



Volunteer Newsletter

Spring 2019



Volunteer News

Many thanks to those of you who have helped us out with events over the past few weeks. We have a couple more events coming up that we could use some additional help with. Please see details below.

We now have our final figures for Volunteering last year and can report that around 140 people volunteered at least once with us in 2018, donating, in total, over 4,270 hours of their time. For an organisation of SPEAR's size this is very impressive and we couldn't thank you enough.

Our Volunteering Review is (finally) nearing completion and the next step will be to present this to our Trustees and, from there, produce a Volunteering Strategy to define our approach to volunteering going forward, in light of the exponential growth of the organisation. We will keep you posted!



Bella - Ad-Hoc/Events Volunteer

This month the spotlight falls on Bella, one of our pool of 'ad-hoc' volunteers, who jump in to help us with all events, fairs, collection days and anything in-between!. Bella has been volunteering with SPEAR for many years now and is a highly-valued member of the team. Over to Bella...



"As one of the volunteers who was pleased to have known Penny Wade and her husband Robin, I remember when SPEAR was set up over 30 years ago now. I have followed its development with interest, but also concern, as there is still such a great need for the work it does. I am happy to help, especially when volunteers are needed for a public event such as the Twickenham Green Fair, which is a good place to advertise the Charity and raise funds for it.

There are several collection days at local stations which are also opportunities to give support. I like to offer my time if I can be useful, standing there with green jacket and collection tin ...smile, explain SPEAR's aims and work. One of the best responses to me at a station collection day, was from a man who had been helped by SPEAR and is now doing well and, in gratitude, gave generously.

I am now retired, but my job for many years had been in a library helping readers and sharing information. Being part of a team is something I have always enjoyed; spreading the word, answering enquiries, listening and helping. I admire others who have organisational skills or can use their expertise in other ways, but we can all play our part for a very worthwhile cause."

Thank you Bella!

Volunteers Needed

Teddington Station Collection Day – Tuesday 2nd April
If you are free to 'shake' a bucket for an hour or two during the morning or evening rush hour, then please let [Bruce](#) know directly.



Putney and Wimbledon Musical Events – Saturday, 20th April
In *Putney Exchange*, the wonderful ALFRED AND SALAMANDA sax quartet will be performing between 11am and 3pm

In *Wimbledon Centre Court*, SONGS ON WHEELS will be performing between 11.30am and 1.30pm.

Volunteers are needed in both locations to engage with the public and hand out SPEAR leaflets. Please let the [fundraising](#) team know if you are able to help.

UPCOMING Events

SPEAR Art Fair and Garden Party - Sunday, 23rd June 2pm - 5.30pm Trumpeters House, Richmond

Building on the success of the Putney Art Fair earlier this year, SPEAR will be holding an Art Fair and Garden Party at the wonderful [Trumpeters House](#) in Richmond. Further information about the event can be found on our [website](#).

This is a major event for SPEAR and we will be looking for lots of volunteers to take on a variety of roles, supporting a range of activities and the catering on the day, but also helping with the lead up to the event. If you think you would like to be involved in some way, please [contact me](#) in the first instance and I will forward your details to our fundraising team. If you are not yet registered as a volunteer, we will ask you to complete an application form.

The Big Thank You Coffee Morning – Thursday, 13th June RHACC Richmond

Richmond CVS is inviting Richmond-based volunteers to attend a coffee morning on Thursday 13th June from 10.30am. Light refreshments will be served and there will be a guest speaker and a chance for volunteers to chat and share their experiences of volunteering. If you would like to attend you can find out further information and sign up [here](#)



In December, we brought news of our fantastic volunteers, Paul and Elliot, from Richmond based property management company, Acara, who won a **Richmond Community Heroes** award. Richmond Council came in to interview them about their volunteering with SPEAR and the film of this interview featured as Video of the Week in last week's council newsletter. You can catch up with the video

yourself at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B7Jjo1RAHls&feature=youtu.be>

New funding for SPEAR services

SPEAR has been awarded a National Lottery Community Fund grant to help people experiencing homelessness to improve their health. The grant will fund our Homeless Healthlink service in Richmond and Kingston for a further 3 years, which has already helped over 400 people to better manage their mental and physical health. Further information is available on our [website](#).

[Richmond Council](#) this week confirmed that it has been awarded a significant pot of funding to reduce rough sleeping in the borough and will be working with SPEAR to provide 'Navigators', who will guide rough sleepers off the streets and into accommodation. This is part of the government's Rapid Rehousing Pathway Initiative and will also apply to Kingston and Wandsworth. You may have seen that we have already been busy recruiting staff for these new roles. In addition, further government (MHCLG) funding, has recently been awarded to SPEAR to continue and expand our Outreach and accommodation services in Wandsworth, Merton and Sutton.

Keep an eye on our website for further news and details of new recruitment!

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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