



Registered Charity Number 263620

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# **ANNUAL REPORT**

## **2023 – 2024**

## Chair's Report

Welcome to the Annual Report for 2023-24. It's been another interesting year, with many successes to celebrate, along with the usual bumps in the road.

You will see from the Operations Manager's part of the report that our clubs continue to be enjoyed by our members, but we would love to encourage new members to join us. The clubs are a great way of meeting new friends, learning new skills and generally having fun.

Richard has done a great job in successfully obtaining funding for our current and new projects, so the year ahead looks to be an exciting one.

On behalf of the committee and members, thank you to all the individual supporters and organisations who have helped us to continue in our work.



Elaine Fish, Chair

November 2024

## Stephen Saunders



It was with the greatest sadness that we learnt that Steve had died unexpectedly on Monday 11 November. Steve was an extraordinarily loyal and supportive volunteer for the charity and for whom nothing was too much. He was also a volunteer driver for the One Community minibus and as such used to ferry members to the Chill Out Club where he would stay to help until it was time to take everyone home. He continued to assist at Chill Out even after the transport was stopped.

Steve was an ardent supporter of EBRM and became increasingly involved in many aspects of the workings of the charity, supporting the clubs in any way that he could. His evident enjoyment at helping and encouraging the members was all too clear, and as a result he became a great friend to so many people. His quiet and unassuming manner belied an inner conviction to stand up for people whom he knew he could help and champion their cause.

He will be sorely missed by everyone, and our thoughts are with his family and friends.

# Operations Report 2023 – 2024

## Overview

It is good to report that all the clubs have been operating successfully throughout the year providing support, companionship and fun for our members. Those involved in the organising and running of them have put in many hours to ensure their success. The value of these clubs is considerable, especially in helping our members to meet the everyday challenges with which they are confronted.

The aftermath of the Covid lockdown, however, is still being felt and nowhere more so than in the numbers attending the clubs. These have remained stubbornly low, and the priority is to investigate how we can improve our membership numbers. The enhanced website and the greater use of social media have undoubtedly helped in raising awareness but more needs to be done. The availability of transport is another concern given the limitations of public transport and its accessibility. Taxis are inevitably becoming more expensive too, which means that people's options are being reduced.

One avenue for investigation is how we might collaborate with other organisations offering similar services to provide a more local offering which could simplify the transport requirements. There are potentially other advantages in greater collaboration not only in the streamlining of activities and the reduction in duplication but most importantly the networking of services would be much more attractive to funders.

Of course, none of these clubs would function without the dedication and invaluable contribution of the staff and volunteers. Their continued support, which often extends beyond their immediate remit, is so fundamental to the success of our charity.

## Club News

### Chill Out Club



favourite! There is also football to comment on for some

The Chill Out club continues to go from strength to strength with more members joining, thanks to the efforts of Lisa Warren who runs the club. We routinely have over 20 people attending and it is always a fantastic time to catch up, chat and have fun together. Some members like to use the jukebox during the evening - Abba being a particular



members and for others just relaxing and chatting with friends. We have started to plan more events together and had a great bowling evening on the 28<sup>th</sup> of October and everyone is now looking forward to the Chill Out Christmas Party in December. We remain grateful for the warm welcome always given from Angie and the team at Good Companions pub. Steve, who will be sadly missed, made a huge contribution to the club. Having supported this club when he drove the minibus to ferry members to it, he continued to help even after the transport finished, helping at every session and making the evenings go so smoothly.

### Active Citizens

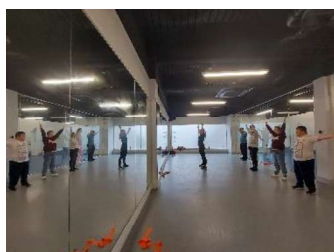


This has been another busy year for Active Citizens with visits, activities and projects to undertake. The latest project has been about creating awareness of sustainable textile practices and the importance of keeping the planet healthy. It has introduced a basic level understanding around sustainability: from planting to dyeing and the colour making

process. It has involved planting dye plants, extracting colour, dyeing and wood block printing to create decorative patterns. The plan is to hold an exhibition of their work in the Spring. Michelle Murdoch has done a great job in keeping the group running and is ably supported by Tiffany.



### Dance Club



Having started last year Michelle Murdoch has done a brilliant job in developing this fun and active club ably assisted by Tiffany. The move to the Blue Butterfly Studios in the Swan Centre has been a great success with its excellent facilities and location in the middle of Eastleigh. There is still room for more people to join, so don't delay and enter into the fun.



### Wednesday Club



The Wednesday Club continues to enjoy excellent support from the members. The Pavilion on the Park is proving to be a very convenient venue due to its ease of access and good facilities. Various themed nights have been held, such as Halloween, dancing, art and bingo with a variety of food being served and enjoyed. Plans for forthcoming evenings include a cowboy night and a Spanish night.



Thanks go to Janice, Terry, Elaine, Heather and Avan and the other volunteers for organising and running this club. Stephen's presence at this club will be very much missed.

### Flagship Art



Our art group has had a busy year, highlights include our exhibition with Hampshire Open Studios when we got to show some of the artwork the group has made. We have been to Hatch Grange in West End where we drew the landscape and collected interesting items to bring back to class as inspiration. We have been



painting, drawing, and sculpting in a variety of materials, drawing inspiration from artists such as David Hockney and Roy Lichtenstein. We have experimented with cyanotype printing, mask making, and we are currently exploring Pop Art. We look forward to exhibiting as a group again soon. Flagship Art has continued to thrive under the skilled direction of Deborah Goatley-Birch and very ably supported by Susan Perrin whose voluntary services are hugely appreciated.



### Walking Group

The Group have kept going all year again in all weathers, well done to everyone and particular thanks to Terry Wheeler who runs the group. There is a bonus though to all our walks as we finish at the Blackbird Cafe in the Pavilion on the Park to dry out, warm up, or sit outside in the sunshine. The cafe staff always look after us even though we can be demanding! We always have a chat and a quiz on the walk, this year we have been guessing music groups and songs beginning with a letter from A - Z each week trying to reach a total of over 50 with each letter which we managed to achieve.



## Gardening Club



This year our Club Coordinator, Mariamah, sadly left due to other work commitments, and we had a BBQ at the allotments to say goodbye and thank her for all the hard work. It has been a struggle to grow our usual produce, as March and April were very wet and cold causing a lot of our seeds not to germinate. We persevered and sowed some later

seeds which were successful, plenty of runner beans, tomatoes and some lovely potatoes which we all shared. All the members help with the hard work, watering, digging and weeding, but put their tools down for a tea break, cake and chat at spot on 11 o'clock.



All this hard work has been recognised by the West End Parish Council and the West End Garden and Grower Association with the award of **Best Kept Allotment 2024**. Congratulations to the Gardening Club.

Particular thanks go to Terry Wheeler who has taken on the role of running of the gardening club and also to volunteers Georgie Spinney and John Chandler.



## Basketball



It is fantastic to see the enthusiasm and teamwork of our members every week, improving our fitness and well-being. Our coach varies the warmup exercises and training games to cater for all abilities. There is always a competitive match to end the session and discussion about the final score.

Thanks to Mike Glanville our coach and to Terry Wheeler who provides essential voluntary support.



## CONTACT US:

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[www.ebrmencap.org.uk](http://www.ebrmencap.org.uk)

### YOUR COMMITTEE IN 2023-2024

#### Officers: Chair:

Elaine Fish

Vice Chair:

Terry Wheeler

Secretary:

Vacant

Treasurer:

Paul Glover

#### Other Committee Members:

Janice Botting

Stevan Floyd

Beverley Du-Crow

Heather Bevis – Minutes secretary

Matthew Cole

Abbie Matcham

Ashley Martin

Susan Perrin

#### Staff Team:

Operations Manager:

Richard Peck

Active Citizens Co-ordinator:

Michelle Murdoch

Active Citizens Assistant:

Tiffany Leung

Chill Out Club Co-ordinator:

Lisa Warren

Gardening Club Co-ordinator:

Terry Wheeler (volunteer)

Flagship Art Club Co-ordinator:

Deborah Goatley-Birch (non staff member)

Basketball Coach:

Mike Glanville (non-staff member)

Wednesday Club

#### Volunteers:

Ashley Martin  
Stephen Saunders

John Chandler  
Georgie Spinney

Susan Perrin

Terry Wheeler

Janice Botting  
Terry Wheeler  
Heather Bevis  
Elaine Fish  
Stephen Saunders



## **How you can help**

As a small charity, we are always working to identify ways to grow and enhance the services we provide, both supporting people within our community and working with key stakeholders to learn about and improve the lives of the people we support.

We are always keen to hear from people who would like to help us and there are lots of ways you can get involved in our work and help to support people with learning disabilities living in our community.

### **Volunteer for us**

Our volunteers are involved in all of our group activities, fundraising and special events. There is lots of variety and the opportunity to gain experience, meet new people and contribute to valuable work in your community.

If you have an interest in supporting people with learning disabilities and helping a local charity, please get in touch to find out how you can help.

### **Fundraise for us**

Do you have a great idea for a fundraising event, is your workplace looking for a charity of the year partnership, or would you like to support us and need some ideas? We welcome enquiries from anyone who wants to find out more about supporting our work through fundraising.

### **Become a Member**

You can become a member and support our work through an annual subscription of just £15. The money raised through our membership directly supports our work and helps to fund the services we deliver to people with learning disabilities. As a member you will receive a regular supporter newsletter, to keep you updated on our work.

To find out more, contact us on 07592 122405 or email [richard.peck@ebrmencap.org.uk](mailto:richard.peck@ebrmencap.org.uk)



Registered Charity Number 263620

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# **TREASURER'S REPORT**

## **2023 – 2024**

Paul Glover  
Treasurer

**STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT –  
YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

<b>Income</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b><i>Prior Year</i></b>
Fundraising		541	541	277
Grants & Donations		18382	18382	9714
Local/ Just Giving inc. Gift Aid		1741	1741	1748
Membership Fees		420	420	600
Active Citizens	1000	1195	2195	1593
Basketball Club		1329	1329	2664
Chill Out Club		2458	2458	3723
Dance Club	400	558	958	3796
Flagship Art Club	1000	849	1849	1359
Gardening Club	1155	691	1846	1054
Wednesday Club		1746	1746	1147
Administration		0	0	750
AGM		675	675	520
Deposit Account Interest		192	192	58
National Lottery Project		18930	18930	0
Operations Manager		0	0	0
Outings		240	240	0
Website Redesign		0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>3555</b>	<b>49947</b>	<b>53502</b>	<b>29003</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Fundraising Costs		192	192	0
Active Citizens		12192	12192	9609
Basketball Club	228	1418	1646	2192
Chill Out Club	609	790	1399	5087
Dance	505	3463	3968	3310
Flagship Art Club	1000	1254	2254	4263
Gardening Club	1246	0	1246	2699
Wednesday Club		1602	1602	1014
New Arts Project	80	0	80	256
Administration		2117	2117	2027
AGM		377	377	461
Insurance		737	737	695
National Lottery Project		2350	2350	0
Operations Manager		510	510	856
Outings		183	183	0
Website Redesign		396	396	1440
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>3668</b>	<b>27581</b>	<b>31249</b>	<b>33909</b>
<b>Excess of Income over Expenditure</b>	<b>--113</b>	<b>22366</b>	<b>22253</b>	<b>-4906</b>

## BALANCE SHEET AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £	<i>Prior year £</i>
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Bank Accounts	119	34450	34569	12316
Query/overs in cash	0	0	0	
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	119	34450	34569	12316
<b>Income &amp; Expenditure Account</b>				
Balance at 30 September 2023	1028	11288	12316	-
Excess of Income over expenditure for Year	-113	22366	22253	--4907
Balance carried forward	915	33654	34569	12316

## Breakdown of administrative costs

	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2023/24</b>
Affiliations and memberships	118	112
DBS checks	62	0
Payroll costs	594	438
Hall hire	0	112
Printing	155	86
Transport	0	4
Salaries	877	1310
Website fees	152	18
Other	69	37
<b>Total</b>	<b>2027</b>	<b>2117</b>

## **GRANTS AND DONATIONS RECEIVED IN 2023-24**

Baily Thomas

Concorde Club

Eastleigh Borough Council Boroughwide Community Grant Scheme

Garfield Weston

Hampshire County Council – various County Councillor Grants

The Misselbrook Trust

Much Loved (Various)

National Lottery Community Fund

West End Parish Council

YAPP Charitable Trust

## **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Eastleigh Borough and Romsey Mencap**

Registered Charity Number 263620

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 30 September 2024,

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

**Lorraine Healy,**

9 Moorgreen Road, West End, Southampton SO30 3EA

03/02/2024