



Welcome to the third issue of Volunteer News, a newsletter for our volunteers, to help to keep you up to date with what is happening at Age Concern Sandwich. If you have anything you would like included in our next edition, please contact Gill Ball, email [agecorecruiter@btinternet.com](mailto:agecorecruiter@btinternet.com) or phone 07735556811



### Jane Goring

Welcome to our Winter newsletter which this time features Jane Goring the other half of the Management team, (you may remember that we featured Tracey in an earlier issue).

Jane joined Age Concern Sandwich in March 2013, to assist the Chief Officer 2 days per week. It wasn't long before 2 days become 3 days per week as there was a lot to do.

When a new Chief Officer was appointed Jane became office manager, when that Chief Officer left on maternity leave Jane and Tracey were appointed the Joint Chief Officer role, which commenced officially in September 2014.

Before coming to Age Concern Sandwich Jane worked for Pfizer's, initially in the Clinical Sciences department involved with clinical trials, including an electronic scanning programme. From there, Jane went to the Patents department. After 12 years Jane became a casualty of Pfizer's large redundancy and downsizing plan. The coding department in the William Harvey Hospital was where Jane spent her next year. Jane also mentioned that she had experienced a mixture of part time roles whilst her children were young and at home.

Jane says the best bit about her current role at Age Concern Sandwich is the amazing team of both staff and volunteers. She is really proud of the new services that she has been involved in setting up and is passionate about making a difference. Her least favourite part of the role is form filling, as they have to submit on line data as part of their funding requirement. Her vision for the centre is to continue to build services that they currently offer and to reach full capacity every day in the Centre, making it busy and buzzing.

In her spare time Jane enjoys spending it with family, she has 3 children and 4 grandchildren (2 aged 10 and 2 aged 6), and will organise art and crafts or baking activities with them. Jane also enjoys holidays, anything from a family camping trip in Cornwall to cruises. Jane and her husband are researching camper van options as part of their retirement planning. Jane has a big birthday next year and is wanting to plan a family holiday as part of the celebration.

**If you would like to feature in the next issue of Volunteer News please contact Gill Ball who would be delighted to put something together phone 07735556811 or email [agecorecruiter@btinternet.com](mailto:agecorecruiter@btinternet.com)**





## Thank you

A huge thank you to Les Kinnear from The Sandwich Sausage Company for organising a fundraising event for us.

Also thank you to The Fruit Bowl, The Fleur de Lis, and Sandwich Printing Company and Andrew Clarke and his band, who contributed as well.

The event was held on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November, there was a delicious three course meal and the musical entertainment was provided by the superb Andrew Clarke and his band.

All attendees agreed it was a very enjoyable evening, which raised a spectacular £700 for Age Concern Sandwich.

## Our Amazing Volunteers are really making a huge difference

The last thing we would wish to do is to blind you with science or statistics, and – not wishing to blow our own trumpets (too much) – we want to tell you about some of our successes so far this year.

Throughout the year we have increased our number of befrienders to 28 which means that they have now provided nearly 900 hours of companionship so far this year, thereby helping reduce the feeling of loneliness and social isolation that so many older people experience.

In addition, our Meals on Wheels service, which is still developing, has provided nearly 2300 meals so far this year, and this has been achieved using the services of our 19 volunteers.

The demands on Age Concern are constantly growing and evolving, and so we are always on the lookout for new volunteers, because with more volunteers we can help even more clients. An enormous “thank you” to everyone who volunteers with us, you all make a huge difference and we couldn’t manage without you.



## Elf Alert !!

When I visited Age Concern Sandwich on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December, I found these elves in the office.

Our team was supporting Alzheimer’s Society’s Elf Day an initiative to create awareness and raise funds to help people living with Dementia.



## Dementia Friendly Sandwich

Jane and Sally have been working very hard to encourage people to become Dementia friendly. This year 52 people have attended Dementia Friends sessions, run by Age Concern Sandwich. The sessions are extremely informative and help to explain the complicated condition in an easy to understand way. If we have a better knowledge about things we are able to respond more appropriately. This is why Sally and Jane have been encouraging local businesses to become Dementia Friends, empowering them to assist people if they appear to be struggling, also to be patient and allow extra time if needed.

We are very pleased to announce that many businesses in Sandwich display the Dementia Friendly logo on their windows; the objective is for every business in the town to be Dementia Friendly. Our Co-Op store has been extremely supportive and an early adopter of the scheme.

Recently Jane, Sally and others including our Mayor participated in the Dementia experience bus. As it sounds, this is a bus that has been kitted out to allow people to see life, in a way someone with Dementia may experience it. Feedback from attendees was that they didn't realise how difficult it was for someone with Dementia to do even the simplest of every day tasks. It gave an extremely thought-provoking and in some cases distressing insight.

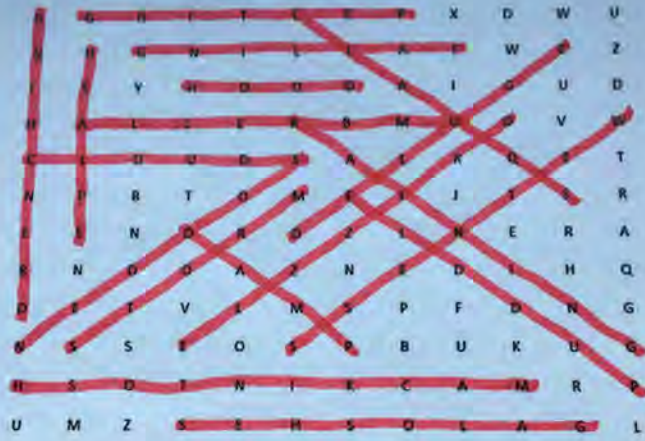
If you or someone you know would like to attend a Dementia Friends session, please contact Jane or Sally who will book you on to the next available session.



Christmas Carol Service  
Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 1.30pm  
United Reformed Church Sandwich  
Everyone welcome



Wordsearch for a Rainy Day



Please see word search answers from the last issue.

Good luck with the next one, below, which was kindly sent in by one of our volunteers.

If you have a puzzle or quiz you would like included in the next issue, please send it through to Gill [agecorecruiter@btinternet.com](mailto:agecorecruiter@btinternet.com)

## New Year – Word search

T	G	G	L	J	I	L	G	P	W	H	P
O	M	N	R	F	E	M	L	J	Q	A	F
A	N	T	I	E	W	A	A	A	R	C	Y
S	O	I	R	G	I	R	J	T	O	T	A
T	I	P	Y	K	N	D	Y	U	C	M	N
F	T	N	C	P	E	I	N	N	W	I	A
C	U	O	E	G	P	T	S	S	H	D	M
Y	L	T	G	B	D	A	N	C	I	N	G
C	O	Q	U	O	G	G	H	S	S	I	O
D	S	O	W	R	I	I	L	I	K	G	H
E	E	N	U	J	E	K	B	T	Y	H	R
R	R	Q	A	O	S	L	A	O	C	T	S

BIG BEN  
CLOCK  
COALS  
COUNTDOWN  
DANCING  
DRAM

FUTURE  
HAPPY  
HOGMANAY  
JIG  
MIDNIGHT  
PARTY

REEL  
RESOLUTION  
SINGING  
TOAST  
WHISKY  
WINE



## For Sale or Wanted section

It has been suggested that Volunteer News includes a  
For Sale / Goods Wanted section

So please send through anything you would like included in the  
next edition to Gill Ball [agecorecruiter@btinternet.com](mailto:agecorecruiter@btinternet.com)

Or let Jane or Tracey have the details

Thank you.



It's staff profile time again – and we've chosen as our latest 'victim' **Gill Ball, our Volunteer Recruiter**. We all know that without our wonderful volunteers our organisation would probably not be able to function.....and that's why we need Gill. Her job is to ensure we have sufficient volunteers to enable us to provide all those essential services for our clients. Gill has been with us since 2008 and in that time has provided volunteer recruiting services at various locations including Whitstable and Faversham, but these days is responsible for Age UK Herne Bay & Whitstable and, since 2015, Age Concern Sandwich. Obtaining funding for the post of Volunteer Recruiter has been difficult in recent years, but Gill is currently working

12 hours per week. Gill says she likes all aspects of her job but particularly loves working with volunteers. In addition, she joined the Harmony Therapy Trust last year as a trustee, and this year she became involved with Alpha Charity Consulting, based in Tenterden, which helps charities and other not for profit organisations develop a more professional approach to running their organisation.

Earlier in her career, Gill had been involved in catering but with her children still at a young age, she decided to give Marketing a try after an initial taster at Thanet College. After 4 years of study she obtained a Post-Graduate Diploma in Marketing and then became a lecturer on the subject at Canterbury College for the next year and a half. Later on, Gill became a NHS Complaints convenor, based in Maidstone although the role was largely home-based. Gill has also worked for a marketing agency and was clerk to the governors at the local school.

Outside of work, Gill loves gardening, and when she's not at home with her family or visiting her dad who lives locally, she can often be found at one of her art classes where she might be painting a pair of lady's slippers or even a Rubik's Cube that's slowly melting – it all sounds very Salvador Dali!

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you  
all a very merry Christmas and a happy and Healthy  
New Year

