

Keeping in Touch

November 2008



Uttlesford Crossroads - Member of Crossroads Association

Message from Managers and Trustees

The management committee continues to review its strategic and business plans, particularly in respect of serving young carers and generally expanding our service to more carers in Uttlesford. We are getting close to making a decision about opening a Day Centre, which would probably be in Thaxted. It gives us great pleasure to welcome three new care support workers to our team, which will help us to provide more care hours and reach more carers.

Our Business Development Manager together with the Funding Sub-Committee of trustees continue to explore new sources of revenue, which are becoming increasingly hard to find. A high proportion of the care hours we provide are subsidised from donations, fundraising and other forms of giving. We are very grateful to all those who have given donations to **Uttlesford Crossroads** or helped in any way with fundraising activities such as coffee mornings it all helps us to fund care hours.

Members of the management committee continue to attend meetings of the Crossroads Eastern Region Development Group. This is an excellent forum for keeping in touch with all that is going on within the Association and Head Office, and for feeding our views back to the Association Board. We are maintaining our close contacts with Braintree Crossroads both at board level and between managers.

We are delighted to be able to announce that the **Friends of Uttlesford Crossroads** group is now firmly established. We have had our first meeting and a great deal of help has been offered to assist with fundraising and some office tasks. A very warm welcome will be extended to anyone wishing to join us.

The management team is seeking to recruit two or three more trustees to strengthen the board and become team members in an active way. If you would be interested or know of someone who might be interested, please contact our chairman, Graham Hamilton-Hopkins direct on 01223 834008.

We have been receiving many new referrals, which have been fully assessed by our Care Manager. We are pleased to say that most of these have now started receiving a Crossroads service.

Our Care Support Workers continue to receive training in a number of areas and we are very pleased to report that two members of our care team have successfully completed their NVQ level 2 qualification, and others are about to start their training.

Profile of a trustee - Rebecca del Tufo

Rebecca joined **Uttlesford Crossroads** as a trustee in 2004. She is now our Company Secretary, Vice Chairman and chair of our Funding sub-committee.

She worked as a solicitor in London for 6 years before joining the administrative team at the Judge Business School in Cambridge. Since having children (two boys now aged 10 and 8) she has been involved in various voluntary projects including, the National Childbirth Trust and the Teddies Toy Library, and has been chair of Saffron Screen since (and before) its launch.

UTTLESFORD CROSSROADS HELPS YOU SORT YOUR CHRISTMAS!

Raise vital funds for Uttlesford Crossroads while you shop.

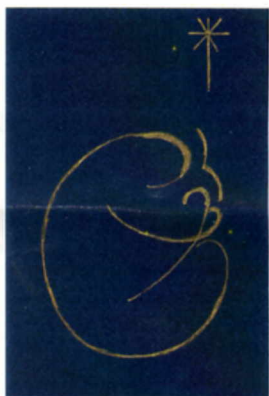
CHRISTMAS CARDS

This year we are offering Uttlesford Crossroads own Christmas cards in 3 different designs. All are sold in **packs of 10** for **£3.50 per pack**.



The wording in the cards is **Season's Greetings**. (Size 4¼" x 4¼")

We have a fourth design, available at the same price, in which the wording is **Happy Christmas**.



(Size 4" x 5¾")

All of these items are available from your usual care support worker, the Crossroads office(01799 513496) or from a trustee or Friend of Uttlesford Crossroads

CHRISTMAS PUDDINGS

Our popular and delicious Christmas puddings are back for another year!

This year you can buy in two sizes:

1lb £5.50

2lb £9.50



A very small craft manufacturer in Cumbria makes the pudding and it's absolutely gorgeous. The recipe is from a family of really good cooks, 3 of them had restaurants in the Good Food Guide. All the vine fruits are soaked in lots of brandy and dry sherry. Fresh breadcrumbs and freshly grated carrot help give the pudding a lighter texture. Ingredients are top quality and much more varied than usual – almonds, walnuts, stem ginger, apricots, cherries as well as the best raisins and sultanas. **Most people have no idea that Christmas pudding can be this good .**



Coming Events

Carol Singing—Tesco

Do come along to Tesco on Thursday 18 December and hear us singing Christmas carols. If you feel like joining in that's even better. Please contact Victoria Ham on 524816 if you would like to form a group of 3 or more singers or musicians.

Golf Day (April 2009)

Following the success of last year's event, at which we raised £1500, we have decided to organise another Golf Day in April 2009. There will be a number of prizes to play for and will be followed by an evening meal.

If anyone wishes to enter a team or maybe sponsor a hole or a prize, please contact our Care Manager, Heather Eldred at the office, who will be able to provide more details.

Uttlesford Crossroads Charity Christmas Lunch 2008

This year's Christmas lunch is on **Thursday 11th December** so please make a diary note. An invitation and menu is enclosed with this newsletter and early booking is recommended as this is always a popular event. We don't want anyone to miss out on this event, and bookings will be taken on a 'First come-first served' basis.

The lunch will be held at Saffron Walden Rugby Club, at Henham, who allow us to use their



hall free of charge, and to whom we are extremely grateful.

We would be very grateful for donations of any raffle prizes.

The Christmas lunch is a great opportunity for members, trustees, staff and supporters to get together in a relaxing and informal setting. There will be carol singers and a log fire.

The price of tickets this year has increased slightly due to the fact that we are using professional caterers following the retirement of our volunteer chefs.

Tickets at £13.50 each are available from the office 01799 513496 by 5 December latest.



Fundraising

Our stall at this year's Saffron Walden Michaelmas Fair made a profit of £237

Our Coffee mornings at Stansted and Saffron Walden were both well attended and raised £223 and £370 respectively.

We were delighted to receive a cheque from last year's mayor of Saffron Walden, Sarfraz Anjum, for £1928.88 as part of his year's charitable fundraising. The trustees and staff are very grateful for being one of his chosen charities.

Uttlesford Crossroads was one of the first of a number of local charities to benefit from the **Waitrose Charity Voucher Scheme**. It was very gratifying to see the huge support we received from Waitrose customers, and we were presented with a cheque for £560.

Remember us in your Will

Are you in the process of making or updating your will? Have you considered leaving a sum to **Uttlesford Crossroads** - there may be advantages to you—a gift in a will can limit your exposure to Inheritance Tax. Another advantage of leaving money to a local charity is the knowledge that all of your money will go directly to support the purpose for which it is given.

Should you feel able to do this, or wish to consider a legacy, it would be advisable to consult a solicitor. What a boost it would be for Uttlesford Crossroads to receive help in this way. If you would like to speak to us in general about legacies please give us a telephone call on 01799 513496.

