

Welcome to Southend in Sight's Spring edition of Fundraising News.

Firstly, a huge thank you to everyone who donated to us at Christmas – we managed to raise £2,820. We really are very grateful for the continued support from everyone.

We have a new grant from the energy supplier CADENT, working in partnership with 10 other charities across Southend. The grant means that we can expand the form filling advice and support we offer, as well as guidance on signing up to the Priority Services Register, CO2 safety and energy saving tips around the home.



Our support from local organisations continues, with a recent donation of £1500 from the Leigh on Sea Rotary Club. Their current President Janice Price chose Southend in Sight, as both she and her husband Ron have been supporters of our charity for many years. The photo

above shows CEO Lucy (left), President Janice Price (right), with members of the Leigh on Sea Rotary Club holding a giant cheque.

We were delighted to receive a second donation from the Phoenix Writing Group. The local group raised £200 for us back in March 2022 following the launch of their anthology "Better Than Biscuits". A further cheque for £300 was recently handed over by the writing group's lead, Kim Kimber, representing royalties from sales of the book to date.



Our very own Shop Manager Lois, pictured left with Kim, handing a cheque to Fundraising Manager Catherine, is a member, and persuaded her fellow writers to choose us as their charity.

As we go to print, our charity shop will be getting ready for the Spring pop-up event

on Saturday 9th March. This now annual fixture will have Mother's Day gifts, Easter baskets and Spring fashion on sale. No doubt the Easter Bunny/Mad Hatter will make an appearance again, and we can promise some top quality items will be available to purchase on the day!

Our charity shop itself has enjoyed fantastic sales both before and after Christmas. The shop was closed for 3 days in January while we installed a new rail system, enabling us to display all our lovely items in a more appealing way. Shop Manager Lois' windows continue to attract attention, including a "Traitors" themed window with a Scottish Highlands twist. We have also welcomed some new volunteers to our shop, all helping to keep the wonderful donations we receive moving through with sorting, pricing and of course, selling!

Don't forget, if you can spare £5 a month, you could join our Diamond Club and help support our work.

We can also offer talks to any group or organisation that wishes to hear about our charity. For more information on this and any other fundraising enquiries, please call **Catherine Hodgson** or **Liz Payne** on **01702 34 21 31**.

## **Southend in Sight**

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