

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2021

Well, that was a year like no other!

Despite all the challenges that were thrown at us by Covid restrictions during the 12 months to 31 March 2021, Richmond Good Neighbours' volunteers under the guidance and leadership of Anne Speak continued doing their good works to the best of their ability ...and having regard to the continuing varying Covid Rules ...within the Community

Many of our volunteers switched their method of paying for shopping for our clients whereby they paid for the shopping themselves and were reimbursed by Anne who then reclaimed the funds from our clients. Around £29,000 of shopping was conducted in this manner which created a huge amount of work for Anne who was ably assisted by her husband Stephen in keeping track of the flow of funds. We owe him a debt of gratitude

I believe as a direct result of our volunteers' efforts to continue supporting our clients during these difficult times, we experienced the largest amount of voluntary donations we have ever received ... totalling £7,653 for the year ... as both our clients and relatives of our clients showed their appreciation.

Although there was no May Fair in May 2020, we were able to more than compensate for the loss in funding we normally receive from the May Fair with some creative one-off fund-raising activities ...most notably the "Everest challenge" which on its own raised £4,634 from our supporters for which we say a big thank you

We are also delighted and indebted to Cantells for their continuing financial and enthusiastic support to our Charity; in the year we received £1,375 from Cantells.

Our costs tracked Budget and included a one-off cost of professional fees of £1,194 associated with transferring the business of Richmond Good Neighbours to a company with limited liability. The paperwork and necessary approvals have been completed and received and we will complete the transfer to the limited company during this current year. There will be no change to our relationship with our Clients and Volunteers

With the strong performance we achieved with our fundraising activities and by keeping our costs under control we achieved a surplus of income over costs for the year of £2,686. This allowed us to decrease our annual grant request for the year to March 2022 from Richmond Parish Lands Council (RPLC) from £13,000 to £10,000. We are hugely appreciative of the continuing support we receive from RPLC who paid us our Grant in March 2021, before the start of the financial year

Excluding the grant, because it was paid before year end, we finished the year with £30,817 in reserves, a very healthy position given the continuing uncertain environment we operate in.

Chris Holt
Treasurer
21/10/2021