

# The Pershore Volunteer

Pershore Volunteer Centre puts volunteering at the heart of the community  
to reduce rural and social isolation for local people.

January - February 2019

## Welcome to Our First Newsletter of 2019!

And what a good New Year it is, we're delighted to say that this edition is filled with super news, so read on...and enjoy!

### Christmas Lunch Club



A much enjoyed Christmas party rounded off another successful year for the lunchclub. The hall was beautifully decorated with hand-made festive bunting, tree and decorations, and entertainment was provided by the very popular Griff Collins. A traditional two course lunch, with all the trimmings, was served to a very appreciative group of about 35 people, who also each received a Christmas favour box of chocolates.



A very big thank you to all the volunteers who put such hard work in, both on the day and before, to make this event go off so well.



Also thanks to local businesses Fruit Salad and Abbey Butchers who supplied food and Neil from The Defford Arms for donating the tree and decorations.



Pershore Volunteer Centre

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## Donation Delight!

And the good news continues! We've just received a magnificent donation of £500 from Pershore Plum Plodders. In fact their Race Director Ian Hannis presented their cheque to our Chairman, Eric Wiles just before Christmas but just too late for inclusion in our Festive Newsletter. The photo, right, shows Ian Hannis presenting the cheque to Eric Wiles, Centre Chairman. Pershore Plum Plodders, we wish you many more successful and enjoyable miles and thank you again for remembering Pershore Volunteer Centre with your generosity.



## And a Very Big Welcome!

Eric, our Chairman writes:

In December Donna and I interviewed a number of applicants for the post of Volunteering and Project Manager. I am delighted to inform you that Angela Ballard (Angi) has accepted the role and started with us on 2 January. Angi will be working on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Some of you may already know or know of Angi as she has been a volunteer on the transport desk on Thursday mornings. One of her first tasks is to find a replacement to take over her role on the Transport Desk! Angi also works as a volunteer school mentor, she previously worked for Evesham College in course recruitment.



Angi said "I am enjoying the challenge of coordinating volunteering at PVC, and look forward to meeting potential volunteers and matching their knowledge, skills, commitment and enthusiasm to voluntary opportunities with local organisations where the gift of time given by volunteers makes such a difference"

We are delighted that Angi has joined us in this role and we have already started to see the positive impact she is having. Please pop in and say hello any Tuesday or Thursday.

## And a Very Warm Welcome Indeed...!

Christine Doust and Andrew Machin have become volunteers with the Centre. They are both joining our team of highly-regarded social car scheme drivers and in addition Christine will be found at the Transport desk. Hello to you both, thank you for joining and we wish you many happy hours of rewarding volunteering with us.

## From Kate's Desk

As many of you will know, Kate Walton stepped down from her role as Centre Manager last year. Kate now writes about her new role.

Since returning from my "holiday of a lifetime", I've enjoyed my new role as grants manager, focusing on identifying suitable funds and funders who might support our work. The applications I've submitted have varied between local, regional and national: some are initial proposals which may be shortlisted for full application while others have been complicated, detailed applications; some have been a fairly simple and straightforward process while others have involved a public voting exercise. It's fair to say that every application is different and consequently my work is interesting and varied, with no two days being the same!

So far we've had mixed results, which seems to be the case for most charities of our size; we're designated as a small charity, but to put this into context, this includes all charities with an income of less than £1,500,000!! We're therefore competing with much larger organisations, many with a national profile, which explains why we didn't qualify for the next round of the AVIVA fund, despite the magnificent support from our volunteers and their family, friends and colleagues around the country. However, we'll press on in 2019 and perhaps some small fundraising events will complement the formal funding applications.

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## And on the Subject of Fundraising...!

The Events Team are already planning for the coming year and already on the Calendar is a Tombola stall at the Riverside Festival which will be held in July. Yes, I know what you're thinking, July's a long way away! But planning in good time leads to success so please think positively about any items that you would like to donate. Don't leave those items in that "cupboard under the stairs", but bring them in to the Centre. We'll be so pleased to be able to help you create extra space in your home!

Thank you.

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## Happy Birthday

We send our very best wishes to those volunteers who have celebrated their birthday recently.

### January

Rob Alexander  
Angi Ballard  
David Bridgewater  
Elizabeth Churchill

Peter Collier  
Tim Dixon  
Hazel Hunt  
Chris Nicholls

John Rees  
Lorallee Warburton  
Sue Wathen  
Lynn Wherton

### February

Malcolm Colmer  
Betty Evans  
Ruth Kershaw

Nicole Kougl  
Bob Singleton  
Richard Stone

## Congratulations!

Here are the winners of our monthly draw for January

£20 Shirley Williams  
£15 June Herbert  
£5 Jean Smethurst  
£5 Fran Roebuck  
£5 Dorothy Coldicott

**Join our NEW Monthly Draw  
More Chances!  
Bigger Prizes!**

**Membership £1.50 per month**

**£18 Year January – December**

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize £20**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize £15**

**3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Prizes £5**

If you would like to join the club and help to support the valuable work of Pershore & District Volunteer Centre, please complete the form below and return it to the Centre with your payment as soon as possible.

You can have as many numbers as you like, at a cost of £1.50 each number, per month!

You will then be issued with a number, which will be entered into the monthly draw. All prize winners will be notified automatically, no need to claim, and names will be published in the Volunteer Newsletter.

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### I would like to join the Monthly Draw

**Name:** .....

**Address:** .....

.....

I would like .... numbers x £1.50 per month

I enclose payment from: \_\_\_\_\_ 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019

Total £ .....

*Please make cheques payable to Pershore Volunteer Centre and kindly return this form to the Office at 1 Billing House, Pershore WR10 1EY*