual membership at £24, or family membership at £80, and the recipient will have access to the Country Centre all year round including our event days.



Please refer to our website www.aldingbournetrust.org for more information on our Christmas gift options.

Parents and Carers - have your children been good this year?

Why not surprise your child with a personalised letter from
Santa before he visits on Christmas Eve

Letter from Santa - £4.99

Letter with certificate and reindeer food - £5.99

Letter with certificate, reindeer food & magic key - £7.99

To purchase your letter please visit -
www.aldingbournetrust.org/santaletter



50p
in every £1
goes to the
Aldingbourne Trust

WE WIN! YOU WIN!
**PLAY THE ALDINGBOURNE TRUST
LOTTERY**

Win up to
£25,000
each week

For just £1 each week, you will support adults with disabilities across Sussex to live independent lives.
To join online visit www.aldingbournetrust.org or contact Abigailr@aldingbourne.org

CONTACT US

Senior Marketing Officer: leahm@aldingbourne.org
Sales, Marketing & PR Officer: beckym@aldingbourne.org
Volunteer Co-Ordinator: tracym@aldingbourne.org
Fundraising: abigailr@aldingbourne.org
Events: jensears@aldingbourne.org

Aldingbourne Trust, Blackmill Lane, Norton, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0JP
Central Office Tel: 01243 544607 Aldingbourne Country Centre Tel: 01243 542075

Charity No 276484



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