

eNews Update

Release 10, Summer 2015



Dear Friends & Supporters,

The Bereavement Matters Board of Trustees are delighted to announce the appointment of our new Director Jane Journet. Jane will begin working with us on Monday, 1st June. Talking to us about her appointment Jane said *'I am delighted to have the opportunity to work in collaboration with the Trustees, staff and volunteers to ensure that the organisation has a sound and successful future enabling Bereavement Matters to reach those needing our service.'*

With summer fast approaching we continue our focus on fundraising successes and our forthcoming fundraising events. Tickets are available from our office for both the Musical Evening at St Mary's Church Redbourn on Saturday, 6th June and also the Strawberries and Fizz on a Summer Afternoon in St Albans on Saturday, 27th June.

1st-7th June is national Volunteers Week and so we would like to take this opportunity to say a big "thank you" to all our amazing volunteers who give their time and expertise to enable us to continue to offer our services to the local community.

Don't forget if you have any news, ideas for an article or would like to contribute to Bereavement Matters eNews Update please contact the office, details below.

**St Albans and District Bereavement Network
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Bereavement Matters Welcomes New Director

Jane Journet has been appointed Director of Bereavement Matters, the unique St Albans charity based in Catherine Street. Bereavement Matters was previously known as St Albans Bereavement Network and provides counselling and other support for bereaved families and their children.

Jane is a long-time St Albans resident and her family all live and work locally. She has an MSc in Mental Health Practice from the University of Hertfordshire. Her previous experience is of a long involvement in the health, social care and caring professions, most recently as a mental health practitioner working in Dacorum for the Hertfordshire Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust.



Commenting on her new appointment which takes effect on June 1st, Jane said: "I am here to build on what has already been achieved, strengthening the work with children and families and further extending new initiatives like the buddy project. The current staff and volunteers show so much dedication in all they do. Together we can cherish people who may have spent huge amounts of time caring for their loved ones. We're there for everyone left in a state of shock and loss following a significant bereavement. It's about helping people to look after themselves again."

"A big challenge in the current funding environment is ensuring our sustainability so we can support the professionalism of the network and meet the needs of residents. We will be building our partnerships and collaboration with all agencies concerned with bereavement. Watch out too for new fundraising events."

Commenting on Jane Journet's appointment, the Chair of Trustees of Bereavement Matters, Bishop John Gladwin, said: "I am delighted to welcome Jane to Bereavement Matters. Suffering loss and bereavement is something all of us experience. The help and support of Bereavement Matters can help us through such moments in our lives. Jane's appointment marks a new chapter in our work for the people of St Albans and District."

Fundraising



Rumble's Run Smashes Fundraising Target.....

Congratulations to David Rumble for finishing the 2015 Virgin London Marathon in a time of 4:00:36.

Former Bereavement Matters client, David, smashed his fundraising target and raised an amazing **£1,113** through Just Giving sponsorship! Huge thanks to David and everyone who supported him.

But the success does not stop there..... David's employers are donating a further **£500** bringing the total to an amazing **£1,613** towards the work of Bereavement Matters. This money will go directly to helping those in need of practical and emotional bereavement support.

Abbey Mission Giving

Bereavement Matters Vice Chair, Sue Claydon, was recently presented with a cheque for **£1,000** by The Very Reverend Dr Jeffrey John, Dean of St Albans.

The donation from the Abbey Mission Giving Fund will go directly towards continuing our work in the local community.



Dates for your diary.....

Musical Evening at St Mary's Church, Redbourn Saturday, 6th June 2015 at 7.30pm

Come and enjoy an evening of musical entertainment in Redbourn. The concert features the Redbourn Junior School Choir, Tring Park School for the Performing Arts and includes a Tribute to Flanders & Swann and Comedy Sketches.

Tickets: adults £15, children no charge. These can be purchased from our office at 31 Catherine Street, St Albans. AL3 5 BJ.



Strawberries & Fizz on a Summer Afternoon in St Albans,

Saturday 27th June 2015 from 2.30pm

Enjoy fresh strawberries and a glass of chilled fizz in this beautiful private garden in St Albans - a true taste of summer.

Tickets are just £10 each and can be purchased from our office at 31 Catherine Street, St Albans. AL3 5 BJ.

Annual Service of Remembrance & Thanksgiving, Sunday 22nd November 2015 from 2.30pm

Everyone is warmly invited to join us for a special service at St Albans Cathedral. This is a chance to join with others to remember family and friends who have died.

If you would like to receive a reminder, invitation and information about our Annual Book of Remembrance please send us have your contact details to add to our mailing list. Please email to: admin@sabn.org.uk.



To find out more about our upcoming events

Call ~ **01727 841914** Email ~ admin@sabn.org.uk Website ~ sabn.org.uk

Can you help.....

Name the Bear

The Centre for Voluntary Service (CVS) in St Albans have had a generous donation of a huge (4ft) brown and cream Teddy Bear and the donor would like it to go to an organisation supporting children.

If you have any suggestions for a name for the bear please send these to wendy@cvsstablans.org.uk and don't forget to mention Bereavement Matters. If your name is chosen by the donor then we will be able to adopt the bear and use it in our work with children.



Help Needed with Technology Support

- **Do you have a technology background or are you currently studying a related discipline?**
- **Would you like to be involved in a project team investigating, helping to deliver and supporting technical solutions?**
- **If you can spare a few hours on a regular basis – why not get in touch?**

We are looking for a group of volunteers to be involved with technology projects to help improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our operations. The team will help Bereavement Matters' staff team and volunteers support our local community by improving our communications, fundraising and reducing our operational costs.

An immediate priority is a flexible CRM /mail communications solution that will allow us to provide tailored and effective communications to selective groups of people from amongst our donors, supporters, volunteers and clients. This is a great opportunity for a group of like-minded people to work together to find innovative and user-friendly ways to solve technical challenges. Please do get in touch if you can help or know someone who may be interested.

Data Protection 1998 ~ Please let us know if you prefer not to hear from us again and wish to have your details removed from our mailing lists for all future news, fundraising and event communications.

Email: admin@sabn.org.uk Telephone: 01727 841914