

# OUR CHARITY

## Introduction

Welcome to our 7th CHARITY newsletter.

As we come to the end of our 2024/25 financial year, let's look back on what we have achieved.



Beverley Turner, Almoner

### The Year in numbers:

- |                                   |                            |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| • Donations from members          | <b>£150,500</b> (£137,600) |
| • Grants made                     | <b>£200,900</b> (£189,500) |
| • Number of good causes supported | <b>53</b> (46)             |
| • Donations to the Cork Fund      | <b>£55,000</b> (£13,643)   |

*(The figures in brackets are from 2023/24)*

As you can see from the above we have exceeded expectations and that is all thanks to your incredible generosity

## THANK YOU

We want our members to know what our charity is doing – Communication is so important. To this end we have rewritten our Charity pages on the website, sent out 6 Newsletters, produced an Impact Report and used LinkedIn.

This is YOUR CHARITY so if there is any feedback on the above, or anything you think we should be doing, please do contact either myself at [Almoner@accountantslivery.org](mailto:Almoner@accountantslivery.org) or Clare Ferrar at [charity@accountantslivery.org](mailto:charity@accountantslivery.org).

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## OUR CHARITY - MARCH 2025

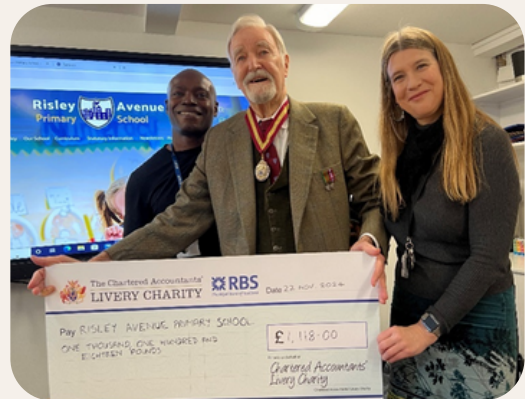
### 1. FLASH APPEALS AT 2024/25 DINNERS

This initiative, put forward by our Immediate Past Master, invited Members attending the four major dinners to pledge to support various charities. The pledge amounts were quite small - £15 – but Members were welcome to pledge whatever amount they chose to.

As a recap this is what we raised money for:

#### Installation Dinner, October 2024

An appeal by senior past master Ken Gardener for funding for his old school Risley Avenue Primary School in Haringey to provide equipment for a sensory room for children with special needs.



#### Winter Dinner, February 2025

An appeal by freeman Chrissie Bacon to raise money to help young people from deprived areas access the Sustainability Centre with the aim of educated, enabling and inspiring them to make positive changes to the way they live and work.

#### Spring Dinner, April 2025

An appeal by Past masters Mark Spofforth and John Cardnell to raise money for Magical Taxi Tour. Each year the Worshipful Company of Hackney Carriage Drivers take a group of children with life threatening diseases to Disneyland Paris. Our funding enabled us to send three taxis!



#### Annual Banquet, July 2025

An appeal by Freeman Olivia Carling to raise money for the Little Princess Trust. This trust donates wigs to children who have lost their hair as a result of cancer. The funding they received also helps with research into new and better treatments for all paediatric cancers - an area where there is so much work desperately needing investment. Our funding enabled the Trust to provide five very much needed wigs.



### 2. MELIS POWER – RECIPIENT OF OUR BURSARY AWARDS

Melis applied for our bursary funding back in 2021. She wanted to pursue a career in academia and the funding would help her complete her PhD whilst working. This is what Melis says about the help the bursary gave her:



*I recently received bursary funding from the Chartered Accountants' Livery Charity to support the completion of my PhD. I am an ICAEW member who decided to move from accounting roles in the private sector to become a university lecturer. Completing a part-time PhD while lecturing full time was an important part of this transition for me. My PhD research focuses on the effect on professional identity for chartered accountants who move from practice to industry.*

*The funding enabled me to pay for interview transcription, saving countless hours of work. Without this support, I would have struggled to make progress during the analysis phase of the project. I also used the funding to cover useful equipment, including the cost of a tablet to use at academic conferences to help with note-taking and working while on the move.*

*One of the turning points of my PhD journey was attending a writing retreat in Scotland. This provided me with three days of headspace away from work to fully focus on the PhD write-up without distractions. Attending this retreat would not have been possible without the grant, and I attribute the significant progress I made on this retreat to my eventual PhD completion in December 2024. I passed my Viva in March 2025 with minor corrections and proudly graduated with my PhD in July 2025.*

*I am very grateful to have received the funding. This is not only because of the financial support it provided, but also because of the feedback I received during annual meetings with the bursary panel. This helped to shape my research and encouraged me to consider my topic from a range of perspectives.*



### 3. SHANNON TRUST - STORY FROM ONE OF OUR GRANT RECIPIENTS

Dear Beverley

As supporters of Shannon Trust's work, we thought that you and your Trustees would like to see some recent ITV news coverage featuring two of our prison projects (please see links to the right). Filmed at HMPs Hull and Norwich, both pieces focus on our peer-led literacy programme . . . As you will see from the interviews, the impact of these projects can be life-changing for learners and peer mentors alike.

ITV  
News  
Video

ITV  
News  
Article

This news coverage has helped raise public awareness of the shocking levels of low literacy in prisons: Current Ministry of Justice figures show that more than 70% of people in prison either can't read or struggle to do so, all of whom are also likely to have very low numeracy skills. With the prison population in England and Wales alone set to reach 100,000 by 2027, tackling these issues feels more important than ever.

Last year, Shannon Trust engaged a record 11,056 learners with our literacy and/or numeracy programmes and trained more than 2,000 new peer mentors across our prison-based projects in England, Wales and Northern Ireland; inspiring people like David and Toby, featured above, to make positive changes to their lives and prospects.

Thank you for helping us to continue transforming lives through learning.

All best wishes  
Aly





### 4. VISIT TO HMP HIGHPOINT 19 AUGUST 2025



A gathering of various interested parties (City & Guilds, LCCG, CALC, Innholders and others) were invited to a visit of HMP Highpoint to witness the exciting and inspirational projects being undertaken 'Within these Walls (or fences)'. Under the guidance of Steve Phillips (supported by a very far-sighted Governor, Nigel Smith) projects have been developed since 2022 to provide:

- Training in skills required on the rail network – from Track Maintenance and Signalling to very specialised work on overhead power lines. (Sited on the Southside).
- This is provided on a stretch of track and electricity gantries built inside the fences of the South complex of HMP Highpoint.
- Within the North Complex there is a project to train prisoners in construction skills like bricklaying etc. and more recently the use of earth moving heavy machinery. Skills useful to and in short supply in the construction industry.
- The group passed a wall being built on the bricklaying course where the letters of HMPHIGHPOINT had been spelt out in contrasting colour bricks!

#### Some reflections from the day:

Hilary Lindsay summed up very well for the group, that this visit had changed the perception of prisons for many of us. Other comments and observations were brought forward in the final feedback session; after much discussion and commentary from many members of the HMP HP team and C&G personnel whilst walking round the two sites.

For myself, an over-riding impression was from a story told earlier in the morning about someone who had spent 20 years yo-yoing in and out of detention, and being part of various programs to assist him on release. [Indeed like many others he had been 'collecting tickets' from these courses – some of which were really not in his skill set!].

In being able to take part in the current rail track maintenance training program, with the guarantee of a job on release, he had found (a) a whole new confidence, (b) greater trust in the system and (c) the opportunity of (re)building relationships with his family and other networks which hopefully would keep him away from revisiting an HMP establishment again.

**What a legacy for Stephen as he retires in 3 years' time!!**

**Tim Roberts, Trustee**

### 5. SUMMER LUNCH AT LORDS CRICKET GROUND WITH GUEST SPEAKER GUS FRASER

You may remember Gus Fraser, an England Fast Bowler back in the 1990s, at a time when West Indies were at their peak. Gus's finest hour probably came in the Barbados Test match of the 1993/94 West Indies tour when Fraser took 8-75 in the first innings to help set up a famous victory, West Indies' first defeat at Bridgetown for over half a century.

Although he was born in Lancashire he played cricket for Middlesex all through his career. After he retired he carried on serving Middlesex County Cricket Club and set up a charity called Middlesex in the Community.



#### The objectives of Middlesex in the Community are:

- To deliver programmes and use cricket as a vehicle in the community to advance the charity's objectives
- To provide grant assistance to cricket, education and community organisations to improve environments for cricket participation.
- To provide greater access to cricket opportunities for underrepresented groups.
- To increase the number of state schools engaged with cricket via coaching, teacher training and engagement offers.
- To train, mentor and support cricket's workforce and volunteers.

**Gus is as passionate about helping people as he was in his bowling days. We gave the charity a donation of £3,000 to help with its work.**



## 6. VISIT TO BUCKINGHAM PALACE WITH THE CORK CLUB 8 SEPTEMBER

Past master Clive Parrit, with the very good help of Liveryman Leslie Ferrar, arranged for Cork Club members to have a private tour of the West Wing of Buckingham Palace. What a fantastic time we all had!



We have just had the most amazing good fortune to receive another legacy from a very dear colleague who died recently, Chris Walliker. Chris was a great supporter of the livery company and was incredibly generous.



**I am delighted to say  
that our Cork Fund now  
stands at £78,644 before  
any capital appreciation.**



### 7. HOW TO APPLY FOR A GRANT FOR A GOOD CAUSE YOU ARE INVOLVED WITH

At our Trustees Strategy Day back in the summer we reviewed our grant application system. From the first of October we will be increasing the amount that can be requested to £5,000 (from £3,000).

For some grants applications we will consider, on merit, granting funding for up to 3 years, ie £15,000 in total. To warrant this, the applications must be for a specific project.

We would like to see more applications sponsored by Members. If you are involved with a charity, as a trustee, volunteer or independent examiner, you will have carried out your own due diligence, thereby saving us the need to do so. The application must of course still meet our charity objectives which are listed below:

- As a quick reminder our objectives are:
- Causes where the grant will make a significant difference
- Causes which support the welfare of personnel who belong or have belonged to the Company's military and other affiliations
- Causes introduced by members of the Company and causes in which Company members are involved
- Causes related to education for all ages, with a focus on core enabling skills such as financial literacy, numeracy, literacy and digital skills
- Causes that will increase social mobility and alleviate poverty in respect of children and youth in need
- Causes which are associated with the accountancy profession, the City or the Livery

#### **Next trustees meetings:**

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Application deadline</b>
19 January	31 December
23 March	6 March
18 May	30 April
14 September	28 August

*The new grant application form is now available on the website here:*  
<https://accountantslivery.org/how-to-apply-for-a-grant/>

### 8. HOW TO DONATE TO BOTH THE CHARITY AND THE CORK FUND

We are only able to support the great causes outlined above because of your continuing generosity in donating to our charity. The expectation is that members make an annual donation equal to quarterage. Of course we recognise that some members may not be in a position to contribute at that level, and we completely understand that. We value every contribution we receive no matter how small and the trustees are extremely grateful for your generosity.

The easiest way to donate is via Gocardless. This is a direct debit system, so once it has been set up, your donations are taken automatically. You may receive emails periodically asking you to review the level of your contribution. This is because we encourage members to donate an amount that is in line with quarterage, and quarterage increases annually.

The other way of contributing is via BACS by setting up a standing order. The bank details for doing this are:

<b>Bank</b>	<b>RBS</b>
<b>Name</b>	<b>The Chartered Accountants Livery Charity</b>
<b>Sort code</b>	<b>16-00-15</b>
<b>Account no</b>	<b>23170690</b>
<b>Reference</b>	<b>your name</b>

*You can also donate by cheque or by CAF (Charities Aid Foundation)*

You can also raise money for the charity by doing a fundraiser such as running the London marathon Skydiving or as one of our members did rowing the length of the Thames!!

**We know that our members are asked to volunteer at many many charities. The amount that our members do in pro bono work is much higher than other liveries. Please do let us know what you are involved in and we may put your story into our newsletter or on the website.**

THANK  
you

### 9.A SELECTION OF THANK YOU LETTERS FROM THE GOOD CAUSES WE HAVE SUPPORTED



Our Connect project brings older people (aged 55+) in Shadwell together with children from St Mary and St Michael Primary School to bridge generational divides and build more connected communities.

Our intergenerational workshops at Sonali Gardens Day Centre create opportunities for older and younger neighbours to get to know each other better through creative activities and skillsharing. This regular contact helps combat ageism and supports people of all ages to develop new skills, grow in confidence and improve their mental and physical health.



**Lorna, one of our older neighbours,** said: *"I used to stay indoors because of my arthritis but then the children started coming, running in with their lovely smiling faces and filling the air with joy and laughter. I've particularly enjoyed building a friendship with Iris, a younger person. She's so hardworking, positive and she listens to everything I say. That's why I'm drawn to sitting next to her each time. I know she's going to shine and go far."*

We recruit, train and support incredible volunteers to tutor 9 to 16-year-olds from low-income backgrounds in London and the South. Our pupils more than double their expected progress in maths or English on average over our 10 - 12-week programme, building confidence and resilience.



Feedback from our tutors and school partners:

- **96% of tutors enjoyed their experience**, with 90% feeling well-trained and supported.
- **9 out of 10 tutors felt that they had received the support and training needed** to deliver effective tutoring and had developed a range of skills.
- **3 out of every 4 partners seeing either an increase in pupil confidence** or a more positive subject outlook.
- 100% of partners rated Team Up as **"very good"** or **"outstanding."**

[Click here for the full report from Team Up](#)

