

December 2011

Volume 1, Issue 5

Padstones**SUPPORTING THE YOUNG HOMELESS
IN THE THAMES VALLEY**

Padstones News

Welcome from the Editor

Gifts that Change Lives

Every newsletter we produce is full of the wonderful fundraising activities that you do on behalf of the young people we care for. For that we remain eternally grateful.

During this economic downturn it is particularly difficult for everyone, but your continued support through donations, fundraising and supporting us at the various events that we hold, has not wavered and we have been able to continue to provide our full range of services.

When we say that you make a real difference to the lives of those who come here, we really mean it, 365 days a year.

Thank you for your continued support and we wish you a happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

Best wishes,
Sara Clark,
Editor



Book Your Tickets Early for the Quiz Night

In January, over 120 people came along to our first-ever Quiz Night in Penn & Tylers Green Village Hall, to strain their brains and enjoy a delicious fish and chip supper. The night proved so popular, we even had a waiting list!

So back, by popular demand, we are delighted to announce that we are hosting another evening on Friday 3rd February 2012. at Penn & Tylers Green Village Hall. The evening starts at 7.00 p.m. and tickets are £15.00 per head, including fish and chips. Come in teams of 2 to 8 (max).

When? **Friday 3rd February 2012**

Time? **7.00pm – 10.30pm**

Where? **Tylers Green Village Hall, Church Road, Tylers Green, High Wycombe, HP10 8LN**

Price? **£15.00 per head including fish and chip supper**

Given the evening's popularity, you will need to book early.

Full details and booking form are available as a supplement within this newsletter.

For further information, please contact

Sue Ogden on 01628 660872 or email sueogden@padstones.org.uk



www.padstones.org.uk



Appropriate for Halloween, we recently took some of our Residents on a trip to Thorpe Park's Fright Night. Everyone was scared out of their wits in the 5 terrifying mazes and the adrenaline was certainly pumping when the guys experienced some of Europe's most extreme rollercoasters.

This trip is proving to be one of the most popular and so no doubt next year, some of the Residents will be ravenous for yet more blood-curdling action!



Do you own an empty property?

Urgently required 4-bedroom house in High Wycombe!

During 2012, Padstones is hoping to provide a wraparound young mother and baby service, with a program to include: accommodation for up to four young mums and their babies, parenting coaching and post natal care. This service will be delivered with additional support towards independent living life skills.

Unfortunately our current accommodation provision cannot provide the facilities required and we are therefore on the hunt for a suitable rental property. However, despite some extensive research, we haven't been able to find the right place, or been able to acquire the required commitment from a landlord. We would need to rent this property for a minimum of 3 years.

Are you a property owner? Or do you know of someone who would be willing to rent their house to us? Please get in touch with Sue Ogden on 01628 660872.

The type of property required, is as follows:

- Central High Wycombe – within walking distance of shops/amenities
- 3-4 Bedroom
- Good state of repair
- Central heating

We look forward to hearing from you.

Just Giving!



JustGiving

As we go to Press, Padstones is to subscribe to www.justgiving.com. This means that if you are thinking about raising money for our Charity, you can tell friends and the world (via social media from Facebook to Twitter to LinkedIn) about the cake sales, half-marathons, bungee jumps and all the other things, so many of you are kind enough to do to raise money for our cause.

It will also now make it easier to organise online donations. If for example you are entering the London Marathon as a concession, or any number of other runs, you can set up your own fundraising page and communicate this to your friends and family for sponsorship.

We look forward to hearing about all your endeavours and achievements for 2012.



All in a Days' Work, with some Spaghetti!

How high can you build a structure with some spaghetti, 1 metre of string and 1 metre of sellotape? And manage to balance a marshmallow on top?

Well that was the dilemma for the Staff and some of the Trustees, at our recent Staff Training Day. Various teams put their heads together to design a truly magnificent structure that even Sir Christopher Wren would be proud of.

However, it certainly wasn't as easy as it looked. Despite the scratching of heads and umms and ahhs, only one team managed to create something that remained standing. Well done Lizzie, Dot, Paul and Sue for your incredible feat of engineering!

All change! New chairman for Padstones



Padstones, is pleased to announce the appointment of Alan Walters as its new Chairman. Alan was elected Chairman by the full Board of Trustees at their recent Annual General Meeting on 6th October 2011. He succeeds Dr John Kennedy, who has decided to step down, after 8 years of dedicated service.

Alan Walters is currently Chairman of South Bucks District Council. Originally from Wales, he now lives in Beaconsfield and has four children. Alan spent the bulk of his career working in the Public Sector and also ran his own Consultancy business advising on Human Resources. He has also been a Councillor of SBDC for 10 years.

Commenting on his election, Alan Walters said: *"I am very pleased to have been elected by the Board of Trustees as Chairman of such a special, local charity. The Charity has fantastic potential to contribute to the local area's future. I hope to contribute to the Charity's fundraising efforts by mapping out a 3-year strategy, using the expertise of the Trustees."*

We also currently have provisional plans to operate a new Mother and Baby Unit. This will provide home and support for teenage mothers and babies, demand for which has continued to exceed supply in this area.

I look forward to continuing the excellent work of my predecessor, John Kennedy, with the support of my fellow Trustees, the staff and residents of Padstones."

John Kennedy got involved with the Charity when he was Chairman of Housing at South Bucks District Council in 1992. He joined as a Trustee in 1999 and became Chairman in 2003.

John Kennedy has overseen the extension of the Charity's housing provision, by opening supported accommodation in High Wycombe, and more recently, move-on housing there also. John also recognised the need to get more, younger Trustees on the Board in order to secure the Charity's future and was successful in recruiting six new members.

John Kennedy said: *"Over the last few years the Charity has gone from strength to strength. Our profile has been raised; we have a fantastic team of Trustees on the Board; amazing staff who always go beyond the call of duty; and great residents, who see Padstones as a family and are all getting a good education and secure employment. It is with some regret that I have now decided to retire from my position as Chairman. I will continue to support Padstones as a trustee to the best of my ability and I know my successor will enjoy serving our great cause as much as I have."*



A very big thank you to all of our Friends and Supporters for their recent donations, fundraising activities or for providing volunteers and giving us their time:

Thank you for the donations from:

Mrs M. Hamer

Mr Tony Reading

John Beardon

Mark Woolveridge

Mr C Guinness

Di Hible

Rev. Alison Caw

Lady Marian C. Laing

St James Parish Church, Gerrards Cross

Mr G.A.G Selbey-Lowndes

St Joseph's Furniture Market

Brian and Val Tordoff

The Elizabeth & Edward Guinness Charitable Trust

Beaconsfield Churches

Pfizer Ltd

Mrs P.D. Gardiner

Burnham Joggers recently donated £2000 at the Padstones Annual General Meeting.

St Nicholas Church, Taplow, St Georges Church, Britwell, Seer Green C of E School and Chalfont St Peters Infants all donated Harvest Festival produce.

A big thank you to the staff from **Abbott Laboratories** for their help in decorating the rooms at Havenfield and North Burnham Close.



CHRISTMAS SHOPPING ONLINE?

Raise Money for Padstones at the Same Time

Are you planning to do any shopping online? If you are, please would you consider going onto <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/padstoneshousing> and then clicking through to your favourite retailer?

It doesn't take any longer and it doesn't cost a thing! All that happens is a small percentage of your spend is donated to the Charity. All the major retailers are there – Amazon, Debenhams, Next, M & S, Comet, Interflora etc.

For example, spend £25 with W H Smiths on books and 2.5% will be donated. You will have raised £0.63, at no extra cost to your purchase.

You can shop with 2000+ brand name retailers and all you need to do is use the Easy Fundraising site first – it's that simple!



This Christmas, Padstones is looking for Friends, and we would love you to join us!

Padstones welcomes individuals, companies and other organisations as 'Friends'. As a member or 'Friend of Padstones' you will be very important to us. Our Friends help us to demonstrate how much local support we have for our work, and provide us with crucial funds to invest in our services and developments.

By becoming a Friend you will receive invitations and priority bookings at special events and will be kept informed of all activities and developments.

If you or your organisation would like to become a Friend

Please complete the coupon below and return it to Padstones, Reedham House, 2 Britwell Road, Burnham, Bucks, SL1 8AG or alternatively ring us on 01494 520584. We will send you a Friend's membership form for you to complete.

When completing the membership form please don't forget, if you pay tax, to fill in the Gift Aid section of the form, which allows us to claim back tax on your donations.

Thank you for your support!

Please send me a 'Friends of Padstones' membership form

Name:

Address:

.....

..... Postcode:

Tel: Mobile:

Email:



**CASH for your
EMPTY Toner
Cartridges and
OLD Mobile
Phones**

If you have any old ink toner cartridges cluttering up your drawers, or even an old mobile phone that you will never use, please send them along to Padstones.

Recycling your cartridges and mobile phones is environmentally friendly too. By recycling you can help reduce the 250 million cartridges dumped in landfill sites in the last decade, as well as help raise money for our Charity.

Please send to: Sue Ogden,
Padstones, Reedham House,
2 Britwell Road, Burnham,
Bucks, SL1 8AG.

Please get in touch!

If you have any topics for discussion or would like to see a particular feature, please do get in touch.

Comments can be made to Sara Clark on: Tel: 01494 520584 or email sara.clark@blinkgroup.co.uk

Events Calendar

Please find below some important dates for your diary...

Event	Date	Venue	Cost/Tickets
Quiz Night	3rd February 2012 7.00p.m. – 10.30p.m.	Penn & Tylers Green Village Hall	£15.00 including fish and chips. To book email sueogden@padstones.org.uk or complete the booking form in this newsletter
Laurie Holloway Concert	April 2012	TBC	Watch this space! Announcements soon.

www.padstones.org.uk