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mencap

Harpenden

Your Newsletter



Dear _____

Welcome to this bonus edition of Your Newsletter from Harpenden Mencap. With so many wonderful events this summer, we couldn't resist sending you a round up!

Our 13th Golf Day

Thank you so much to everyone who took part in our 13th Annual Golf Day on 6th June – what a wonderful day it was!

A sell-out success with more golfers than ever taking part and 17 local businesses each kindly sponsoring a hole and many more donating raffle and auction prizes.

We are delighted to announce that **over £8,000** was raised to support local people with learning disabilities.

Special thanks to the amazing volunteers who organised the day and congratulations to all our golfing winners!



Afternoon Reception

We are grateful to Ramble Worldwide for welcoming us to Lemsford Mill, where we hosted an Afternoon Reception to acknowledge some of our recent key supporters and organisations who have made a great impact on our charity.

We were delighted that the sun shone and we could spend time in the beautiful gardens maintained by members of the Harpenden Mencap community.



Annual General Meeting

It was great to see everyone who attended our AGM, held on 2nd July at Harpenden Trust Centre.

It was a joyful and informative event, with so many people actively taking part in the meeting. Here's a potted summary:



Introductions

Our Chair, Peter Taylor introduced proceedings, including an update on recent developments, services and finances, as well as plans for fundraising and a new capital campaign in the year ahead.

Financial Summary

While the accounts reported the previous financial year ended with a deficit, indications are that the financial year just ended will result in a balanced budget.

Financial Summary (Continued)

Further good news is the achievement of an additional reserve pot of restricted funds to support specific future developments. We recognised the need to raise income in response to the increase in employer National Insurance contributions. Planned fundraising activity will support a budgeted £120,000 voluntary income this year.

Platinum Plan

A five year 'Platinum' Plan was shared including:

- Building a culture of continuous improvement
- Investment in property for sustainability
- Growth of life-long learning
- Launch of a capital fundraising appeal
- Expansion of services to reach more people who need our support



We talked about plans to redevelop Stairways, working with a local Housing Association. We're currently agreeing Heads of Terms and hope to soon appoint an architect so we can submit a scheme for planning permission. Our vision is to offer a greater range of high quality accommodation, to an increased number of people. A capital fundraising appeal could:

- Support the redevelopment of Stairways
- Enable purchase of property in Batford
- Fund major repairs and renovations at Pine Court



We're so grateful to everyone who came and shared their thoughts about this year's highlights, activities and developments. From pottery painting at Britannia Club to the warm and cosy feel of new homes in Batford, we were especially proud of our tenants who shared their views and our volunteers who talked about what Harpenden Mencap means to them. Thank you.



Correction

In our May edition of Your Newsletter, we intended to thank the incoming Captains of Harpenden Golf Club for choosing Harpenden Mencap as their Charity of the Year. We apologise for the error in stating 'Presidents' instead of Captains.

Your Feedback

We'd love to hear your thoughts on this latest edition of Your Newsletter. If you have any comments or would like to make any suggestions for future editions please get in touch with our Head of Fundraising Christine:

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With grateful thanks for your support,

Angela Duce, CEO
Harpenden Mencap