

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Notice of Cancellation

The Society's Annual General Meeting is usually held in June each year in order to present an update of our activities and the year end accounts. This year the trustees would have presented the accounts up to the end of March 2020. Clearly that hasn't been possible this year as the nation was in lockdown, so the trustees postponed the AGM, hoping to re-arrange it at the end of the lockdown. Restrictions were eased, but not enough for our members to safely gather, for what is also a social occasion. We are now in another lockdown, with no ability to hold a face-to-face AGM for some time to come. Therefore, after a lot of thought, the trustees have decided to cancel the AGM for 2020. The decision has been taken in line with guidance issued by the Charities Commission.

Meanwhile, the Society's accounts for the year to end of March 2020 have been examined by external accountants, and the Report & Accounts for the year have been submitted to the Charity Commission. A certain amount of information is available to everyone on the Charity Commission's website, but if anyone has any queries they should contact the Society's Treasurer, Russell Pocock, who will be delighted to address any queries.

Russell is available by email at russell@keynshammencap.org.uk.

On behalf of the Trustees, Lisa, our Chair, wants to thank Laura, her team of club leaders and volunteers for their fantastic efforts to stay in touch with our members, together with Amanda our fundraiser who has managed to keep funds coming in despite the difficult situation.

We are amazingly fortunate so have such dedicated people who have put so much into caring for the welfare of our 'extended family'.

Thank you all.

Lisa

Christmas Appeal

For the last 9 months most of our clubs have had to close, and all activities enjoyed by the members stopped. We experienced a significant reduction in income, all physical fundraising events were cancelled and we still had bills to pay. Despite these challenging times we made a commitment to our members to remain connected and provided alternative activities that the members could still enjoy.

A second lockdown has not only put additional pressure on us financially but more importantly caused more confusion for our members and their families.

We want to make Christmas as special as possible, and we will continue reaching out to our members, providing activity packs, sweets arranging doorstep visits, Christmas carols, zoom sessions and a virtual Christmas concert.

With all the restrictions still in place there won't be any opportunity to hold a fundraising event and so this year we are holding an online 'Christmas Donation Appeal' where we hope you will support us and help us to recoup some of the money lost due to the club closures.

The Keynsham Mencap 'Christmas Appeal' launches on Friday 27th November and will run through to Saturday 19th December, rounding off with a virtual raffle, poetry reading and online Christmas concert performed by our very own Music Man Project. Look out for updates to the appeal and events on the Keynsham Mencap Facebook page and our website: www.keynshammencap.org.uk

Donations can be made to the appeal through a number of ways.

Through www.easydonate.org/SNOW or text donations.

Text SNOW to 70970 to donate £5 or text SNOW to 70191 to donate £10.



Thank You!

Grenville Jones for his donation to SSC

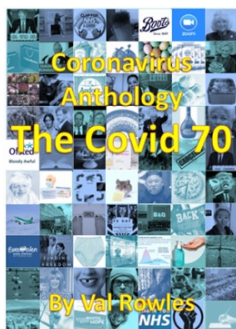
Beth Morgan, The Creative Choir Leader, who hosted an online virtual choir seminar and fundraised for MMP

ChoirShow for their virtual concert on 1st Nov with over 250 singers from 13 choirs. The event raised over £1,000. Look out for their next event in December with a special appearance!

COVID 70 Book of Poems

When Lockdown started back in March, parent Val like many others wondered how she would fill her days. She decided to write a poem every day for family and friends. She has always enjoyed writing silly poems for family occasions and thought it was a good way of staying connected. Val has written 70 poems focusing on the ups and downs of life during lockdown, and has now put them into an A4 book. We have a limited number of copies on sale and Val is donating all the proceeds from the sale to us. To order your copy of this creative and very entertaining book of lockdown poems please contact us in the office.

For a minimum donation of £7.50 we think it is a bargain, and if ordered by 10th December we will guarantee to get the book to you before Christmas.



Halloween Visits



Our volunteers were out and about for Halloween for a 'reverse trick or treat'. As a lot of the usual Halloween celebrations couldn't go ahead this year we did some door-step visits to deliver a goody bag instead. The bags contained activities, art and craft kits and some sweet treats.

We loved seeing everyone's spooky costumes, pumpkins and decorations!

Congratulations!

Congratulations to our Club25 volunteer Ceri and husband Matthew on the arrival of baby Isla Rose. Isla was born on 10th November weighing 9lb 6. Sending lots of love to you all.



Lockdown 2.0 Quiz

It's lockdown 2.0 so we're hosting another online fundraising event! Our lockdown quiz will be hosted via zoom on Friday 27th November 7.30pm. Entry will be £2 per person, and you can donate via our online donations website <https://localgiving.org/COVID-19-support>

Mark yourself as 'going' on the Facebook events page, or non Facebooker users please email amanda@keynshammencap.org.uk.

Please also email to request our bank details if you prefer to pay by bank transfer.

The zoom link will be sent out to you once you have donated. Looking forward to seeing you all again for more general knowledge fun!



Please Nominate Us!

We could win £1,000 from Movement for Good

Please nominate us to be in with a chance to win £1000. Visit the website:

<https://www.movementforgood.com/12days/> and fill out the form using our charity number, which is 275561.

10 winners will be picked at random each weekday and nominations will remain open until midnight the day before each draw. Draws will take place each weekday from 7 – 22 December. Anyone can nominate us to win one of the £1,000 awards. It's so quick and easy to do. The more nominations we receive the greater our chance of winning, so please take a minute to nominate us and please spread the word. £1000 would make such a huge difference to us.



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