

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

Firstly, a big thank you to everyone who donated to us this Christmas - your generosity and kind messages were very much appreciated by staff. We are pleased to say that we raised a total of £2,670.

As we go to print, our Chinese fundraising meal at Zen City will be taking place, with support from many local businesses. Our accountants Venthams and the Circle Health Group will be attending on the night. Natural Edge, Leigh on Sea Brewery, Indirock, Garons, Southend United and David Lloyd gym have all donated great raffle prizes. We are grateful to everyone who has contributed and attended, and hope to raise at least £1,000 for our charity.



Many of you will remember our year as the Mayor's chosen charity back in 2018 with Cllr Derek Jarvis. We were sad to learn of Derek's passing in November last year. He and his wife Val continued to support our charity, and Derek was still working tirelessly for the local council, having recently

been awarded Honorary Alderman status. The photo above shows Mayor Derek with his wife Val presenting a cheque for £50,411 to CEO Lucy and Chairman Russell in our newly opened centre in 2019. Derek will be missed by us all.

Although our services will be moving to central Southend in the Spring, our charity shop will remain open on Hamlet Court Road. With High Street sales falling, it is more important than ever that we encourage people to donate their good quality unwanted clothes and shop with us when they visit. Our customers tell us we are the best charity shop on Hamlet Court Road and we need to keep up our reputation!



Our annual Christmas pop up shop was a fun day out for all, raising an additional £600 through the sale of ready-made baskets of goodies, decorations, jumpers and all things yuletide!

The photo left shows volunteers Lisa, Helen and David

pulling a cracker dressed in Christmas jumpers, hats, glasses and tinsel.

We are hoping to sign more people up to our monthly lottery – the Diamond Cub – this year. For just £5 a month you can do some good and help support our work, while also having the potential to win £75 or £50 in our monthly draw. It's easy to join. You can visit our website and search for "Diamond Club", or you can call us in the office and we can sign you up over the phone.

We can 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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