

President: Dame Vera Lynn, DBE, LLD, M.Mus
Registered Charity No. 1089657

Newsletter

Autumn 2011

Edited by Carole Whorwood

REMEMBER A CHARITY
IN YOUR WILL
Help the work live on...



Christmas Showcase Art Exhibition

Now for something completely different . . . as The Dame Vera Lynn Trust is very excited to be holding its inaugural art exhibition at The Capitol Theatre gallery in Horsham between Monday 21st November and Wednesday 23rd November.

Thanks to Manager, Michael Gattrell and Gallery Curator, Luna Russell, artists and makers from the South East region have been invited by key arts organisations to showcase their work and raise funds for the Trust.

Our three-day showcase will include a charity auction of the art on the evening of Wednesday 23rd with broadcaster/journalist John Henty as our auctioneer and a special lunchtime audience with wildlife artist, David Shepherd, on Tuesday 22nd at 1.00pm.

This very special exhibition is a partnership between us, South East Open Studio events and South East artists and makers. Luna Russell, Curator, and Trust staff will be selecting high quality works to showcase the best that the South East region has to offer. Work will include jewellery, sculpture, textiles, ceramics, paintings and original printmaking (examples of art being exhibited are shown to the left).

“We hope this selection of artists will enable the public to see what talent there is to offer throughout the South East Region,” said Caroline Jackman, Surrey Artists Open Studios Co-ordinator.

Please contact Rosie for more information or watch for details in local press. We’d love you to come along to see this lovely exhibition and support us at the same time. You can visit from lunchtime on Monday 21st until 6pm and between 9.45am and 6pm on Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd. Admission is free.



Frank Taylor



Frances O'Brien

Our Lovely Volunteers

We were delighted to welcome a group of people from HSBC recently who kindly volunteered their services over a couple of days in June. They managed to strip down, prepare and paint the gentlemen’s toilet in the School for Parents and a good job they made too.

Vicky Norman, Alys Hodder and Adam Deane started it all off on the Wednesday and those pictured here came on Thursday to do the easy bit! Our very grateful thanks to them all.

Left to right back row: Natasha Dunstan, Sheridan Taylor, Emily Rushton and left to right front row: Jaimee Taylor, Chris Akehurst and Simon Cull.



Inside this Edition . . .

Christmas Showcase Art Exhibition . . .	1
Our Lovely Volunteers	2
Contact Details	2
Jan Chasmar	2
Tracie Carter	2
Max Miller Appreciation Society . . .	2
Collage of Events	3
Some Reflections Ten Years On	4
HORSHAM 100	5
Dates for your Diary	6
Christmas Cards 2011	7
Showing Off in Billingshurst	7
Regular Giver Form	7
Brighton Marathon 2012	8



Registered Charity No. 1089657

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Jan Chasmar

It is with great sadness that we have to report the recent untimely death of Jan Chasmar. Jan was the Dame Vera Lynn's Trust first Office Manager, working alongside Peter Evans, Executive Officer at that time, and as assistant to our fundraisers Dudley Johnson and later Shirley Illsley. She organised the recruitment process for the Trust's current Chief Executive, Steven Lane, but sadly never got the opportunity to work with him due to the sudden onset of ill-health. Jan will always be fondly remembered as a mainstay of the Trust during its formative years, and it is in no small measure due to her work in laying the foundations that the Dame Vera Lynn Trust has been able to develop in the way that it has. She always loved her job and continued to take an interest in the progress of the Trust and the School for Parents despite her inability to get to the office. Jan will be sadly missed and our thoughts are with her husband Philip and the family at this time.



Annual Report

The Dame Vera Lynn Trust
Financial Statements
for year ended March
31st 2011 are now
available to download
from our website under
'Publications'.

Introducing Tracie Carter - our new Trustee

"My name is Tracie Carter and I am delighted to have been voted in as a new Trustee for the Dame Vera Lynn Trust. I am a local girl, born and raised in Horsham and I now live in Southwater with my husband and two sons aged 16 & 10.

I work for a large defence company, where I am the Head of Human Resources. I am very proud to be a parent governor of Tanbridge House School too. I decided to volunteer to become a Trustee having attended many Ingfield Manor Summer Fetes; I was overwhelmed by the children when I visited the School for Parents and as a parent, realised how important it was to have a facility that enabled parents to be close to their sons and daughters. I aim to do my best to keep up the great work that the Dame Vera Lynn Trust do."

Max Miller Appreciation Society Charity Afternoon

On Sunday 7th August we were invited to an extraordinary, and totally different afternoon of tea and cake and star-mingling in the Royal Pavilion garden in Brighton. Rosie and Carole took Sav and Richard Burge, and Maya who attends School for Parents and also Tim Pike, great friend of the family who raised nearly £1,000 by running the Brighton Marathon for us this year.

A ticket only event, the Society were raising funds to split between The Dame Vera Lynn Trust and the Royal Marsden Cancer Charity.



Maya was presented with Lucy the bear by the mayor of Brighton, Councillor Anne Meadows and although thrilled with her gift, Maya was obviously very keen to check out the washing instructions . .

Collage of Events

Marathon de Paris

Karen O'Dwyer

"Standing on the start line looking down the Champs Elysées in the bright sunshine, with 35,000 other runners around me, I couldn't think of anywhere I would less like to be! I had butterflies in my stomach, my legs felt weak and I hated Fraser, my boyfriend, who had entered me six months before. However I did feel proud to be running for the Dame Vera Lynn Trust and I couldn't let down all the kind and generous people who had sponsored me and Fraser over £1,500. At 9:15am we started off down towards the Louvre, past the Bastille, out to the East of the city and then back along the Seine, past the Eiffel Tower before finishing just before the Arc de Triomphe, 5hrs 14 minutes later."



Teacher's pupils tell her she's 'SICK'!

Liz Turner was so worried that she was going to be sick as she jumped out of an aeroplane at our latest skydiving event, she actually took a travel-sickness pill. (Didn't like to tell her that those pills will probably cure a motion sickness – not being thrust out of a plane and falling initially at 125 miles an hour!). Because of the wind, she and her tandem partner were the last to jump that day and the wind took them back up again twice with a very fast vertical landing when they did finally get down.

And actually the only "sick" that Liz became was from the kids at Colgate Primary School where she is teaching assistant, who were hugely impressed with her achievement. "Sick" is definitely very "cool"!



Godmother to a young man at Ingfield Manor School, Liz wanted to do something amazing and the £858 she raised through sponsorship is just that. *Thank you Liz.*

Taylor Made for Fundraising!

Kerry and Glynn Taylor, parents of little Beth, arrived at School for Parents in November 2010 and thanks to them, their friends and families, they have already raised sufficient money to fund Bethany's conductive education for well over one whole year!

Kerry's friend Emma Brown's final total on her Fun Run and Walk of May this year is nearly a magnificent £4,000; Kerry herself held a Barn Dance at Coombes Farm near Lancing back in June and raised nearly £400. And the very gallant Glynn and his fantastic bunch of friends cycled 100 miles of the South Downs over the second Bank Holiday in May raising an incredible £5,500.

Glynn sent us a funny and very well written piece about the trip and this fantastic photo of his tough-guy mates celebrating after their amazing challenge to raise precious funds for this lovely little girl, Beth and her friends at the School for Parents.

AND the Taylors generously give us a monthly standing order. THANK YOU BOTH SO MUCH!



Emma is seriously Fun!

YES, EMMA BROWN . . . we love you too! Nearly £4,000 raised from your Fun Run and Walk in May.

Waterhole in One

The Trust's second successful golf day was held yet again at Wildwood Golf and Country Club in Alford and everyone had a lovely afternoon and evening. The only difference to last year was the weather. Whereas in 2010 the heat of the sun was bouncing off the greens, this year was a very wet affair and it drizzled most of the day until the golfers came in . . . and the sun came out.

We were delighted to make a clear profit of £3,668 and see lots of the same faces as last year as well as very welcome new ones.

The date for next year is Friday 13th July 2012.



Some Reflections Ten Years On

In its tenth anniversary year, the Dame Vera Lynn Trust School for Parents, West Sussex has never been busier. There are now 60 families registered with 11 groups attending each week. This term saw the start of a new beginners group which we have named 'The Ducklings'.

The tenth anniversary is a timely place to pause for a moment and to reflect on and acknowledge the impact School for Parents has had for the very many children and families that have passed through its doors.

The messages written in 'Goodbye' cards gives a snapshot into the level of service provided with a unanimous sense of gratitude resounding from all the families. The School for Parents have a professional team of knowledgeable and compassionate individuals who ensure that the whole family is included at all times.

Parents leave feeling more positive about the future for their family as a direct consequence of attending School for Parents.

Quotes from Our Parents:

"We were lucky to find you, and as you know we are even luckier that you were just the beginning. We can't thank you enough"

"As grandparents we are thankful for the care and support extended to the whole family including us. It was a godsend and appreciated more than we can say"



"You will always be a huge part of our lives and in our hearts forever"

"We cannot begin to express the huge impact you have all had upon us as individuals and as a family. You kept us going when I thought I couldn't and opened my eyes to compassion and acceptance in ways I did not think existed at all"

"We have loved every session. You have taught us so much and your expertise, patience and advice has been invaluable. Thank you for making everyone in the family so welcome."

"Great team work and all with the unique School for Parents sense of humour, support and attention to detail. It's a wonderful caring atmosphere and each of you contribute in your individual ways"



"We have laughed and enjoyed every minute"

"You were our safe landing when we were first diagnosed and have been a tremendous help to us all"

"Thank you always for your words of wisdom, we couldn't have done it without you"

"Fantastic support, guidance, wisdom and encouragement"

Ten years on, School for Parents continues to make a profound difference to all the families who attend and we are grateful to all our donors and supporters without which we would not be able to continue with this vital and much needed service. Thank you to you all.

A special thanks to Ivy Read

A surprise afternoon tea party was arranged in St Michael's Church Hall, Amberley, on Saturday 13th August 2011 to honour a very special person, Ivy Read.

The party – one of the best-kept village secrets for years – was organised for Ivy by friends and family to recognise the outstanding contribution she has made to various charities over many years.

Ivy, a life-long resident of Amberley, started her fund-raising activities in 1974 when, together with family

and friends, she formed a group called 'The Ladybirds'. Since then she has supported a number of local charities, including The Dame Vera Lynn Trust School for Parents.



More than 80 people attended the party during the afternoon including members of Ivy's family. Sarah Ffoulkes Roberts, Head of Early Years at School for Parents, read a letter from Dame Vera Lynn thanking Ivy for all of her valuable help and support over the years in raising funds for the Dame Vera Lynn Trust.



Following the launch of the Horsham 100 campaign on 13th May a number of fundraising events have already taken place and there are more in the coming months. Here are a few of the ways people have got involved to help raise funds.

Horsham 100K Walk

As part of the Horsham 100 campaign to raise funds for the Trust a challenging 100k walk across the beautiful Sussex Downs from Arundel to Beachy Head took place over 36 hours on the weekend of 17th September. The walk was organised in conjunction with PMW Communications in Billingshurst with both companies and individuals taking part. Thank you to everyone for participating in such a gruelling event and raising almost £17,000.



RSA Horsham 100 Charity Day

On Thursday 30th June we were delighted to be invited into Royal and Sun Alliance as part of the Horsham 100 campaign to raise funds for the Trust. We were joined by Gemma and Sophie from PMW Communications and the wonderful Swingtime Sweethearts who performed for everyone in the foyer. Pupils from Windlesham House School in Washington, near Pulborough, provided us with some beautifully wrapped cakes and we managed to sell all 100 of them. A HUGE thank you to Debbie Pallister from RSA for all her help in organising the event and to everyone who helped, donated and supported us.

Slinfold Golf & Country Club – SPIN-A-THON

On Friday 1st July we were again really lucky to have another Horsham 100 event dedicated to raising money for the trust. The staff at Slinfold Golf & Country Club decided to hold a Spin-a-Thon in Swan Walk shopping centre which involved them cycling on spin bikes for more than eight hours and they managed to raise £487.30. Once again the Swingtime Sweethearts joined us to entertain the shoppers. If you would like to support their efforts, you can still do so by sponsoring them at www.justgiving.com/SlinfoldCranleigh.



Tanbridge House School Sponsored Walk

Students and staff from Tanbridge House School in Horsham took part in a sponsored walk on Friday 15th July and walked to Slinfold and back along the Downs Link with no problems other than a few blisters along the way. Money pledged currently totals around £10,500 and the school is now focusing on collecting the all important sponsorship. Well done to everyone.

Semka Wado-Ryu Karate Group

Paul Elliott who is a 6th Dan with the Semka Wado-Ryu Karate group in Broadbridge Heath and their Chief Instructor, held a Self Defence Budo in July at Tanbridge House School to raise funds for Horsham 100. The group total 40 people and each student did their own individual sponsorship which Paul kept a very close eye on.

The absolutely amazing total raised by them was £2,290. Wouldn't want to argue with any of that crowd – just say a huge thank you!



The Horsham Festival of Sound took place on Sunday 4th September raising funds as part of the Horsham 100 campaign. Over 30 bands played at various sites across Horsham town centre during the afternoon free of charge and Peter Sutton and his team from PMW organised a bucket collection and managed to raise an amazing £1,255.12. A big thank you to all the bands, PMW staff and the public for giving their time and money to support the Dame Vera Lynn Trust.

Dates for your Diary



Sunday 30th October – Barns Green Half Marathon

A very popular local event and excellent preparation for any of you thinking of the Brighton – or any other Marathon – next year. Register with www.barnsgreen-half.org.uk



Monday 21st to Wednesday 23rd November – Christmas Showcase Art Exhibition at The Capitol Theatre Gallery in Horsham

The Trust are excited to be holding their inaugural art exhibition over a three day period showcasing the work of artists and makers from the South East region. David Shepherd has generously agreed to give a lunchtime talk at 1.00pm on Tuesday 22nd. Admission to the exhibition is free.

See the front page of the newsletter for more detail.



Sunday 18th March 2012 – ABSEIL at Sofitel Hotel, Gatwick North Terminal

This is the only occasion when we are happy to let people down . . . at our Abseil from the Sofitel Hotel, courtesy of the manager - who is generously letting us scale the 110 feet building free of charge. £25 is required as a deposit with a further £75 in sponsorship. Please contact Rosie for a detailed pack.



Sunday 15th April 2012 – BRIGHTON MARATHON in Olympic Year

Waiting to hear from you would-be marathon men and women! Could there be a better year to show friends, family and The Dame Vera Lynn Trust what a truly amazing person you are? Check out www.brightonmarathon.co.uk Entering as an individual is now closed so please run, run, run over here as quick as you can to book your place! Training needs to start NOW.



wabi



Voucher Offer

Dine at Sussex's finest restaurant and enjoy **5%** discount and we'll donate **5%** to DVLT as well.

Name _____

Email _____

Address _____

To enjoy your 5% discount please complete this voucher and hand it into a member of Wabi staff. We will also donate 5% to the Dame Vera Lynn Trust towards helping children with cerebral palsy. This voucher can only be used Sunday - Thursday until the 31st March 2012. Offer is subject to availability and cannot be used in conjunction with other offers.



‘Showing’ Off in Billingshurst!

We are really pleased to have been chosen by Billingshurst Chamber of Commerce as their Charity of the Year and as part of this were invited to take part in the Billingshurst Show on Sunday 19th June. Rosie and Carole from the Trust office along with Tracey from School for Parents were joined on the Chamber of Commerce float by Paul and Teresa Willmott with son Taylor, and Martin and Penny Pallant with son Samuel who attend School for Parents. The theme of this year’s show was ‘Musicals’ and our float was dedicated to the Abba musical ‘Mamma Mia’.

Everyone really got into the spirit of things by dressing up, donning wigs and throwing themselves into the singing. We had four songs to learn and by the end of the 45 minute or so drive through Billingshurst High Street to the showground we knew every word off by heart! On reaching the showground we were delighted to be given a ‘Special Commendation’ for dodgy wigs, suspicious false moustaches and dreadful singing! A big thank you to Paul and Teresa and Martin and Penny for giving up their Sunday to support us, and to Billingshurst Chamber of Commerce for helping with our stall - and to everyone who cheered us along the way.

Christmas Cards

Following the success of our Charity Christmas cards last year, we have added three new designs to this year’s collection. If you would like to place an order please complete the form enclosed with this newsletter. The order form is also available to download from our website. You can also purchase cards by visiting us at the Trust office and we will have a stall selling our cards at the Horsham Market on Thursday 17th November so do come and see us.



I would like to support The Dame Vera Lynn Trust for Children with Cerebral Palsy

I would like to become a Regular Giver with a monthly gift of:
 £3 £10 £15 (please tick) **OR** £..... (other amount)

OR - I would like to **increase** my regular monthly gift to: £.....

Name

Address

Postcode Telephone No

Email
 (to allow us to contact you to set up your regular gift)

Signature Date

I would like to give a one-off gift of: £.....

Please make cheques payable to The Dame Vera Lynn Trust **OR** alternatively telephone to make a donation by credit/debit card.

I would like information on leaving a Legacy (please tick box):




President:
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GIFT AID: I am a UK tax payer, please treat this gift and all gifts of money that I have made in the past 6 years and all future gifts of money that I make from the date of this declaration as Gift Aid donations. I understand that the tax reclaimed in any tax year by the Trust against my donations must not exceed the total amount of income tax or capital gains tax that I pay in that year.

Signature Date

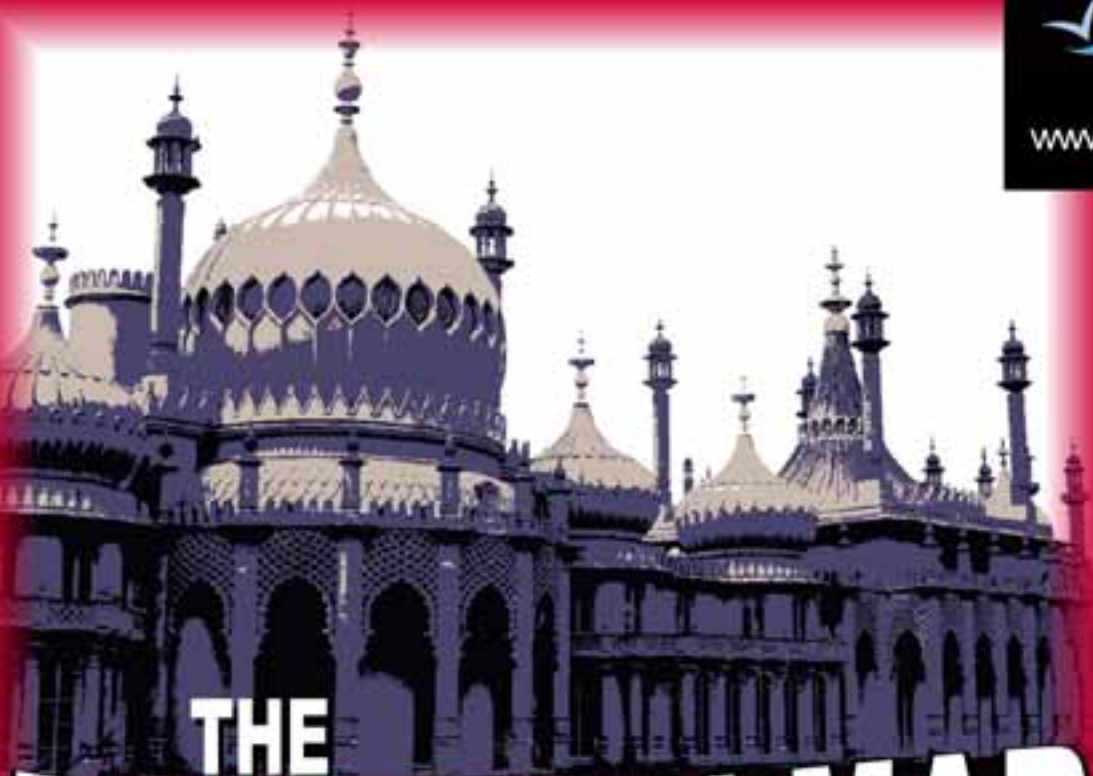
The Dame Vera Lynn Trust will only use the information you have provided to keep you informed about the charity. However, if you would prefer not to hear from us please tick this box:

Please send this completed form to:
 Dame Vera Lynn Trust, Trust Office, Ingfield Manor School,
 Five Oaks, Billingshurst, West Sussex RH14 9AX



Brighton Marathon™

www.brighton-marathon.co.uk



THE BRIGHTON MARATHON 2012

Now one of the top 12 running events across the UK!

Being Olympic Year, could 2012 be a better time to show friends, family and the Dame Vera Lynn Trust what a truly amazing person you are?

Entry as an individual is closed, so please run over here to book one of our Top Ten places



Registered charity number 1089657

Call Rosie on 01403 780444 or email rosie.wyer@dvltrust.org.uk