

## JHC News – Spring 2010

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce Professor Paul Palmer, who has kindly agreed to become Patron of John Huntingdon's Charity



I was delighted to be asked to be Patron of the John Huntingdon Charity, and have been asked to write a few words about myself.

I am Professor of Voluntary Sector Management at the Sir John Cass Business School in London, part of the City University. My expertise is in the management and financial issues which face charities.

On a voluntary basis I am a Director of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations Trading Company and a Director of Charity Business. Past roles have included serving on the Charity Commission SORP Committee and being Chair of the Royal Society of Health. I also advise two banks on charity and philanthropy issues.

I have been married to Rosalind for twenty one years. Rosalind is an intensive Care Nurse and she also teaches part-time at Brighton University. We have two boys James who is fifteen and Christopher who is ten. Weekends include the enjoyment of watching Christopher play football and James refereeing. He has yet to give his younger brother a card!

My involvement with JHC began some four years ago speaking at a trustee meeting. Since then I have regularly visited the charity and believe the work the charity does is a blueprint for the future of community activities. I hope to write for you on developments in the wider charity field and the implications for the charity over the next few years.

*A big thank you* – We are very grateful for the donations of food and money which have been given to the Charity during the last year, when many have been having a very hard time economically and have really needed this emergency help. The recession has certainly been causing problems. One client remarked that he was so pleased that there were kind people who want to help.

We have handed out 63 bags of food, 48 vouchers for Owl Café and £685 in Budgens Vouchers. In addition we were able to hand out 8 Hampers at Christmas as a special treat.

There is still however a need, so please keep the donations coming in. There are food collection points at Budgens, St. Mary's Church and John Huntingdon House.

Donations of money can be made online via the JHC website or contacting the office on 01223 492492.

## Sawston Children's Centre

The new children's centre is now open in the community rooms of Sawston Free Church (its' temporary home until it moves to a permanent location in the new Bellbird Primary school).

Theresa Bateman has been appointed as Manager, together with Fay Carter as Senior Family Involvement Worker and Lynne Howarth, Administrator. The office is open Wednesday to Friday 9am until 12.30pm.

I am pleased to advice that JHC Support Workers are holding a drop in session at the centre every Thursday 10.30 – 11.30.

Other activities include baby clinics, speech & language therapist sessions and drop in advice for parents & carers of children under 5 years old. Some of these activities are being held at different locations.

A Sawston & Linton Children's Centre Advisory board has been set up with an agreed terms of reference. The board will meet 4 times a year & includes representatives of parents, child minders, education, health and the voluntary sector.

Kate Gilmore, a member of our board of Trustees is on the Advisory board as a parent representative and has been elected Chairperson.



### Staff Profile – Beatrice Criminisi

Beatrice is our Support Worker who specialises in Income Maximisation through benefits.

Her areas of expertise include applications for Disability Living Allowance and Appeals, particularly if you have been asked to go back to work despite still having health problems.



## Lenten House, 57-59 High Street, Sawston

The Trustees have decided to name this building 'Lenten House', this is after Lenten fields which was one of the locations where the peas were originally grown.

There are 2 flats on the first floor, which will be added to our portfolio of alms houses. Interviews were recently held and residents selected. They hope to move in at the beginning of March.

Internally the project is almost complete, however externally due to the bad weather & the gas board being unable to come until mid February, we are a few weeks behind schedule.

The two commercial units on the ground floor as you can see below are also nearing completion. They really do look great.

We are now actively looking to fill these units in order to earn some income for the charity.



Anyone interested in the units needs to contact our agent Andrew Noyes on 01223 311800 or

e mail [Andrew@noyes-noyes.co.uk](mailto:Andrew@noyes-noyes.co.uk)

**If you wish to be added to our mailing list, contact us on 01223 830599 or by e.mail at [office@johnhuntingsdon.org.uk](mailto:office@johnhuntingsdon.org.uk)**

Founded in 1554

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Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm

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