

Helping Hands Newsletter

Autumn 2014

Edited by Stephen Hardy

Happy birthday to us!

It's a happy birthday to Helping Hands, because we started helping people in October last year, with our formal launch later on, at the Christmas Capers event. We have achieved so much, thanks to you, the willing volunteers, and can look back with pride on the help we have been able to deliver to people who need us in the community.

So from the Committee, a big, big thank you to you all.

New Leaflet

We felt that after a year it would be good to revamp the publicity we produce, so we are currently in the process of delivering to all homes in the village a new leaflet about ourselves.

The leaflet will also be available for people to pick up in places like the Surgery, dental surgeries, Post Office, Boots, Judges and so on.

Website

We now have our own website – www.robertsbridgehelpinghands.co.uk – and already we have gained two new volunteers via the website.

Phone Holders – please note the contact number on the website is our Helping Hands mobile number.

Ann and Dave Morrissey

This newsletter has to pay tribute to Ann and Dave Morrissey for the very hard work put into Helping Hands by them both, from the first tentative meetings right up to September when they left Darvell to move on to their other community in Kent. Both of them provided enormous amounts of very practical help, particularly Ann regarding the writing of the Handbook and Dave regarding its production. We wish them well in their new challenging teaching jobs in their community, but they will both be sadly missed by the whole village, we feel.



ROBERTSBRIDGE
& SALEHURST

HELPING HANDS

Our community scheme links village residents in Robertsbridge & Salehurst who need a helping hand with volunteers who are willing to help.



We'd love to help.

Call 07726 592 739



Here is a group of Helping Hands volunteers working hard in a villager's garden to make sure that the garden gave pleasure to the villager this summer.

Helping Hands AGM

As with all good organisations, we are properly constituted, and we commit ourselves to holding an AGM, and so that you have plenty of notice, we have agreed it shall be held on 20 March 2015 – so please mark the date down. Our accounts will be available and the Committee will report on all their work and you will be able to ask any questions at what we hope will also be a very pleasant social occasion. More details later on.

The Committee letting their hair down – and exercising the grey matter!

At the recent WI Quiz in the village, a team from the Committee, appropriately calling themselves Helping Hands, came a very creditable fourth on the night. What is your next challenge?

Christmas Capers

We shall be having a stall at Christmas Capers again this year, so if you want to spend a little time helping there, please let Stephen Hardy know on 881309 or via stephen@stephenhardy.co.uk. Thank you.

Drivers – and every other volunteer - please note

First please do ensure that you request from villagers the cost of your fuel when you have completed their journey for them. We know for very short journeys, this may seem tiresome, but we have discussed the matter several times and agree that repayment of your costs should be made by those who use the service.

Second, driving people to events in the village, or further afield, say the Conquest Hospital, are by far and away the biggest call on our services; so more drivers are needed. We have simplified our necessary procedures to make it much easier for new drivers to come on board. So if you think you know someone who would like to take part in Helping Hands as a driver, please let Stephen Hardy know.

More help needed

If you do know anyone who would like to join our band of volunteers, do encourage them to get in touch with Anne (880832 annecwells@gmail.com) or Sue (881309 cllr.susanprochak@gmail.com). The more, the better, for everyone.