

Happy Birthday...

No - not to us, but to the National Lottery, now the **National Lottery Community Fund**, who are 25 this year! Pictured (right) are staff and clients on our annual trip to Weston-Super-Mare in August, who took time out to wish the grant providers a Happy Birthday. As in past years it was well attended by clients and their families although the weather was a mixed bag. However despite this everyone had a lovely time and the feedback from the clients was really good and clearly shows us how valued the trip is.



Welcome to a new member of staff...

We extend a warm welcome to Maisie, who joined us recently to cover for maternity leave. Maisie has been working with young people for around 8 years, in different support and volunteering roles in schools and colleges. She recently started studying again and is due to complete a Masters in Youth and Community Work in October 2020. She sees working at The Basement Project as a totally new challenge as she is learning all the time. She says, *"As someone who has only lived in Bromsgrove for a couple of years it is great to feel I am more involved in the community and helping the young people in the area. On the personal side, I have 2 cats, I play netball in my spare time and I also enjoy cooking and baking."* Welcome Maisie!



...and welcome to two new Trustees

We recently welcomed 2 new trustees, Rita Dent and Richard Hood. Rita, a county councillor, moved to Bromsgrove with husband Alan, in 1985, and has 2 girls and 5 grandchildren (and a dog)! She says that she likes to be involved in the community and is looking forward to her role as a Trustee. Malvern born Richard is an experienced company secretary and senior governance practitioner with over 30 years' experience of working in the public, private



Richard Hood

and not for profit sectors. Now a consultant he was previously a Director at a large national children's charity. He has lived in Bromsgrove most of his adult life, has 2 teenage children and is passionate about the need to support and promote the interests of children and young people.



Rita Dent

Future events...

Sponsored Sleep Out - Basement staff will be doing a sponsored sleep out on Saturday 23rd November. We will also have a stand at the Christmas Fair switch on that evening.



Christmas party/meal - as in previous years we will be holding a Christmas party/meal for our clients at the old Starlight Cafe (in Charford) on Tuesday the 10th of December from 12.30 till 2.30 p.m. Call the office for more details.



Partnership meeting - the Basement will be hosting a partnership/networking event in the New Year inviting agencies we currently and/or have previously worked with to meet with us so we can update each other on what we are all able to offer to support young people.

Keep informed and join the fun!



www.bromsgrovebasementproject.org.uk



<http://facebook.com/TheBasementProject>



Thank you NCS groups!

Through July and August NCS groups from Bromsgrove, Woodrush, Waseley Hills & Stourbridge helped at market stalls, put on quiz nights, collected food donations and even held a sponsored sleep out. Their combined efforts raised over £1,500 ! So thank you NCS!



...and more "thanks" ...

...to staff from Waitrose who helped us at our Summer event, it was great having you on board, to Waitrose for donating burgers, sausages and rolls and to Sainsburys Local for the vegetarian food. The young lady (left) was certainly enjoying herself! The event took place in July, one of the hottest days of the year! All who attended were treated to a free BBQ, games, hair braiding, lucky dip, face art and story time with our own Kelly Turner reading from the series of books she has written.



...to local Businesses including Estate Agents, Fine and Country, who held their annual ball in aid of homeless charities; Aspire Business Partnership who raised £1,175 for us; Waitrose, who have chosen us for their 'Community Matters' scheme during October and several more shops on the High Street who have placed collection boxes on their tills for us.

...and to Cupitts staff (right) who did a mud run on 7th September - they are still raising money for us on their facebook page and they also have a collection bucket in their shop. By the look of them they might need to have a collection for some extra strong washing powder as well!



...to Mrs Chowdry who kindly cooked several batches of curry for our clients; to Martine Reynolds who held a coffee and cake swap shop for us; to Rosie (pictured left) who has raised £133 so far from her honesty box for dog treats, and for cash donations from Sonny's Fryer, a local darts team and 2 gardens open in Marlbrook.

..and thanks to local schools and churches for Harvets donations (both food and money) including Bromsgrove School, Stoke Prior School, Lickey End First School, Winterfold School, Bromsgrove Methodist and Baptist churches, Catshill Methodist Church and Lickey End Methodist Church.

A new service... Most of our staff are trained in Mediation and we think this could be the way forward for many people to avoid family break ups and potential homelessness. So we are running a trial with a local school to see how effective it could be - and are grateful to Worcestershire County Council Community Fund for providing us with funding to allow us to run the trial for 12 months. If successful we will offer it to other schools and organisations.

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