

## Message From Trustees - Annual General Meeting Postponed

Usually, at this time each year, we would be writing to all our members to give them notice of an up coming Annual General Meeting (AGM). This is the meeting each year where we tell you what the Society has achieved in the past year in the way of providing social and leisure opportunities for all our members, and we inform you of the Society's finances following the annual examination of our accounts by an outside accountancy firm. In view of the current situation with Covid-19 the **Trustees have decided to postpone our AGM** until a time when we can gather together, safely in a suitable venue. The Trustees will monitor the situation and arrange an AGM as soon as is safe to do so.

In the meantime, our accounts, to the end of our financial year at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020, are being examined by the accountants now, and will be available for anyone to see by the middle of June. So, if you wish to see our accounts you only have to request them, and if you have questions you can ask the Treasurer, Russell Pocock, who is contactable on email: [russell@keynshammencap.org.uk](mailto:russell@keynshammencap.org.uk) or phone 07854 940816.

Our staff and club leaders have been working from home, maintaining contact with our members and coming up with innovative ideas and activities. The club leaders have been keeping in touch with members and families with regular calls and texts, and sending out activity packs including things like colouring pages, activity sheets such as word searches and dot to dot, recipes to try at home, things to cut out and make, and packets of seeds to plant in the garden. We have been active on our social media pages with regular videos and updates from our club leaders. There are lots of resources, information and activity suggestions on our website [www.keynshammencap.org.uk](http://www.keynshammencap.org.uk). We have embraced virtual communication, with some of our groups having Zoom meet ups and sessions. We have weekly get togethers to chat and catch up. Our Music Man Project has a weekly music session, complete with instruments made from things found in the home! Radstock have had a virtual quiz and a scavenger hunt. Club25 had a brilliant game of zoom bingo, and at a members' request we will be holding a fancy dress bingo session later this week.

We have set up a toy and game library, for members to borrow any of the equipment that we would usually use at club sessions. We have a variety of items available to borrow – board games, jigsaw puzzles, musical instruments, toys, garden and outdoor games to name a few. These can be borrowed by contacting our Operation's Manager Laura. Items can be borrowed for up to 3 weeks, with them being dropped off at your home with a contactless delivery and collection.

Our Operation's Manager Laura has also been out in the minibus to visit some of the members, particularly those who can't get online, for a socially distanced chat on the door step.

Amanda, our fundraiser has also been busy during this testing time. We have moved in to virtual fundraising and have created some fantastic online events that have not only kept members, their family and friends entertained and having fun, but also raised much needed funds. So far we have held an Easter raffle – we had 2 large Easter eggs kindly donated by the Keynsham Lions, along with a hamper donated by friends of the Society. We had a well-attended virtual pub quiz hosted on Facebook and YouTube, followed up by a music quiz, plus an online photography competition fundraiser.

We have a page set up on our website with details of our virtual events and suggestions of other ways you can raise money to support us. <https://www.keynshammencap.org.uk/fundraising/appeals>

It is a trying time right now, as we are experiencing a significant loss in income. Many of our funders and grant providers have ceased their grant giving activities, and we have had to cancel or postpone some of our biggest fundraising events of the year.

The society still needs to cover running costs of around £8000 per month, and we want to make sure we can offer fun activities as soon as restrictions have been lifted when we welcome back our members.

We hope our supporters will continue to embrace the virtual fundraising world, while we plan more events as we continue working around the challenges we are currently being faced. We have been very grateful to those who have supported us so far. We have an appeal on our Local Giving page <https://localgiving.org/appeal/COVID-19-support/> and if you feel like making a donation to us, no matter how small, it would be much appreciated.

If you have questions or worries about anything concerning the Society our Trustees are always happy to assist. The Chair of Trustees, Lisa O'Brien, is contactable on 07867 906163, and our Deputy Chair, Kathryn Dawson is contactable on 07966 862998.

## Thank You!

**Ed Soldat** for his donation

**Jane Haycock** for her donation

**John Whear** for his donation

**Steve Owens** for his birthday donation

**Alan Gardner** for his donation as a thank you for the support we are giving his grandson Toby

**Lucy Jefferies and Kim Cole** for helping to write our virtual quizzes

All of our supporters who have donated via our Local Giving appeal, PayPal, or by BACS, and those that have shopped online using Give As You Live and Amazon Smile.

## Music Quiz

Our Virtual Music Quiz was held on 22nd May, with questions put together by SSC Leader Kim Cole. It was hosted once again live on Facebook and on YouTube and we had over 50 people take part. We also ran a raffle and Mark Robinson won the prize, whilst Trustee Kath Dawson and her team the COVID WARRIORS had the most points and won the quiz. Well done and thank you to all that took part. All funds raised online and through separate donations go towards our COVID-19 Support Fund, which now stands at £1,887.00.

## Photography Competition Fundraiser

We held an online photography competition fundraiser on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May. There were 7 categories and entries opened at 10am with a different category each hour throughout the day. Thank you so much to everyone who took part. We had lots of fun judging the entries and hope that all who watched it and took part had just as much fun. The event raised over £300.

Here are all the winners from each category:

**Funniest Family Selfie** - Sarah Thorne & Claire Rowles

**Fancy Dress** - Charley and Gabriel Davies

**Best of British** - Barry Hollyman & Suzie Lewis

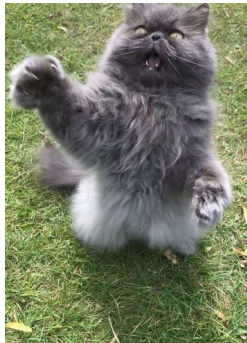
**Best Window Display** - Emma Anstey

**Best Pet Portrait** - Corrie Bell

**Best Bake Off** - Kim Cole

**Green Finger Gardener** - Philippa Joyce

We also have an overall winner, Corrie and her photo of Maisy. There was an honourable mention to Jane Haycocks for her photo of a blue tit, and a mention for the photo that really sums it all up for us right now went to Vince Meredith and Kim Cole!



The government have announced that it is hoping that non-essential shops will be able to re-open on 15th June. This means that retail outlets from the larger department stores to the smaller independents could open, providing they are 'COVID-19 secure'.

As a small local charity we have relied on the support of local businesses when it comes to our fundraising efforts. We just want to say a huge thank you to all those small businesses who have supported us over the years and we wish you all the success as you start to re-open your services; and we want to ask our community to support these local businesses now if they can, as a thank you for all times they have supported us.



## May Volunteer Birthdays!

Louise Cox

Molly Hale

Dean Fitton

Rebecca Griffin

Georgia Knight

Izzy Goddard

Julie Jenkins



**Hope you all have a great day**

## Contact Details

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