



The Anchor Society Appeal News

2021

Message from the President



Older People enjoying a rare occasion out at the Anchor Tea Party

It has been a real honour to be President of The Anchor Society over the last year, as we have continued our vital work through these difficult times.



When I agreed to be President, no one could have foreseen that we were approaching the most demanding period in living memory at a global level. Notwithstanding the challenges created by the pandemic and the way the virus targeted the elderly and vulnerable, we appear to have come out the other side and have opportunities to make lives better. For The

Anchor Society team it has been business as usual, as the needs of older people in our city region have become more intense.

You will see from the newsletter, that a significant focus for Anchor is supporting older people who find themselves in urgent need of help. I am still amazed at how many find themselves falling between the gaps in provision. Anchor provides a lifeline to those who cannot afford the basic necessities, such as flooring, curtains, furniture and white goods, or essential maintenance of their home. I am pleased that through our creative partnerships we have been able to fulfil some of that need with great effectiveness.

We are grateful for the ongoing support of the John James Bristol Foundation, who partner us through grants to the most vulnerable older people in the local area to provide essential household items. In addition, in an effort to tackle heating poverty, we entered into a pilot project with St Monica Trust to make more grant funds available for boiler replacements and repairs.

On a wider level our continued investment in Age UK and LinkAge within Age UK Bristol has enabled us to extend the reach and benefit of our grants to thousands of people in the local region. Through the Bristol Older People's Funding Alliance, we continue to support joint projects and I am delighted that this year we are sponsoring an intergenerational project with Alive Activities.

As a partnership charity, we believe that by working with others the funds we receive can go much further and give maximum benefit to those we seek to serve.

I hope this newsletter gives you a clearer idea of what we do and would ask for your generous support of this year's appeal

Bill Marshall, President

Please support our work

See inside for full details of how to make a donation to The Anchor Society or go to:
anchorsociety.co.uk

LinkAge/Age UK Bristol Partnership

The Anchor Society has a long-standing relationship with LinkAge and was instrumental in facilitating the transition to Age UK Bristol in 2020.

Over the two years 2020–21 and 2021–22 Anchor funded a grant of £40K pa to LinkAge at Age UK, which in turn has generated additional funding of over £130K from other sources, ie St Monica Trust, Bristol City Council, Age UK National, Bristol Ageing Better and the Lloyd Robinson Trust. It is estimated that over 3,500 people have been helped through this funding.

LinkAge provides community services for people 55+ within Age UK; aimed at connecting with others, staying active and leading fulfilling lives. The objective is to prevent acute problems in older age by working on chronic issues such as social isolation and digital exclusion.

During the pandemic LinkAge was well placed to meet the challenges posed and worked in partnership with others to support local older people. Their focus was to generate opportunities for people to come together socially and be stronger as a result, particularly in areas of deprivation and for those suffering with mild-moderate dementia. They also provided a home support service via their day centres and continued to assist older prisoners in HMP Horfield.

The popular Tai Chi group at Horfield Common restarted in April 2021 and LinkAge also ran a Tai Chi instructor training course for older people, with the participants tasked to run free classes for older people across the area over the coming year.



Jo Stokes Community Services Manager who spearheads LinkAge within Age UK Bristol

Completed projects and their impact

The Anchor Society Lectureship in Digital Health and Care at the University of Bristol has now ended and we are pleased to report that our investment resulted in:

The creation of the Centre for Doctoral Training in Digital Health (100 students over 5 years) a number who are specialising in older people's health.

MSc in Digital Health (A first in the UK) – In 2021 all students will participate in a project on osteoarthritis, including working with patients.

Our Business in the Community Employment Project for over 55's came to an end in July 2021 after 5 years. As well as helping people gain employment, many people have improved their confidence in job searches. The project was able to adjust for the pandemic and over 100 people were supported in the last 9 months. The legacy of the learning will be taken forward by BiTC into the future and of course our modest funding brought in £200,000 from the Aviva Foundation.

This is what one person said about the project:

"Thank you so much for all of your help and support through a really challenging time for me. I was really losing hope of getting the job I wanted.....I really can't thank the job coach enough for the mentoring and the approach he took, which was perfect for me"



Photo © Chris Cooper

Partnership with Bristol Beacon – Musical Homes

One of our more creative partnerships has been with the Bristol Beacon (Bristol Music Trust) who have been using music to improve the lives of older people, particularly those in care homes and those with dementia. The Covid pandemic has presented quite a challenge, but the musicians from Bristol Beacon were able to perform 8 concerts in various homes during the winter. In addition, they came up with a novel solution to meet the needs of isolated older people – 'Mail a musician'. Members of the public could send a musical love letter to someone they cherish by nominating a friend or relation to receive a personal concert at their home. The 20-minute concerts were performed outside people's homes, in their driveways, or at their windows and a small number were programmed in community settings such as food banks, outside Lidl and in parks. We continue to support this innovative work and look forward to the Bristol Beacon being able to do more for older people.

4 Ways to make a donation

1 By cash or cheque

You can send cash, a cheque or a CAF voucher directly to us at The Anchor Society Office: 29 Alma Vale Road, Clifton, Bristol BS8 2HL. Cheques made payable to "The Anchor Society"

2 Online

Via your bank account to: The Anchor Society, account number: 42165325, sort code: 40-14-13 either as a single donation or a regular payment.

The Anchor Tea Party

Our President, Bill Marshall, and his wife Vickie were delighted to host the annual Anchor Tea Party face-to-face this year and it proved to be a very joyful occasion. After a particularly difficult period, it was a wonderful opportunity for us to celebrate together with beneficiaries and partner organisations.

This year the Lockleaze Sports Centre kindly offered the use of their facilities for the event. The centre is a wonderful community venture in the heart of Bristol and benefits from open aspects on three sides, a large outside terrace and fully accessible amenities. Guests received full table service and everyone enjoyed a delicious selection of sandwiches, scones and cakes; with doggy bags available for any surplus.

The entertainment was provided by the Whitson Quartet, four girls from Redmaids' High School aged between 14 and 16, and the performance was outstanding. Three of the four are members of the Bristol Youth Orchestra and all perform locally, although this was their first live event in 18 months.

We had some very positive feedback:

"It was wonderful; everyone was so lovely; it made you feel alive" – Mrs Hazel Bailey, Anchor beneficiary

Photo © Eric Evans



Hazel Bailey at the tea party

"Thank you so much for yesterday, everyone has returned full of smiles. From the beautiful venue, to the amazing food and the lovely violin playing, everyone has been saying what a wonderful time they had" – The Beehive Centre

Boiler replacement project 2021

We recognise that having adequate heating and hot water are probably the most essential basic requirements for everyone, but particularly for older, vulnerable people. Having noticed a decline in grant requests for boiler replacements, and subsequently identifying that there was a shortfall in funding, we were keen to facilitate a solution.

Led by our Administrator, Catherine Watts, and Angelina Shoemake from the St Monica Trust we piloted a joint match-funding project on grants for boiler replacements and repairs in the Bristol area. The pilot was very successful and a number of older people were helped, some who had no heating and hot water for a considerable period of time. This is what one beneficiary said:

"I am writing to you in regards to the funds given for a new boiler that was fitted in my home through the charity you work for Anchor Society and St Monica's Trusted (sic).

I cannot express in words how much this helped me in a time of complete devastation. I really don't know where to start on sharing with you the joy I experienced due to the help that was given. This has been life changing, at a time where all I could see was a great big black hole and that I was about to drowning in it... Thanking you for making the impossible possible."

We of course continue to fund boilers and heating systems and hope that our joint approach will continue in some form into the future.

Photo © Eric Evans



Angelina Shoemake and Catherine Watts who have successfully led the pilot boiler project

3 Virgin Money Giving

Donate online with a bank card or via PayPal at [virginmoneygiving.com/charities/anchorsociety](https://www.virginmoneygiving.com/charities/anchorsociety) Please note that giving via Virgin Money ends on 30 November 2021.

4 By standing order

Please print and complete the Standing Order mandate which can be found on our website at [anchorsociety.co.uk/fundraising](https://www.anchorsociety.co.uk/fundraising)

Unless you are giving via Virgin Money Giving or CAF, please complete the Donation Form and return to us in the reply paid envelope enclosed to ensure that your donation is gift aided. We would very much appreciate receiving your donation before 13th November if possible.



Photo © Huy Phan, Unsplash

The Annual Appeal

The Anchor Society was founded in 1769, when a dinner was held at the Three Tuns, a tavern on the site of the present Corn Exchange, with 22 members present. At this dinner the President, Gilbert Davies, took up a collection of twelve guineas to benefit the poor and elderly in Bristol. Since then there has been an unbroken record of Presidents' annual appointments and personal collections.

You will find the full list on our website: anchorsociety.co.uk/fundraising/collections

Each year the three Societies, Anchor, Dolphin and Grateful, simultaneously launch an Appeal at the end of October and the results are shared and announced at the annual dinner in November; so there is some friendly rivalry!

We are reliant on our appeal collections to fund the projects Anchor is involved in and are extremely grateful to the continuing generosity of our donors.

Ageing presents many challenges for us all, but particularly for those who are isolated and vulnerable.

We urge you to continue your support in any way that you can. You may wish to consider a regular payment or a legacy gift in your will. If so, please contact the Anchor office for details.

Past presidents and annual collections

1933	Eric W Butler	1,816
1934	F Percy Jenkins	1,526
1935	Harold G Robinson	2,017
1936	Dr J Odery Symes	1,726
1937	A Anthony Skull	2,077
1938	Laurence Hosegood	2,224
1939	T Thornton Wills	1,463
1940	Sir Seymour Williams	1,158
1941	Colonel EW Lennard	1,643
1942	Ald T H J Underdown	1,373
1943	John R. Skull	2,389
1944	H M C Hosegood	2,212
1945	F M Arkle	2,263
1946	J H Britton, CBE	2,231
1947	Brig A L W Newth, CBE, DSO, MC	2,306
1948	J P Hitchings, CBE	2,605
1949	S W Cornwell	2,214
1950	E Peter Butler	2,712
1951	Alderman Percy W Cann	2,027
1952	S T Carwardine	2,882
1953	C H Pritchard	3,196
1954	J B Steadman	4,102
1955	A W Bryant	2,723
1956	R C Brooks	2,782
1957	R H Brown	2,924
1958	T F Hewer	2,254
1959	T G C Butler, OBE	2,930
1960	C H Clements	3,131
1961	J A Seymour Williams	3,249
1962	Robert W. Melvin, CBE	4,112
1963	F D Armstrong	11,618
1964	L Ashman Olive	8,601
1965	J F Durie	5,644
1966	Andrew Breach, CBE	4,781
1967	Sir John Partridge, KBE	5,775
1968	H P Lucas	6,108
1969	His Grace The Duke of Beaufort, KG, PC, GCVO	10,056
1970	W H Needham Cooper	5,800
1971	Robert V. Cooke	6,120
1972	A H G Butler	5,231
1973	Christopher Rowe	7,314
1974	Peter D Smith	8,115
1975	O D F Gardner	9,193
1976	D A Newton	10,695
1977	P S Hill	9,490
1978	Michael Collings	12,632
1979	Paul Watling	9,552
1980	J G S Young	15,645
1981	R A Garrett CBE	12,807
1982	J D Ware	18,724
1983	Norman Ricketts, OBE	21,060
1984	R V S Castle	17,103
1985	J R Pool, MBE	28,174
1986	His Honour Judge J A Cox	23,339
1987	C S Carwardine	34,584
1988	J B Patterson	34,734
1989	R A Lalonde	53,100
1990	F J Avery	50,269
1991	St John Hartnell, OBE	77,777
1992	G J Clements	44,722
1993	R S Brooks	69,887
1994	Robert Durie, OBE	71,686
1995	Paul Rowe	73,268
1996	Geoff Matthews	78,575
1997	Robert Melvin	66,065
1998	D'Arcy Parkes	79,069
1999	John Burke, OBE	95,656
2000	Guy Arnoux	90,635
2001	Alan R Reed	71,271
2002	Dick Pearce	74,117
2003	Sir David Wills Bt	74,255
2004	John Cottrell	94,433
2005	Nicholas Hooper	80,172
2006	Richard Jarratt	76,195
2007	Charles Hignett	90,476
2008	John Ledbury	90,252
2009	Chris Patterson	86,137
2010	Michael Bothamley	97,328
2011	Dr Jo Gipps, OBE	75,822
2012	Greg Corrigan	72,018
2013	Martin Griffiths	102,112
2014	Dr Michael McCaldin	86,945
2015	Canon Dr John Savage, CBE	83,067
2016	Bob Reeves LLD	100,897
2017	Dr John Manley	103,186
2018	Prof. Steve West CBE DL	108,186
2019	Dr Ros Kennedy	104,763
2020	Francis Montagu	109,302

The Anchor Society

Established 1769

President

Bill Marshall

Committee

Robert Durie OBE

Richard Jarratt

Michael Bothamley

Dr Ros Kennedy

Francis Montagu

Brian Hanson

President-elect

Jenny Lacey

Hon Secretary

Hannah Wallington

Hon Treasurer

Eric Evans

Chief Executive

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