

Volunteer Newsletter - April 2018



Hello Volunteer !

I hope you all had an enjoyable and peaceful Easter break, despite the rather inclement weather (in much of the UK at least). Writing this on the hottest day of the year so far it really feels like we might have finally turned a corner and warmer sunnier days are definitely on the way....well, until the weekend at least!

Many thanks to our amazing SPEAR **Swimathon** team – Catherine, Christopher and Lucy who, on 24th March, swam 113 lengths in under one hour and have together already raised over £500. You can still support them by donating [here](#). If you feel inspired by their efforts, take a look at some of the other Events (below) coming up this year that you can get involved in.

Those of you who attended our 30th Anniversary event last year will remember the fantastic FRESALCA Sax Quartet. FRESALCA played for us again at Wimbledon Centre Court Shopping Centre recently and boosted our collections on the day to over £500! We are keen to run more of these events in all 5 boroughs that we work in. Please see below (Volunteers Needed) for ways that you can help.

As always, thanks for your help and support.

Julie
Volunteering Officer
Tel: 020 7036 9764



The spotlight this month falls on Diana, another of our hugely valuable Volunteer Hub Receptionists.

After a brief career in the travel industry, Diana moved into the health and social



care sector, where she worked first in residential care, supporting adults with severe physical difficulties, those with a long history of homelessness and a variety of other care needs. From there Diana worked in care, counselling and helpline information roles, supporting adults and children with a diverse range of needs. She took a degree in psychology as a mature student and later went on to complete a Masters with the Open University. Presently she is taking a number of courses in creative writing and is interested in pursuing the idea of working with writing as a therapeutic tool.

Diana has been volunteering with SPEAR since April 2016. Whilst her main role is as a volunteer receptionist, alongside this, Diana has been able to put her vast experience in the sector to good use, supporting a small number of clients on a one-to-one basis, as a tenancy support volunteer. "I really enjoy getting to meet and know clients without the responsibility of the 'difficult bits'"

Thank you Diana!



Could you distribute SPEAR posters?

We have some new **SPEAR posters**, with details of how to refer rough sleepers to our Richmond outreach service. We would like these posters to be distributed as widely as possible, so if you are able to pick up (from our Twickenham Hub) and distribute a few posters – perhaps you know some shops or businesses you could approach locally – then please contact our **fundraising team** to arrange.

Are you in a music group, band, choir? Or do you know someone who is and might be interested in doing a 'local' (Richmond, Kingston, Wandsworth, Merton, Sutton) gig to raise money for SPEAR? Our recent collection at Wimbledon Centre Court, with the support of the fantastic **FRESALCA** Sax Quartet raised over £500! We can arrange bookings and licences. Contact our **fundraising team** if you might be able to help.

Volunteering Fair, Richmond. Thursday, 7th June 2 – 6pm

SPEAR will once again have a stand at this annual volunteer recruitment event, which takes place at RACC and we are looking for a few volunteers to cover a 'shift'. You will need to have some basic knowledge about SPEAR as an organisation and about volunteering with us but more important is your ability to speak confidently to the general public and engage people with our cause. Let **me** know if you are interested and available to help.



Charity Walk for Peace – Sunday, 29th April

Why not make the most of the warmer weather and join staff from the SPEAR Fundraising Team and their families on this walk in Windsor? This is an annual event organised by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Elders Association (AMEA). There is no cost to register for the event, but you can raise sponsorship or make a donation and any donations/sponsorship will be matched by the organisation and donated to charities. SPEAR is one of the participating charities, so will benefit from funds raised. Further information about the walk [here](#). *Registration closes this Saturday, 21st April!*

Do let the **fundraising team** know if you plan to participate so they can arrange to meet you there!

Other upcoming events:

Hands Fair, Twickenham Green – Monday, 28th May

Prudential Ride London, – Sunday, 29th July

Wimbledon Half Marathon – various dates 2018



Our recruitment at SPEAR continues. Right now we are recruiting to the following positions:

- Homeless Health Link Peer Advocate (closing date 23rd April)
- Sessional Workers (ongoing)

More details and application packs [here](#).

Please share with your networks!

Do you shop online? Did you know that many internet stores will donate a percentage of your purchase to SPEAR at no extra cost to you if you access their website through easyfundraising.org.uk

Registering takes a couple of minutes and after that every e-purchase you make could help support our work.

Thank you!

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89 Heath Road, Twickenham TW1 4AW

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