

22nd May 2025

Chairman's Report Spring 2025

We meet again this year for our Public Annual General Meeting and Reunion in the Melbourn United Reformed Church hall on Wednesday 28th May 2025. This is the occasion when we can meet up with old friends as well as listen to a talk on a subject of interest and relevance and share refreshments together. This year it is our pleasure to be able to welcome Alan Chamley as our speaker. Alan is visually impaired but is a qualified counsellor working from home and amongst his other interests enjoys sailing, trekking, dancing and singing.

With respect to our Financial Report, we have continued with our interpretation of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and no longer name donors publicly though we, of course, know who they are and remain most grateful for their support. Obviously, the names of those who we support remain, as they always have, confidential. Our funds remain healthy and we continue to seek ways to better publicise our ability to help those in need.

On a sad note I have to report the passing of our dear friend and past Trustee, Margaret Hewat. Margaret was the widow of the charity's founder, the Rev'd Pat Hewat, and was a Trustee until standing down in 2021. Her tireless efforts to support the Trust's work were an inspiration to all of us who had the privilege to serve alongside her. Margaret passed away in March of this year, a few weeks after her 95th birthday. At her funeral, a packed church heard of Margaret's long and active life with donations in her memory for charities including the Cherryhomes Trust.

The past year has again been fairly quiet but we have:

- attracted one further new Sponsored Member
- provided a grant towards a wheelchair to replace one damaged in a car accident
- continued to support an existing member in negotiations with SCDC regarding modifications to their bungalow
- provided a member with a grant towards a replacement powered wheelchair

Our website www.cherryhomes.org.uk continues to be a useful vehicle to publicise what we do and we express our continued thanks to Dr Aidan Van de Weyer for his continued support as our webmaster.

Operating in the area we do, we are fortunate to have a group of Trustees with a range of backgrounds and skills and also benefit from a number of the Trustees having knowledge of or currently working within the NHS to help ensure we spend our resources appropriately. Whilst, as a registered charity, we have procedures that define the way we operate being small does help us act swiftly and decisively when needed.

In line with our Governing Document, the Trustees held their Annual General Meeting in early April this year. At that meeting the Trustees re-elected the existing Officers:

Chairman: Barry Monk
Hon Secretary: Rosaline Van de Weyer
Hon Treasurer: Beryl Monk

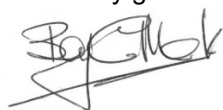
to serve a further term.

Finally, I should like to express my sincere thanks again this year to my fellow Officers and all the Trustees for their work in support of Cherryhomes. For the coming year, the Trustees are as follows:

Angela Craxford Snelling, Joyce Goodall, Violet Kellett, Barry Monk (Chairman),
Beryl Monk (Hon. Treasurer), and Rosaline Van de Weyer (Hon. Secretary).

We are and wish to remain a small local charity - it is by being such that we can continue to provide that personal relationship with those we seek to assist. However, we continue to try to publicise the help we can give and should you know of anyone who you think might benefit from the help Cherryhomes can provide, please do get them to contact us. There are leaflets available at this AGM/Reunion – please do feel free to take some and pass them on to anyone you think we may be able to help.

With every good wish,



Barry Monk (Chairman)