

Grapevine Essex Update

News—February 2017

Happy New Year!

Since the last Update in the Autumn, we've received over £3000 in grants and donations including £500 from James Bone (Jono's brother) when he took part in the Great South Run on Grapevine's behalf—well done James! Other generous donations have included £300 from Martin Lutton (Sarah's dad), £400 from Sandy Wilkinson, £50 from Mr R Welsh and various other amounts from the new Friends of Grapevine Essex membership category. We were also delighted to receive £1000 from the Aviva Community Fund and £160 from the Billericay Lions Club to purchase an electronic bingo machine for using at Club Grapevine.

Our annual Quiz Night in October raised over £600, completing a very successful fundraising year, with nearly £4000 being raised in total. We would like to thank all of our supporters and volunteers for their very generous donations and hard work on our behalf. The next event will be the Barn Dance on Sat 6 May at Chelmsford Social Club, followed by the Billericay Fun Walk on Sun 21 May at Barleylands.

Finally, we are starting to compile the Annual Report for 2016 and would appreciate any comments on Grapevine events over the past year. Reviews, funny stories, favourite places to visit - anything like that would be great—thank you!!

Contact Us

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Winter Review

Winter events were pretty special this time, with 50 tickets to Aladdin selling out in just 4 days! The Christmas Party was a great night with 120 of us dancing the night away to live music from Our Generation. Kew at Christmas was like a magical fairyland and the pub supper afterwards was very enjoyable too. We celebrated our 5th anniversary in style with a Diana Ross tribute, a table top magician, photo booth and a three-course meal. The Blackmore Players put on a very funny rendition of Jack and the Beanstalk, and coming up this week, is the last of our winter events—a trip to the Cliffs Pavilion to see Wonderland. We've had 100% attendance on all the outings—with 172 members and carers attending and over 400 individual places booked!

The Easter events will run from 3-13 April, with outings including the Warner Brothers Studio Tour for the Making of Harry Potter; Star Wars Identities exhibition at the O2; the Historic Dockyard at Chatham with a Call the Midwife Tour, and tickets for the fantastic new show Motown the Musical. Bookings will be accepted with a completed booking form from the end of February.



Grace and Debbie at Grapevine's 5th Anniversary Celebration Party



Grapevine Essex Dance Group

The Grapevine Essex Dance Group are looking for new members to join the team. The group is led by dance teacher Jean Hunter and they perform regularly at local events and shows throughout the year.

The Dance Group meet at Boswells School on Monday evenings during term time from 7pm-8pm. There is an annual charge of £12 towards uniforms and a weekly fee of £6 (no transport) or £10 (with transport).
Contact Claire Lucas Tel: 07840 729649