

Centre stalwart retires to the country

Pauline Fisher, Centre Volunteer and Honorary Treasurer of the Friends since its inception, retired at the Friends AGM on 15th January and left the Appeals office the following week after 14 years of selfless service.

Pauline undertook an enormous amount of voluntary work for the Centre, including financial control of all the activities of the Appeals team and acting as Treasurer of the Friends. She administered the banking for the whole Centre as well as the Appeals office. Pauline was used to maintaining meticulous handwritten records, but readily took the new computer system in her stride.

She was central to the smooth running of the Chenies Walk each year and there wasn't an event that she didn't help at. Speaking after an award for fundraiser of the year in 1997, Pauline said: "When I retired I was keen to contribute my time to a local charitable cause and the Scanner Centre seemed the very place. I enjoy helping others and the work of the Centre is one of the

best ways I could find of doing this. I immensely enjoy being part of the team, especially when we achieve a big success such as a large donation." We immensely enjoyed Pauline being part of our team and helping to achieve so many past successes.

Pauline is retiring to a Buckinghamshire village.

There she will ensure the garden is immaculate so she can look out on it upon a summer's evening, with a gin & tonic to hand.

We all send our thanks for her 14 years of outstanding and selfless service, her wise counsel and her friendship, and our good wishes for many happy and relaxing days in her newfound haven.



Typically, Pauline wanted 'no fuss' on her last day, but we still managed a presentation



Valerie & Ron Newberry

Every little helps at Marian House

Similar events were held by individuals, schools and colleges, raising a total of £1343. This includes £155 raised by Marian House Nursing Home, Hillingdon who have supported us over a number of years with their own events.

Valerie pioneers Pie Day

Social Secretary, Valerie Newberry, held the first Great Mince Pie Day at her Chorleywood home on 6th November. Valerie and husband Ron plied 30 guests with mince pies and coffees. No entrance fee was taken, but an Appeal collecting box was strategically placed! This resulted in £154 being donated.

130 boxes of mince pies were kindly donated by Asda Watford, Morrisons Hatch End, Marks & Spencer Rickmansworth, Sainsbury Ruislip, Tesco Pinner & Rickmansworth and Waitrose Northwood. Our thanks to all of them.

Friends most successful AGM ever

The AGM of the Friends of Paul Strickland Scanner Centre was held on 15th January 2009.

Chairman June Nickless welcomed all present, including the Treasurer of the Trustees, Paddy Kelly. June was especially pleased to see Vice Chairman Carole Beakhouse looking better.

The new Constitution of the Friends, circulated prior to the meeting, was approved overwhelmingly. To form a bridge between the Centre and the Friends, the position of Hon. President will now be filled automatically by the Chief Executive of the Centre. June paid tribute to Mr Juj for his 11 years of service as Hon. President and hoped he would continue his support.

With the exception of Treasurer Pauline Fisher who was retiring, the Committee were all re-elected.

In her final report as Treasurer, Pauline Fisher gave details of monies raised from the year's events, and was pleased to say

she had applied for £29801 under the Gift Aid Scheme.

June thanked Pauline for the 14 years of service she had given to the Centre and the Friends.

Social Secretary, Valerie Newberry, reported that the trip to Watford Palace Theatre and the two events at Grim's Dyke, the Operatic Dinner and Friends' Christmas Lunch, had been well attended and appreciated. Events already being planned for 2009 include a visit to Bletchley Park of Enigma Code fame, and Watford Palace Theatre.

Reports on the year's fundraising activities and Scanning Matters were given by Fundraising Manager Rina Rawal and Mike Geddes.

June said talks had been given to local groups and committees, which led to us receiving support from new groups as people spread the word about the Centre.



Friends with Pauline at Grim's Dyke



A copy of the full proceedings is available from the Appeals Office.