

# THE PHOENIX STROKE CLUB



## JANUARY 2022 NEWSLETTER

DEAR MEMBERS, CARERS & VOLUNTEERS

We are delighted to welcome new members June, Patrick and Rachael and also Marie & Cath who have recently joined our team of volunteers. Please give them all a warm welcome.

Long time Wednesday volunteer Robin is stepping down but will be joining the Tuesday group as an “honorary member”. We’d like to thank Robin for all his help over many years at the Club.

We’d like to send best wishes to our voluntary gardener/handyman, Lawrence, who has broken his collarbone – we hope he’ll soon be fit and well and able to join us on Monday afternoons again.

The trustees have written to Judy & Ann to thank them for all their help over the months before our new Club Supervisor was appointed. Both have indicated their willingness to help out again, if required, in the future.

Thanks also to all those who stepped in to ice & decorate members’ Christmas cakes, write cards and deliver cakes and plants to members and volunteers when the Club had to close early. We are delighted this closure was relatively short and, with appropriate covid protocols in place, we were able to open again on 17 January. The Trustees will continue to review the situation in light of Government guidelines and NHS advice but in the meantime your co-operation in following the measure we’ve put in place is very much appreciated.

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After taking advice from a local firm of acoustics specialist, the trustees are arranging for acoustic panels to be fitted to the ceiling to eliminate the annoying echo experienced by some users of the building. The cost is being met by the Rotary Club of Horsham and the Trustees are extremely grateful for this ongoing support. There has been a slight delay in sourcing the panels but the work should be completed very soon.

We are also considering fitting a “hearing loop” and hope that grant funding to cover the cost might be available from Horsham District Council.

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Work on the outside space will begin in late February – weather permitting. The initial phase will take 2 to 3 weeks and the garden will be ready to be enjoyed by members in the Spring.

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We have had a number of generous donations recently from friends, local businesses, the Masons, St Marys Bell Ringers together with members and volunteers past & present. The total amount received over the past two months is around £6,300 and all donations have been acknowledged.

You could help raise money for the Phoenix Club by buying tickets in the weekly Horsham District Community Lottery. Anyone buying a £1 ticket is able to select the community group they want to support from those registered on the website.

We currently have 32 regular supporters of the Phoenix Club and this provides an annual income of £832. Our goal is to reach 50 supporters during the course of the year which would provide a useful contribution towards our ongoing costs.

You can sign up to the lottery by going to the Horsham District Community Lottery Website at [www.horshamdistrictcommunitylottery.co.uk](http://www.horshamdistrictcommunitylottery.co.uk)

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Please watch out for Angela Walton and her dog from “Pets as Therapy” – often known as PAT dogs. Angela and Ronnie will be visiting 3 times a month on different days so that everyone will have the opportunity to meet them.

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The Slinfold Concert Band fundraiser has been postponed until later in the year. Information about the new date will be circulated in due course

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The Phoenix Club AGM will be held in the Clubhouse at 2pm on Tuesday, 22 March. All members, carers and volunteers are all very welcome to attend. An agenda is being circulated with this newsletter. Please let Celia, Lesley or Renata know if there are any items you wish to raise under “Any Other Business” – this is your opportunity to make comments and ask questions, so do please come along.

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And finally, the Trustees are delighted to announce the “official reopening” of the new Club house on Thursday 14 April at 11am. TV presenter Chris Tarrant, who is himself a stroke survivor, has agreed to come along and we will be inviting supporters and friends to join with members and volunteers to celebrate.

BEST WISHES FROM THE TRUSTEES.