

News flash

DECEMBER 2019

Issue No 135



The Committee, staff and volunteers of Eastleigh Borough and Romsey **MENCAP** wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

CHRISTMAS at EASTLEIGH Christmas lights switch on

On November 16, a group from our **VOLUNTEERING CREW** met up in the evening to join the Parade before the Christmas lights were switched on, we were collecting for the Mayor of Eastleigh's Charities Appeal. We had lights on our buckets and scarves! The crowd gave the parade a great welcome and we really enjoyed the fireworks.



Eastleigh BID is to be congratulated for getting so many people, young and old into the centre of Eastleigh for the event. Our Committee and volunteers ran a fundraising stall during the day time and enjoyed meeting many local people and encouraging children to make rainbow coloured Christmas characters.

Chandlers Ford Charities Fayre



Our stall at the Annual Charities Fayre in Chandlers Ford was the best ever. Elaine Fish worked with Jacqui and Peter Rowley selling donated gifts from our supporters. They reported large crowds and depleted stock at the end of the morning.

We are grateful to them for continuing to run the stall each year as well as

promoting our society in Chandlers Ford. Thanks to our donors too who provide stock each year.

On November 28 we were invited to “The Place to Eat”, the café on the top floor in the John Lewis Partnership Store in West Quay, to receive a big cheque from their Community Matters Green Token scheme. As you can see it was a big cheque for a big amount! £600 is a really large donation for us, thank you John Lewis Partners for running such a great scheme to support local charities.

We are grateful to everyone who voted for us and for the nomination in the first place.



Please be aware that many local funders are reducing the amounts that they give or cutting out grants altogether, so we have to look for new funding opportunities all the time. Feel free to nominate us in supermarkets or elsewhere, if you value our services.

Thank you to all our Committee, staff and volunteers for their fundraising efforts, whether they have been collecting for our society or for the Mayor’s Appeal, they have really put in the hours and we appreciate their commitment and enthusiasm. All of our fundraising is approached with a positive spirit!

AGM & ANNUAL PARTY – November 9 2019

But it is not all hard work, we know how to party! We held our AGM and annual party at the Cranbury Centre. The Annual Report and Treasurers Report were presented and anyone who requires a copy has only to request one, these can be sent by email or hard copy.



We had a fish and chip supper, a picture quiz and lots of dancing. We finally shut our DJ down at 10.30pm. No prizes for guessing which song these members are dancing to!



FUTURE CARING RESEARCH & ACTION

New Forest MENCAP has recently commissioned a research project entitled **“Looming crisis for older family carers of people with learning disabilities”**. They hosted a launch event in Brockenhurst to promote the research which is of relevance to every carer of a person with a learning disability. The event was chaired by Baroness Jolly, the Lords Whip at the Department of Health and the research was completed by Rachel Forrester-Jones, Professor of Social Policy at the University of Bath. There was a lively discussion after the presentation with the panel, carers in the room and representatives from Adult Health & Care.

New Forest MENCAP will be organising a workshop for parents and carers to work on suggestions and fixes to current issues regarding local authority services and support. The outcomes will be presented to HCC, and any further information will be disseminated back. In the meantime, if you have suggestions for doing things differently for your loved ones with learning disabilities, do contact:

Jackie Lillywhite, Development Officer, New Forest MENCAP
development@newforestmencap.org Tel: 01425 621893

GROWING RAISED BEDS!

Correction to our last newsletter

The working party who came to work at the Gardening Club allotments in early October were from **Network Rail**, based at Eastleigh Works. Not as stated in the October newsletter, from "Eastleigh Works", who have hosted us in the past.

THE MAYORS APPEAL- UPCOMING EVENTS

The Mayor's Appeal Committee is working on a number of events – some are open to all, others happen within different organisations, for example, Eastleigh Borough Council will have a Christmas Jumper day, cake sale and Christmas card donation scheme. Age Concern are running a Tea Dance. If you or someone you know, works in a big organisation, you might consider asking if you could do something like this for the Appeal. Talk to Michelle in the first instance as she can supply information about the Appeal, the three charities which will benefit and why support is needed – 023 8048 3471.

February 25 – Quiz & curry night at the Concorde Club

March 21 - Spitfires Band Concert at the Dovetail Centre in Chandlers Ford- Tickets £8

March 22 – Sunday Hendy Eastleigh 10K Road Race. We are looking for runners who can also raise sponsorship!

There are other events in the pipeline before the end of the Mayor's Term in mid May, more news to follow.

SOCIETY DIARY EVENTS

December 14 – no basketball club due to exam season

December 14 - 11.00 to 12.30 – Gardening Club Winter Meeting

December 28 - Eastleigh Hot Shots Basketball with Coach Alan

First Sessions in 2020: (usual times, usual places)

January 6 - COC Group A

January 9 - Flagship Art Club

January 13 - COC Group B

January 14 - ACTIVE CITIZENS

Give us a call if you have any queries. 023 8048 347, leave your name and tel number or send an email, address below



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