

# HEADLINES

THE HEADWAY THAMES VALLEY NEWSLETTER **November 2013**

Headway Thames Valley, Brunner Hall, 84b Greys Road, Henley on Thames, RG9 1TF

## 65's Club

M Ives	£65
M Glover	£35
J Smith	£20
J Davies	£15
K Butterfield	£10
P Ferris	£10
D Johnson	£5
P Harrison	£5

## August 2013

P Cassidy	£65
G Powell	£35
K Butterfield	£20
K Landau	£15
E Ferris	£10
B Tomlin	£10
J Littlejohn	£5
M Ives	£5

## September 2013

Thank you to all 65's club members  
for their continued support.

### Events coming up

*For more details on any event  
please phone 01491 411469 or  
see the web site*

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December**  
**7pm – Tuesday Club**  
**Monroe's Rib House,**  
**Reading – all welcome.**

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December**  
**11 – 12am Christmas Carols**  
**- Brunner Hall with guest**  
**musicians – all welcome.**

## News

### 25<sup>th</sup> AGM



In October, Headway Thames Valley held its 25<sup>th</sup> AGM at the Salisbury Club, Henley on Thames. Clients past and present, families, volunteers, staff and trustees all enjoyed a buffet supper and the chance for some reminiscing about the old days...

Duncan Johnson, who was a client for many years before moving to the south coast with his family, is pictured above sharing a joke with Trevor.

Sadly, not everyone could attend and I received a lovely email from a previous manager, Sue Devlin. I've included some of her email below as I feel it sums up what we are celebrating over the next year and reflects what a lot of people said on the evening:

"I would like to congratulate our wonderful Headway Thames Valley on its 25th Anniversary. Please convey to all of the Committee, the staff, volunteers and all of the attendees and their respective families my admiration for this achievement. The person who started "our" Headway was the most amazing lady called Roseanne Barnett MBE whom, if it weren't for her guts and determination Headway Berkshire – as it was originally called – would not have been in existence. Sadly she passed away and left a big hole in all of our hearts but she would be so proud and

# HEADLINES

grateful that Headway is still helping so many brain injured folk and their families. Her husband Pat Barnett was her "backbone" and he threw his whole heart and soul in to helping get Headway up and running in the area. The reason behind their "passion" was due to the fact that they had a son - Lindsay Barnett who suffered severe brain damage from a motorcycle accident in France whilst on holiday with his friends. Roseanne gave up her full time job and cared for Lindsay for many years. This taught Roseanne and Pat "gaps" there were in the 'system' in those days and after their beloved son subsequently died from cancer both Roseanne and Pat spent every minute of their time in fighting to get a Headway up and running in the area. As you all prove today - 25 years on - it has and is a great success.

I had the most fortunate experience of meeting Roseanne and working alongside her for many years and Pat of course after he "retired" from his day job! After Roseanne's sad passing I had to try to "fill her shoes" which of course was impossible but - she taught me so much in the many years prior to that, that I was able to conquer the many challenges that were set before me to help Headway Thames Valley continue. Roseanne was our "Queen Bee" and when we lost her it was very difficult but her strength kept us all going and it must never be forgotten.

I'm sorry that I cannot join you in your celebrations - I'm on my way to Greece. I wish each and every one of you a very "HAPPY 25th ANNIVERSARY" and especially to Pat Barnett, my dear friend.

Our grateful thanks to all of those who helped to make this a fantastic evening: Staff and volunteers at Headway and everyone at The Salisbury Club who as usual - went the extra mile to be great hosts!

---

## Staff changes



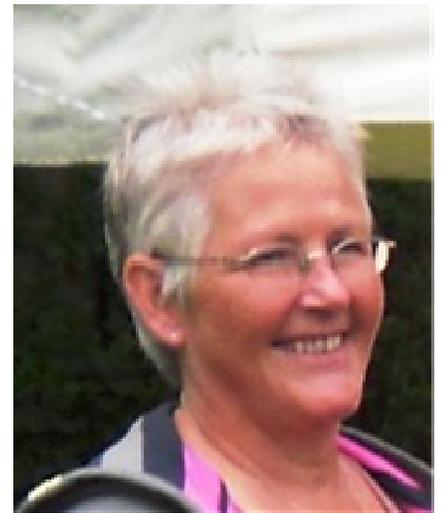
Christa Ahmed who has worked for Headway Thames Valley since 1998 and been day care manager at Brunner Hall since 2007 is retiring in January.

Christa has been the kingpin of day care in Henley and will be very sadly missed by her colleagues, volunteers and all of the clients. We wish Christa every happiness in her (well earned!) retirement.

Elaine Carpenter (right), who has worked for the charity since 2008 will be replacing Christa and the role will be changing slightly to include overall supervision of the satellites also.

Elaine has been a fantastic senior support worker and also outreach worker in the satellites and will make a great day care manager. We're all delighted Elaine has

taken up this challenge and wish her the best of luck in her new role.



## HEADLINES

Of course this has left a vacancy and we are currently advertising for a support worker/enabler; the post Elaine is leaving is also changing slightly. We wish to recruit someone who as well as providing support work in Brunner Hall will also be able to undertake outreach work in the community. This reflects the shift in emphasis overall in our work – that of gradually extending to offer more support in clients' homes.

We are also advertising for a part time minibus driver as Matthew who started work in May as an enabler and minibus driver is becoming more and more busy with the former and so we now require help with minibus driving. You can see both of these vacancies on our web site or by following this link:

<http://www.headwaythamesvalley.org.uk/2013/11/job-vacancy/>

---

## Other News

At the 4<sup>th</sup> Regatta for the Disabled held at Phyllis Court Club in Henley on Thames on 31<sup>st</sup> August – our dragon boat team came **1<sup>st</sup> !**

They beat 11 other teams and also returned some of the best times not just from this regatta but ever seen by the dragon boat company who run these events all over the country !!!!



Pictured at the start of the day – as usual – all were in costume

# HEADLINES



A very popular stall with lucky dip and cakes!



Waiting to start their first race



Tammy Renwick and Shirley Smith



With the Mayor and their medals!

## HEADLINES



**“We did it!”**

**The cake stall, team sponsorship and face painting raised a total of £186.70**

**Many thanks to – Shirley, Lauren, Angela and Tammy for face painting and help with the lucky dip, Michele and all the family and everyone who sponsored the team, made cakes, took part and made this a fantastic day to remember.**

---

## **Thank you!**

**A huge thank you to the following for their generous support and sponsorship:**

**Henley Rotary £600**

**Stoke Row Stores £47.30 Oratory School £163.01**

**Sandford Trust £500**

**Royal London Insurance £976.79 Dragon Boat Team sponsorship £458.50**

**Cakes at Regatta £131.20**

**Face Painting at Regatta £55.50 Umbrella Entertainment £2500**

**Stroke Survivors £500**

**Gainsborough Residents Association £500**

**Plus several smaller but just as important donations!**

## HEADLINES



'Tudor Lodge' – dynamic musical duo John and Lynne came to the centre recently and performed some lovely well known tunes as well as some of their own fantastic compositions which everyone enjoyed.

We look forward to welcoming them back to Brunner Hall - they will be returning on 11<sup>th</sup> December for the Christmas Carols.

### Christmas Carols

We will be holding our annual Christmas Carol get together at Brunner Hall as usual. 11 am – 12 followed by fruit punch and mince pies on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December. All

our friends and supporters are welcome to come along. We will be having pieces performed by our choir, and also some guest performers (including Tudor Lodge above) too.

### Gainsborough Residents Association

The above group was set up in September to maintain the appearance of the estate which is next to Brunner Hall, check on elderly neighbours and help the wider community. They held an auction of promises in the Town Hall and Headway Thames Valley was amongst the 4 local charities they made a donation to (see above). Our grateful thanks to the residents of Gainsborough – what a fantastic example of a community working together!



**Friends of Rupert House School** threw a summer ball to raise money for the school and for Headway Thames Valley. Olivia Lamb nominated us for a donation and had to do a presentation at the school before the ball. We attended their assembly this week.

At the assembly, Olivia asked the pupils if they could remember what they ate for breakfast and had they walked or run to school and told them that remembering and getting about were two things very difficult for some people with brain injury.

The children seemed to understand that these were functions of the brain and were all keen to put their hands up. We wanted to say a very big thank you and to tell them that we are going to spend the donation of £5888 – on – Music Therapy. Pictured left are – left to right – headmistress Mrs Lynas, Beverley McKenzie from Friends of Rupert House, Olivia Lamb and her 4

year old daughter, Sophia.

# HEADLINES



Staff and clients went to the Butchers Arms in Sonning Common to collect a cheque for £2,000 raised from the pub's summer music festival. Rob and Ellie Blues have run the pub since March 2012. The festival was held on midsummer's day when unfortunately it poured down all day.

Our sincere thanks to all the musicians, locals, and helpers including Headway staff who worked very hard in the pouring rain to put the festival on. Pictured left to right back row are Ellie, Carol, Mat, John, Dave, Angela, Colin, Vipool, Steve and Les. Front row left to right are Dave and Alan.



The day was a great success with local resident John Pitcher agreeing **BEFORE!**



**AFTER!**

to have his long locks and long beard cut on the day. John raised a fantastic £1000 from sponsorship alone!

[www.thebutchersarmspub.co.uk](http://www.thebutchersarmspub.co.uk)

## HEADLINES

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Last day we are open before Christmas → → Monday 23rd December**

**We are closed over Christmas and New Year**

**First day we are open in the New Year → → Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January**

### CONTACT US

Brunner Hall  
84B Greys Road  
Henley-on-Thames  
RG9 1TF  
Telephone: **01491 411469**  
Email: [info@headwaythamesvalley.org.uk](mailto:info@headwaythamesvalley.org.uk)

View this and all our previous newsletters online at:  
[www.headwaythamesvalley.org.uk](http://www.headwaythamesvalley.org.uk)



# HEADWAY THAMES VALLEY - CHRISTMAS DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Carol Concert 11:00 am. Brunner Hall -  
Choir, Carols and guest musicians, followed by mince  
pies.

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December

Last day Headway is open

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January

First day open in New Year