



ANNUAL REPORT 2017 / 2018



*Improving
the quality
of life for
people &
communities*

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Chief Officer Report— Jacqui Foile



During the year Voluntary Action has continued to provide excellent support, information and advice services to the local voluntary and community sector. The funding assistance offered along with our informative weekly information email bulletin were particularly well received by local charities. Members of staff have attended a number of key strategic meetings to represent and share the views of the local voluntary sector. These have been linked to health and wellbeing, social care, the ageing population, young people's issues and general community matters.

We were absolutely delighted to receive two very prestigious awards to recognise the services we deliver; the Essex County Council (ECC) Corporate Social Responsibility Award presented to our Supported Volunteering Learning Disabilities project, and the High Sheriff Essex Against Crime Cup for our security and safety work. Cllr David Finch, Leader of ECC, said: "These awards celebrate the outstanding contribution external service providers make to improve the lives of residents in Essex".

We continued to maintain the Essex Connects database which is a searchable directory of groups in the district and Essex-wide providing community services. This has proved to be a great way for Voluntary Action membership organisations to promote themselves.

Feedback from organisations we work with has included: "A very useful umbrella organisation for all those smaller community groups in the district" and "Voluntary Action also provides an important role regarding finding volunteers".

We were delighted to be able to promote our services at a number of key community events including the Epping Show and the North Weald Community Day. Some prominent press articles were also included in the Epping Forest Guardian which were the result of work done by one of our very talented volunteers, Lisa Sharpe.

A number of Voluntary Sector Forums were held during the year. In particular, excellent feedback was received regarding the forum delivered by Peninsula Business Services on Employment Law. One participant commented "It was extremely useful to obtain up to date information on employment law which changes so frequently and is sometimes difficult to understand. The topics covered were very relevant to our organisation and I

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came away feeling more informed, along with a couple of actions to undertake”.

Work has continued this year on the Voluntary Action Winter Warmth campaign funded by ECC. Referrals have been received from the Children’s Centres, Epping Forest District Council (EFDC) Housing Officers, Community Agents, Health Professionals and Social Care. Support provided has included food parcels, electrical goods such as small heaters and microwaves, warm clothing and fuel tokens. The scheme was widely supported and we took the opportunity to attend the Stay Well This Winter events held for members of the public.

At the end of March 2018 Voluntary Action moved from its Homefield House base in Epping which it had occupied since the organisation commenced in 1993. It was a very sad day indeed but we have been fortunate to receive the support of EFDC who have allowed us to rent offices in Hemnall Street in Epping whilst we continue to seek a new long term home. Particular thanks to EFDC’s Julie Chandler for her ongoing commitment to assisting with this matter. I would also like to thank Pesh Kapasiawala for his help with our search for accommodation.

It has been exciting working with our colleagues at Rainbow Services in

Harlow and Uttlesford CVS developing the West Essex Community Action Network (WECAN) and we are all looking forward to launching the partnership as a Company Limited by Guarantee next year.

May I take this opportunity to thank our main funders EFDC and ECC and, of course, to others who have supported us throughout the year. We have worked with the EFDC Community Safety Partnership in a number of ways, but mostly by providing administrative support.

Thanks also to the Voluntary Action staff team, volunteers and Trustee Board for their commitment and exceptional achievements this year. In particular, many thanks to our Chair, Gill Mann, for her leadership of the organisation and for supporting me in my role.

Next year we will be focusing more of our work on assisting the local community with activities linked to improving people’s emotional and physical wellbeing. Some of this work has already started for example we have been working with ACE Weight Management offering weekly weigh-in sessions in the local community. Other work will be linked to increasing preventative measures for people at risk of falling, providing improved opportunities for community engagement and activities for adults

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with learning disabilities. Voluntary Action will also help with increasing the provision of mental health first aid skills in the community and work towards helping to reduce isolation in the district.

I trust you will enjoy reading this report which highlights the great work that the Voluntary Action Volunteer Centres and projects have undertaken this year.

I would like to end my report this year by thanking the many voluntary and community groups we work with for the excellent services you deliver in our district. These clearly continue to make a huge difference to the lives of many.

Jacqui Fiske



Chair Report – Gill Mann



Last year I talked about the resilience, resourcefulness, determination and optimism of the staff and volunteers of Voluntary Action. Well, this year these qualities have been tested to the extreme.

The past year has been very demanding - we were required to vacate our offices near the Epping Forest Civic Offices in March of this year. It was necessary to sort records accumulated over more than 20 years and then move furniture, filing cabinets etc. We made a move into temporary accommodation at the EFDC premises in Hemnall Street adjoining the Epping Sports centre. Since the beginning of the year, Voluntary Action has been hunting relentlessly for suitable office accommodation in the district. Many offices have been viewed, viewed again and rejected as unsuitable for our needs but the search for a more permanent base continues.

Times continue to be tough and funding is in short supply. Nevertheless every effort is being made to find new sources of funding, to generate income and make our services as efficient and cost

effective as possible. We have been fortunate in receiving small amounts of money from local organisations.

Raising the profile of Voluntary Action is so important in attracting local funding and in recruiting volunteers and to this end we have been successful in achieving some local newspaper coverage. We have also received a number of very well deserved awards this year.

Our Board of Trustees are working well together, each taking responsibility for supporting one of our community projects. During the year Linda Morrell, our Treasurer, had to step down due to pressure of work but a few months ago we welcomed Lynn Howarth, a local resident with a wealth of experience who was happy to take on this role.

Jacqui Foile, Chief Officer, has managed to maintain optimism even when facing an uphill battle with the search for accommodation and the unending search for funding. This has been so essential in encouraging and supporting staff throughout these uncertain times. She continues to seek every opportunity to extend the work of Voluntary Action and forge new relationships with local stakeholders. She ensures that services change where necessary to reflect the changing needs of the community and every funding opportunity is explored vigorously. She is ably supported by the Executive Assistant, Debbie Smith and Finance Officer, David Wright.

We are fortunate that project staff are very committed and are always looking at ways to develop and improve their work. All the staff put so much effort into their work and in helping others. There are many letters and comments expressing the gratitude of clients for the help they have received from staff and volunteers.

We recruit and support volunteers working under the umbrella of Voluntary Action but also support volunteers into roles within other local organisations. Our Epping Forest Volunteer Co-ordinator has implemented several initiatives for recruiting new volunteers for example having a presence within Marks & Spencer, Epping, and the Epping Tesco store, which have proved very successful.

I recommend this annual report to you as a reflection of the on-going success of Voluntary Action in supporting local residents and facilitating and supporting volunteers in Epping Forest.

Christie M. Mann



Volunteer Centres—Epping Forest and Harlow

The Volunteer Centres Epping Forest and Harlow are part of a nationwide network of independent accredited agencies that act as “matchmakers” for people seeking volunteering opportunities and not-for-profit and charity groups needing volunteers. We match the interests, skills and time of local people with the needs of groups operating in the Epping Forest district and Harlow area. We also encourage and support organisations to operate good practice in volunteer management.

Epping Forest and Harlow Volunteer Centres are also part of the Volunteer Centres Essex network. We work closely with our Essex colleagues towards achieving greater consistency and partnership working for the benefit of our local areas and the Volunteer Centre network as a whole.

Volunteer Centre Epping Forest

Achievements

- Receiving £2,000 from the Tesco Bags of Help appeal
- Recruitment and Retention of Volunteers Training Course which was attended by 15 organisations

Statistics

- Approximately 200 volunteer opportunities were advertised at any one time to potential volunteers
- 523 enquiries received for specific adverts
- 67 volunteer involving organisations or community groups being referred successful volunteer applicants
- 145 volunteering vacancies filled by volunteers referred by Epping Forest Volunteer Centre

Looking Forward

- Promoting volunteering and the Volunteer Centre at community meetings and events
- To set up outreach sessions and strengthen our links with other agencies
- To seek funding to continue promoting volunteering

Volunteer Centre Epping Forest 01992 564 256



Volunteer Centre Harlow

Achievements

- Maintaining and developing good relations with a wide variety of organisations that need volunteers as well as agencies supporting people wishing to volunteer, including people with health issues or who have been out of the workplace for some time.
- Working in partnership with Rainbow Services at prominent local events
- Taking part in a Charity Fair to celebrate and promote National Volunteers' Week
- Organising the Community Lawn at the very successful annual Art of the Garden Party

Statistics

- 513 enquiries received for volunteer opportunities
- 205 referrals made to voluntary and community organisations

Looking Forward

- Moving into the offices of Rainbow Services along with continuing to have a presence at the Harlow Playhouse

Supported Volunteering Learning Disabilities Project

The Supported Volunteering Learning Disability Project was established in February 2007 to provide volunteering opportunities for people with learning disabilities residing in the Epping Forest district. The project is funded by Essex County Council, Youth Music and the Grange Farm Trust with additional funding from The Jack Petchey Foundation and Loughton Town Council.

Achievements

- The Conservation Group now divide their time between two extraordinary venues. They have continued working on a number of conservation projects at the Royal Gunpowder Mills and have contributed enormously to the upkeep of the site as well as making it more attractive to visitors. The team now also work with the Grange Farm Centre and the Essex Wildlife Trust in and around Grange Farm and the Roding Valley Meadows. They have taken part in a major tree planting project and a number of educational sessions.
- The 'Talk & Sort' Arts, Crafts and Activities group have enjoyed a year of varied activities including historical and sensory walks, photography and social outings. This year the group worked on a project based on the Bayeux Tapestry and King Harold's daughter Gyffa. They made a number of impressive murals using a range of different materials, these were all displayed in a week long Art Exhibition at Lifeworks, Loughton Methodist Church.
- The Catering Project in Epping Forest District Council Civic Offices is in its fourth successful year, providing opportunities for people with Learning Disabilities to gain valuable work experience with a view to building confidence and working towards a career in catering. This year we were pleased to offer work experience to students from Epping Forest College.
- The Allotment Project in conjunction with Parsonage Court Sheltered Housing Scheme for older people had another successful year and has grown a variety of crops for the residents to enjoy. The group prepared a series of separate vegetable beds making them easier for the older people to access.
- The 'All Together Now' singing group has continued to increase in numbers. This year they performed at The Loughton Festival and the Sunflower Chigwell Disabled Group. It has been wonderful to see some of the very shy members of our group find confidence and now sing solos in front of an audience.
- The Ace Upcycling Project in partnership with Epping Forest Reuse has had another successful year. The scheme offers training and mentoring in restoring and upcycling furniture and wood. The members' skills have developed considerably and they are now able to work more independently. As well as restoring used pieces of furniture for resale at Epping Forest Reuse they made a number of seasonal items for sale on the stalls which the project held at Epping Market. They also designed and made a number of garden planters and table top games all made from wood generously

Supported Volunteering Learning Disabilities Project 01992 564 032

donated by the Riverside Timber Recycling Project which has been immensely supportive of the project.

- The launch of the new 'Ain't No Mountain High Enough' Music Project. We have been delivering a music-making project for young people with learning and/or physical disabilities and special needs living in and around the Epping Forest district. The aims are to develop musical, personal and social skills through participation in structured, individual and collaborative musical activities. Sessions have been formal and informal in nature ranging in size from one-to-one, groups and workshops, providing a fully inclusive musical experience.
- Voluntary Action's Supported Volunteering Learning Disabilities project was delighted to be awarded the Corporate Social Responsibility award in this year's Essex County Council's second annual Supplier Recognition Awards for service providers transforming the lives in Essex.
- Two week Art Exhibition at Loughton Lifeworks displaying art work from the Gyffa Project.



Statistics

- 39 clients supported by the project
- 6 group activities
- Clients have spent a total of 4130 hours volunteering between April 2017 and March 2018 in supported group placements
- 12 Individual placements
- Volunteer support staff contributed over 1507 hours in the last year

Music Project Statistics

- 15 taster sessions to 155 to young people
- 184 individual and workshop sessions to 30 musicians

Looking Forward

- The project has developed from providing volunteering support to offering additional vocational and creative day opportunities. We are seeking continual improvement and increased capacity in all areas of our work to deliver valuable services for people with learning disabilities in the Epping Forest district.

Supported Volunteering Learning Disabilities Project 01992 564 032

Gardening

The Gardening service provides gardeners and volunteers to maintain the gardens of people physically unable to do so themselves, namely older people and the disabled across the district. The Gardening Administrator liaises with clients regarding gardening requirements and need. Tasks undertaken include clearing, pruning and mowing. Epping Forest District Council is the main funder for the Voluntary Action Gardening Service.

Achievements

- Continued funding from EFDC to tend gardens for Council tenants
- High Sheriffs award of £500 for gardening tools and equipment

Statistics

- 114 EFDC tenants received 606 gardening visits
- 9 garden clearances were completed
- 11 volunteers worked with the gardening team
- 19 homeowners received 54 gardening visits which were chargeable to the client at a very reasonable rate
- 917 of volunteering hours provided gardening and administrative support to the project

Looking Forward

- Working with Epping Forest Volunteer Centre to recruit more volunteers
- Working in partnership with the Supported Volunteering Learning Disabilities project to complete "Make a Difference" Gardening Days

Gardening Gallery



Gardening 01992 564 592

Handyman for Homeowners



www.vaef.org.uk Registered Charity No. 1097376
Company limited by guarantee Registered in England No. 4689779

Do you have jobs at home you are unable to manage?

Are you over 60, disabled and need
assistance?

VAEF can help! Fitting grab rails and keysafes, securing carpets,
changing light bulbs, hanging pictures and much more!

As a Charity we can provide
Reasonable and Competitive Rates
Our friendly team are experienced and police checked

CALL 01992 564 178



This service was set up in May 2017 to support homeowners in the district requiring a trustworthy, reasonable, reliable and police checked handy-person to complete odd jobs around the home. Jobs have included putting up sheds, re-pointing walls, changing lightbulbs, fitting grab rails and keysafes, fixing cupboards and fitting together flat pack furniture. 113 residents have been supported this year.

Handyman for Homeowners 01992 564 178

Handyman for Council Tenants

The Handyman Service is a partnership initiative between EFDC and Voluntary Action which started in October 2012. The project is funded by EFDC and provides a handyman service to tenants of EFDC properties provided they are over 60 and or disabled and have no one else who can assist them.

Achievements

- Conservative estimate that well over £25,000 in savings made for tenants using the service rather than commercial contractors
- Partnership work with EFDC Housing Management, EFDC Scheme managers and “Care and Repair Epping” continues to prosper

Statistics

- 98% completion of replacement light bulbs within 48 hours
- 100% tenant satisfaction with excellent feedback
- Approximately 400 referrals received and completed this year
- Of the 400 referrals received most were for multiple tasks equating to over 550 completed jobs
- Over 400 informal safety and security assessments conducted
- Over 75 direct referrals from tenants previously helped

Looking Forward

- Potential development of the Handyman service to include jobs for tenants currently outside of the remit but regularly requested, such as larger pathway repairs and fencing replacement to meet local need
- Continued publicity through EFDC publications and local press wherever possible to maintain profile



Handyman for Council Tenants 01992 564 199

Befriending

The Befriending Service aims to provide support and friendship for those living on their own or in isolation. The service offers three weekly activity clubs, which provide various activities such as seated exercises, quizzes, entertainers, games, bingo, arts and crafts as well as regular day trips out which give much needed stimulation to many whilst reducing their social/rural isolation. In addition, the service can provide a 'friend' who will be able to offer companionship by forming a trusting and supportive relationship offering a smile, a listening ear, links to other services and regular visits to the client's home. The Befriending Service is funded by the Big Lottery and the Joseph and Lilian Sully Foundation.

Achievements

- Additional funding received from The Joseph & Lillian Foundation to purchase a project minibus as well as provide additional trips

A number of trips were held for clients including:

- Cream Teas at Hunters Meet, Chigwell Hall and Mulberry House
- A number of canal boat trips cruising the River Lee
- Lunches at various restaurants, hotels and pubs within the district
- Various themed cabaret lunch events at Hunters Meet, Canons Brook Golf Club and Mulberry House
- A wonderful Christmas party at Hunters Meet including a four course meal and cabaret
- A cream tea held for clients in St Michael's Church as part of the Loughton Festival
- Volunteers attended training courses including First Aid, minibus passenger safety and moving and handling, MIDAS training

Statistics

- 20-30 clients on average attended weekly activity clubs each week
- 6 clients received regular weekly visits in their own homes
- 115 clients supported through the project
- 29 volunteers assisted the project

Befriending 01992 564 518

Looking Forward

- Recruiting additional volunteers to continue to enhance the project
- Increasing volunteer skills through training opportunities
- To continually strive to provide enjoyable and stimulating activities and events
- Working with funders to ensure the service continues



Befriending 01992 564 518

Benefits Advice

The Benefits Advice service is available to those whose personal circumstances make it difficult for them to access services in their area or outside of the home. A home visit can be made and information provided on benefits available to the individual along with assistance to complete application forms. The service is available to those who live in the Epping Forest district. Referrals are received from other agencies and health professionals.

Achievements

- The project received an increased number of referrals during the last year
- Working in partnership with other agencies and health professionals
- The Benefits Advice Co-ordinator attended several local groups to give talks about the work of the service
- Funding awarded from Essex Community Foundation to continue the project in 2018 – 2019
- Funding awarded from the Henry Smith Charity to continue the project for three years from 2018 - 2021
- A grant received from Loughton Town Council

Statistics

- 243 people received advice and information on benefits
- 110 benefit applications completed
- 100 successful benefit applications

Looking Forward

- To recruit and train a volunteer to expand the work of the project



Benefits 01992 564 138

Services Gallery



Voluntary Action Staff and Trustee Board



Jacqui Foile	Chief Officer
David Wright	Finance Officer
Debbie Smith	Executive Assistant and HR Co-ordinator
Charlotte Hyett	Project and Business Development Officer
Sally Panrucker	Learning Disability Officer
Maggie Gilchrist	Volunteer Centre Co-ordinator Epping Forest
Marc Balkham	Furniture Re-cycle Project Worker/Community Music Practitioner
Ray Harris	Learning Disability Sessional Worker
Nick Robinson	Community Music Session Worker
Della Nash	Volunteer Centre Co-ordinator Harlow
Nina Gavens	Funding and Information Officer
Julie Bristow	Befriending Scheme Co-ordinator
Claire Marsh	Befriending Scheme Sessional Worker
Trevor Felton	Befriending Scheme Driver
Jina Symes	Benefits Advice Officer/Gardening Administrator
Karen MacMillan	Lead Gardener
Aubrey Brandy	Gardener
Chris Bullock	Handyman
Mark Dalton	Community Handyman
Colin Rowell	IT Support

Voluntary Action Trustee Board

Chair	Gill Mann, Individual Member
Vice Chair	Gerry Smith, Essex Boys and Girls Clubs
Treasurer	Lynn Howarth, Individual Member
Jane Adair	Individual Member
Elizabeth Rawlings	Epping Forest Housing Aid
Liz Went	Royal Gunpowder Mills
Caroline Skinner	Chigwell Riding Trust for Special Needs
Dr Myrna Gilbert	Individual Member
Sally Crone	Mind in West Essex
Gaby Gold	Adviser, EFDC
CLlr Brian Rolfe	Adviser, EFDC

Our thanks and best wishes go to the following trustees and staff who left in 2017/18:
Linda Morrell (Treasurer), Mike Kirby, (Gardener).

Voluntary Action Volunteers

Vicky Bagnall
Vasilka Bakalova
Marc Balkham
Paul Baxter
David Bosher
Rachel Brunger
Alfred Burgess
Zoe Chapman
Hayley Clark
Carol Cogan
Ricky Conrad
Tim Copeman
Evelyn Dalton
Christopher Daniels
Viv Davis
Ray Divine
Jean Edwards
Margaret Emmens
Roger Emmens
Andrew File
Richard Ford
Janet Fox
Raye Fry
Julie Harvey
Barbara Hollingum
Pesh Kapasiawala
Mike Kirby
Sam Kirby
Kelly Lewis-Hall
James Ludlow
Susie MaClean
Christine McEwen
Susan Meager
Nicola Montague-Patel
Paul Newman
Alan Oyston
Carolyn Pardey

Christopher Pomfrett
Vera Prior
David Rees
Nick Robinson
Christine Robson
Frances Rosenberg
Diana Rumsam
Christine Russell
Merle Sharp
Lisa Sharpe
Daphne Shawe
Ray Sherrard
Sophia Smith
Beverley Soutar
Eleonora Spencer
Pauline Townsend
Pauline Visvanathan
Maggie Wilkins
Pat Williams



VOLUNTARY
ACTION EPPING
FOREST

Voluntary Action Members

Full Members

A Vision of Britain
Above & Beyond, Restore Community Centre
- Grow Community Garden - Loughton
Foodbank
ACCURO
Age UK Essex
All Within The Mind
Bowlby Centre
British Red Cross
Buckhurst Hill Community Association
Buckhurst Hill Parish Council
Canalability
Chigwell Riding Trust for Special Needs
Christian Drama Resource Centre
Citizen's Advice Bureau Harlow Ltd
CRUSE Bereavement Care Epping Forest
Client Services Committee
Elbow Grease Co-operative Ltd
Employ-Ability
Epping Forest Community Transport
Epping Forest District Citizens Advice Bureau
Epping Forest District Council Leisure
Services
Epping Forest District Museum
Epping Forest Housing Aid
Epping Forest Reuse
Essex Boys and Girls Clubs
Field Studies Council
Harlow Neighbourhood Watch
Harlow Woodcraft Folk
Headway Essex
Hertfordshire Partnership University
Foundation Trust
Home-Start Essex
Lambourne End Ltd
Lee Valley Regional Park Authority
Lopping Hall
Loughton Festival
Loughton South District Guides
Loughton Stroke Club
Loughton Town Council
Loughton Voluntary Care Association
Mark Hall & Netteswell Community Association
Mind in West Essex
National Jazz Archive
Nazeing Parochial Church Council (PCC)
Ongar & Villages Voluntary Care
Ongar in Bloom
Ongar Town Council
PACT for Autism
Parkinsons UK
Radio Forest Hospital Radio
Redbridge and Epping Forest Branch
(Parkinsons UK)
Revitalise Jubilee Lodge
Roding Valley U3A
Rotary Club of Loughton, Buckhurst Hill &
Chigwell
Royal Gunpowder Mills
Royal Voluntary Service
South Essex Rape & Incest Crisis Centre
Spark / Worth Unlimited
St Mary the Virgin Loughton
Stapleford Abbots Parish Council
Teens Unite Fighting Cancer
Tenant VAEF - Lynne Stevenson
The Conservation Volunteers
The Epping Golf Club
The Red Balloon Family Ltd
The Scout Association
Theydon Bois Parish Council
Three Valleys Male Voice Choir
Valerie Young Counselling Service
Waltham Abbey Community Association
Waltham Abbey Town Council
Waltham Abbey Youth 2000
West Essex Macmillan Cancer Information and
Support Service
Woods Forever
Zinc Arts

Telephone: 01992 564178

Email: admin@vaef.org.uk

Web: www.vaef.org.uk

@VAEF01

Voluntary Action Members

Limited Members

Hertfordshire Boat Rescue
Loughton Residents Association
Rotary Club of Epping
South Loughton Cricket Club
St Paul's Harlow Town Centre and St Mary's
Little Parndon
The Samaritans of Redbridge
YCT Young Concern Trust



Voluntary Action Funders

Full audited accounts are available. Please contact the main Voluntary Action office if you would like a copy.

Our main core funders this year were: EFDC and ECC. The funding contributes to Voluntary Action core and project work and also enables us to lever-in funding from organisations outside the district.

Our projects and additional work were funded by:

The Big Lottery Fund
Epping Forest District Community Safety Partnership
Essex Community Foundation: High Sherriff's Award
Jack Petchey Foundation
Loughton Town Council
Essex Community Foundation
Harlow District Council
Joseph and Lilian Sully Foundation
Grange Farm Trust
National Foundation for Youth Music
Loughton Men's Club
Tesco Bags of Help
#i will fund
Crix Charitable Foundation



National Foundation for
Youth Music



Harlow
Council
Working together for Harlow



LOTTERY FUNDED

Funded By



Loughton Town Council

TESCO Bags of Help

Benefits

Jina, many thanks for the Council Tax form which has been completed, signed and counter-signed by my GP and sent off. I am most grateful for all the help you have given us and as promised enclose a cheque as a donation. Thanks again, C

Handyman (Council Tenants)

I wish to put on record my thanks to Chris Bullock and the council for the assistance he has provided to me at my flat in fitting shelves installing blinds, repairing furniture.

Befriending

I am 87 years old and I am my husband's carer. He is 90. He goes to a day centre 3 days a week. If it wasn't for the Tuesday club I would be sitting staring at four walls all day. Going to the club enables me to meet other people, also when we go out either for a meal or a trip on the River Lea it is something I wouldn't do on my own. I don't know what I would do without the club.

Gardening

As I can no longer do my own gardening due to arthritis, I am proud to have my garden presentable with the help of the gardeners and volunteers.

Learning Disabilities

Hi Sally and Marc. Just a quick note to say how much I enjoyed the Launch event for Voluntary Action's new music project. It was a pleasure to be there (with Councillor Brian Rolfe and Ray, representing Voluntary Action).

Volunteer Centre Epping Forest

Dear Maggie I am so glad I joined this group "Voluntary Action". The information I am getting is amazing. Thank you so much for all your support.

Community Handyman (Homeowners)

Mrs K from Epping called in today to say what a good job Mark Dalton had done on her step she was very pleased and said what a nice man he was.

Charity No: 1097376 Registered Company Limited by Guarantee No: 4689779

Telephone: 01992 564 178 Email: admin@vaef.org.uk

Web: www.vaef.org.uk @VAEF01

Corporate Social Responsibility Award



Voluntary Action were thrilled to be awarded the Corporate Social Responsibility award. The Voluntary Action Supported Volunteering Learning Disabilities Project helps people with learning difficulties become volunteers, working in conjunction with their carers and other support services. Each client, whether seeking an individual or group activity, has his or her own personal development plan. For some, it is for company and just getting out of the house, but for others it is a stepping stone to employment or leading a more independent life. Voluntary Action Epping Forest currently works with 125 volunteer-involving organisations and is continually seeking new placements for clients as well as identifying ways of improving existing ones.

Pictured left to right:
Sally Panrucker, VAEF Learning Disabilities Officer, Jacqui Foile, VAEF Chief Officer and
Cllr John Aldridge, Essex County Council Chairman

