

Dear All

Welcome to our autumn Newsletter. We have been very busy over the last few months, experiencing record attendance numbers at many of our 42 community-based drop-in Hearing Help sessions. For example, we recently had to change our venue in Cambourne as a result of outgrowing the previous one. We estimate that across 2017 we will maintain approximately 18,000 NHS hearing aids via our Hearing Help sessions, home visits, residential home visits, mobile library service and prison visits. Our work is a lifeline for those who have difficulty accessing mainstream services, particularly those who are older and frailer, have other disabilities or live in rural areas with poor access to transport.



Most of our work is delivered by our dedicated team of volunteers who have been trained to carry out hearing aid maintenance by our Supervisors, Fran and Gaynor, and Audiologists from Addenbrooke's Hospital. We currently have 98 volunteers and we are appealing for even more, especially in Cambridge, Linton, Bottisham, Burwell, Soham and the surrounding areas.

Our next free volunteer training course is taking place this autumn, and full details are provided in this newsletter. This is a great opportunity to add hearing aid maintenance to your existing skills and be part of a passionate and caring team of staff and volunteers, many of whom have shared experience of hearing loss. Hearing aid maintenance volunteering starts at our Hearing Help sessions, with the opportunity to progress onto providing home visits and residential home visits. We are extremely grateful to all our volunteers.



We have enjoyed a good deal of fundraising support from the Cambridgeshire Community, which includes our Grafham Water Safari walk raising a grand total of £2,793.82. Read further to view all our recent donations on our new Donation Wall.

Looking to the future, our plans include: providing our lip-reading classes for free, starting September 2017 (read on for further details); increasing the level of social contact and peer support for the hard of hearing community in Cambridgeshire; and increasing

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our fundraised income from all sources, including Trusts/foundations, community groups and companies and building a social media presence.

*With very best wishes,
Amanda Morgan*

Facebook and Twitter:  /Cambridgeshire-Hearing-Help

 @CambHearingHelp

Our New Trustees

Isobel Hambleton “I am a Cambridgeshire Hearing Help volunteer, and currently a PhD candidate in the Department of Biochemistry at the University of Cambridge, engaged full-time in scientific research. In recent years I have occupied several leadership roles, including serving as a welfare officer on the Clare College graduate student committee and also, two years as Secretary of the University’s scuba diving society, before recently being elected as Chairperson. Although not a hearing aid user myself, I am passionate about the activities of Cambridgeshire Hearing Help. In my spare time I am a keen musician and intrepid traveller, including trekking in the Arctic and camping in the Amazon rainforest!”



Diane Edwards “Before retiring, I was Operations Manager for the eight static and two mobile libraries in the Huntingdon Area of Cambridgeshire Libraries - I now volunteer for the newly formed Brampton Community Library! I have volunteered with Cambridgeshire Hearing Help for about two years and have just become a Trustee. Gardening and flower arranging are two of my interests and I am Treasurer of Brampton Flower Club which has over eighty members. I volunteer at Hinchingsbrooke Hospital and I am Secretary of the Friends of Hinchingsbrooke Hospital.”



Donation Wall - Every donation counts and goes towards the magnificent work carried out by Cambridgeshire Hearing Help. This quarter we are delighted with the following donations -

JCI Cambridge £431

Donation Tins from sessions £1,109.53

Linton Parish Council
£350

Sampson Orchestra Concert £562

John Huntingdon’s Charity £293

Donations from David Imrie’s funeral £240

John & Sheila Hawes’ Diamond Wedding
Anniversary donations in lieu of presents £165

White Hart Pub, Gt. Staughton £6.52

John Lewis £700

Grafham Water Safari Walk £2,793

Our Annual General Meeting and Celebration Tea Party



Roger Hill, Chair of Trustees with new Director, Amanda Morgan



Retiring Trustee, Sue Stanley



Barbara Atkins & Margaret Port receiving 10 year awards



Jo Shields taken by surprise, winning the neatest return forms



John Martin standing down after many years as Honorary Vice President



Liz & David representing the busiest Hearing Help Session



New Volunteer Training

Our new volunteer training programme is running this autumn across six mornings, on the 20th, 21st, 27th & 28th September, and the 4th & 5th October 2017 from 10am to 1pm. Special arrangements can be made if you cannot attend all these dates. The training will be held in Hope Hall, Cambridgeshire Deaf Association, 8 Romsey Terrace, Cambridge, CB1 3NH. Booking required. ☎ 01223 416141 or enquiries@cambridgeshirehearinghelp.org.uk

Refresher Training

We encourage all volunteers to attend a refresher training every 2 years, our next training date is 22nd November, 10am at C3 Centre, Coldhams Lane, Cambridge, CB1 3HR. Please confirm your place with the office ☎ 01223 416141 or enquiries@cambridgeshirehearinghelp.org.uk

New - Batteries by Post

If you are unable to attend one of our clinics we can post your hearing aid batteries to you. Please send in your Brown Book or written request stating clearly the size or colour of the battery you need.



Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope. A standard sized envelope is fine with a LARGE 1st class or LARGE 2nd class stamp. If you require your batteries urgently, please use a 1st class stamp. We will then post your batteries by return to you. Send your request to: Cambridgeshire Hearing Help CIO, 8A Romsey Terrace, Cambridge, CB1 3NH.

Free Lip Reading Classes

Do you have difficulties hearing? Do you have problems hearing against background noise? Many social gatherings are noisy and so make hearing difficult. If your hearing is getting worse, it is better to start lip-reading sooner rather than later; this applies whether or not you use hearing aids. Lip-reading can be especially useful in helping you to understand speech in noisy and other difficult situations.



New classes start on Thursday 28th September 2017 at Hope Hall, 8 Romsey Terrace, Cambridge, CB1 3NH, from 10.30am – 12.30pm. Booking is required. To book your place, please contact Melanie Lombardi ☎ 01223 416141 or email: enquiries@cambridgeshirehearinghelp.org.uk

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