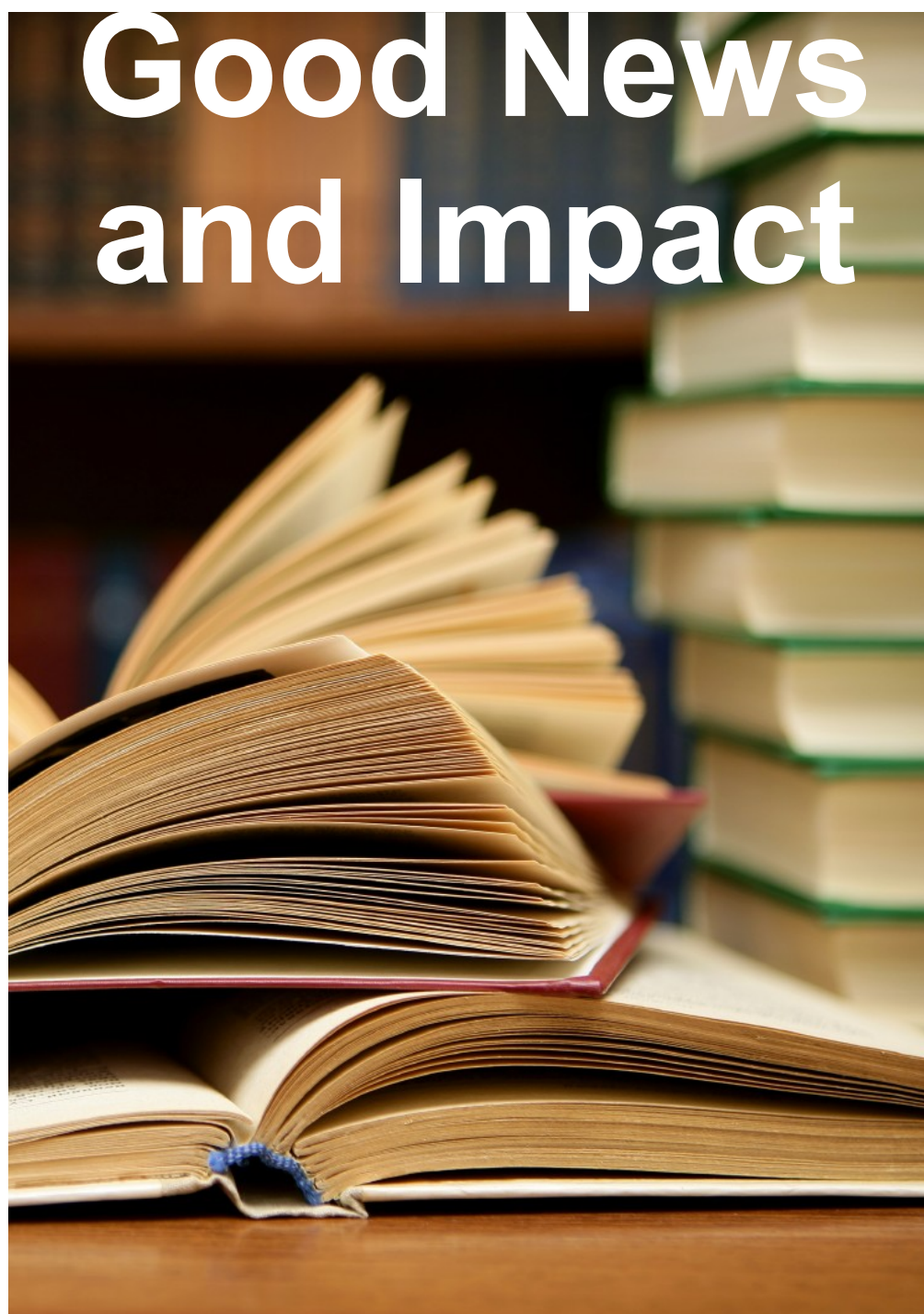
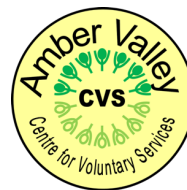


Amber Valley CVS

Annual Report 2014-2015



**Amber Valley CVS, proud to support our community
and its people with voluntary action**

Report from the Chairman

I firmly believe that the most important thing for any business or voluntary activity is to remain in business so it is with satisfaction that I can say that Amber Valley CVS has strengthened the organisation following changes in structure to operate within an extremely stringent financial climate.



With the Board we have continued to look internally at income generation and diversification of income for Amber Valley CVS to grow. At our AGM we will be reporting on two initiatives that have come to fruition within the year as a result of this focus: Investment of Reserves and Legacy Donations.

All teams have performed admirably in meeting our goals and continuing to provide expert service to our clients during this very challenging time and I personally thank all concerned who jointly achieved this outcome.

The Board of Trustees have worked to support the team in a difficult operating climate and I extend my thanks to all Board members for their contribution during the course of the year.

I look forward to the continued support, as we explore/evaluate new opportunities to grow the business for the ultimate benefit of everyone within Amber Valley.

Report from the Chief Executive



During the financial year of 2014 – 2015 we continued to keep our finger on the pulse of change in Health & Social Care arenas by attending Derbyshire Partnership Forum, Amber Valley Total Place and Locality Health & Wellbeing and Locality Planning & Commissioning meetings. From this there have been several new local projects led by voluntary sector organisations. We still need

to increase support for families as the demise of Home Start in our area has left a gap in voluntary service.

Ongoing communication with our members with all relevant news has been maintained in the quarterly Health & Social Care Forum for Southern Derbyshire, which we jointly arrange through the "Connect 4" partnership of local CVS's, in our newsletter and e bulletins.

Further changes in funding are expected but so far progress with this has been slow however, our Community Development team work to identify sustainability and social enterprise to groups in anticipation of any shortfall.

We have also reviewed our operation and can report that the re structure undertaken last year has been successfully implemented and operating well with a strong team in place.

We have managed the transfer to a new Do-It platform and continue to work with local groups to improve the number and range of volunteering opportunities. Although we expected to have less administration in our brokerage activity, this has not been obvious. Do-It has increased the on line requests we receive and referrals to local organisations from that source has increased. We remain convinced that the quality of volunteer matches for those we interview and place is the most successful volunteer route.



Report from the Chief Executive

We can evidence this to some extent with the success of the Befriending service which has had a strong recruitment drive this year and successful matching to 49 isolated people.

I have undertaken some visits to those in need of a Befriender and I give a heartfelt “ Thank You “ to all our volunteers. We won’t stop asking for more from young people and members of the public to respond to this need.

Support we offer to local groups is evident from the newsletter and our social media information which gains volunteers from all walks of life. We were particularly pleased with the public response to our winter campaign to provide food and Christmas extras for families in need. We have continued to offer support to Food Banks in our area and look for practical solutions to ensure access to all in Amber Valley. Thank you to Boots, The Co-op and other local businesses for their donations.

Amber Valley CVS board have actively encouraged new approaches and staff involvement in discussions about how we improve what we do and I wish to thank everyone for the commitment to the organisation and its continued development.

Thanks also to the volunteers who provide administration support to the Help at Home service that supports the elderly and less mobile in Amber Valley and Erewash communities.

In our annual report we once again included examples of activity and successes during the year in areas that are important to our member groups.

Disclosure & Barring Service

We have processed in excess of 850 DBS applications in the period April 2014-April 2015. As a DBS Umbrella body we are aware of how important this service is to the groups that we support, as part of their recruitment process. This is what one of the groups that we support had to say:

“Derby Kids Camp is a 100% volunteer-run charity committed to providing FREE holidays for many of Derby City and Derbyshire's most deserving young children. The children invited on Derby Kids' Camp holidays are nominated by Derby City primary and junior schools. Each school is given a number of children's free holiday places and their nominations are based on those children they feel would most benefit from a holiday, so it is really essential that the teachers and the parents/guardians of the children nominated are safe in the knowledge that all our volunteers are DBS checked.”

“Derby Kids Camp provide holidays for around 300 children per year which requires around 150 volunteers to support the programme.”

“We obviously have some very clear policies on safeguarding the children, the DBS check assists us with our recruitment of those volunteers. We even re-do a DBS check for our regular volunteers every 3 years which again provides the organisation, the children and their families with the reassurance and back up that is necessary when working with children.”



**Disclosure &
Barring Service**

**For more information about DBS checks please contact
Emma Rodgers on: 01773 512076**

Befriending

Amber Valley CVS Befriending Service and Phone Buddy Scheme reduces loneliness of 106 elderly people in Amber Valley. Some people do not see another person for weeks on end. They have no one to share stories with, no one to talk about the weather with and no one to bring them outside news, ...and you can help!

We are always looking for Befrienders, to support lonely, isolated people in Amber Valley. All expenses are paid, training and support given and you will work with a great group of people. Befrienders and those they Befriend also have the chance to socialise together at Summer and Christmas events to celebrate volunteering

This is what our Befrienders have to say...

"To me befriending means that I can provide company and support to a person who would otherwise be alone during the week. Even if I can just make them smile or laugh, I feel like I'm doing a good thing to help them feel good" (Befriender Hannah)



"Being a befriender feels very rewarding, by just making a person's day and spending an hour listening to them" (Befriender Anna)

"I'd say that befriending has enabled me to build up a strong friendship with someone who I never would have normally had the chance to meet, and I think it has benefited both our lives" (Befriender Jade)

Funding & Development

Local groups were assisted to gain £101,000 from external sources, which is a fantastic achievement but depends in the first place on ensuring groups have in place a viable constitution, funding strategy, policies and procedures .

Amber Valley CVS supported 2 individuals to get all these basics right to start an exercise group called "Exercise Roadshow". One is a qualified Health Trainer and also has qualifications in laughter yoga, ageless grace and walking for health. The other is a trained instructor for dance and B.O.K.W.A. This included signposting them to training to become a social enterprise and to updating their skills with VCI Passport training to work with adults and children. Exercise Roadshow continue to publicise what they do through CVS and use us to design publicity for the various community activities they deliver.

Similarly, in Codnor local residents use a new centre for a relaxed and informal newly formed bowls and off season coffee/activity group, operating as Codnor Bowls Club. Amber Valley CVS worked very closely with the group to create a constitution and gave advice on how to set up a group bank account. Advice was also given on how to form a committee, duties and responsibilities of a committee and how to run an effective "not for profit community group". Having started out with very few members there are now regularly 28 attendees.

For more information about funding for your voluntary or community group please contact Collette Watson on: 01773 512076

Community Organisers

A new approach to community development has been trialled in Western Parishes (Quarndon, Turnditch, Mugginton, Weston Underwood, Lea & Holloway) Langley Mill/Aldercar, Ironville and Riddings where 4 Community Organisers have listened to residents and encouraged them to make a difference in their community. Some of the successes from this have been a re-invigorated Action Group in Ironville, new Kool Kreatives Craft group, improved communication around the village with a regular newsletter and recognition from police and the local housing provider that more can be done to improve the environment.

Langley Mill & Aldercar had a fantastic Summer street fair which was repeated at Christmas. Wyndley Wood is more accessible with a new entrance gate and a group of volunteers who are cutting back undergrowth to ensure pathways are clear.

Trustees Financial Report

Achievements and Performance

In tracking our performance against outcomes for the organisation and the sector, we have been pleased with many successes, despite a year of considerable change in the staff team.

Amber Valley continues to have over 500 active groups, 332 of which are members of CVS, all of whom we maintain a record of on the Community Directory Derbyshire database and communicate regularly with by e-mail bulletin, newsletter and personal visits and calls.

We have given direct advice and support to 291 of these groups in the past year, which shows as an activity log on our performance management area of the Community Directory Derbyshire database.

We have supported groups to gain £101,000 of funding. Bringing selected funders to our base to speak directly with them, providing e-bulletin updates and continuing to offer training in writing funding applications.

We have gathered intelligence of community assets, likes and concerns from the work of Community Organisers who have listened to residents in Western Parishes, Langley Mill / Aldercar, Heanor, Ironville and Riddings. As a result, there are more volunteers in the community and new community action.

In managing the changeover of volunteer processes to a new Do-It platform all the volunteering opportunities have been updated and enhanced with information and pictures provided by groups or sourced by our co-ordinator. We have seen an increase in on-line applications for volunteering but continue to see better success in placing volunteers from our local brokerage activity.

Our premises is well used by other agencies as a training venue and also to offer a local service. Derbyshire Law Centre, CAB and Futures Housing Options are regular user. We are also popular as a meeting venue for CVS and Volunteer Centres in Derbyshire, with whom we liaise to raise the profile and voice of the sector.

Help at Home continues to be valued by the elderly population of Amber Valley and Erewash and supports the organisation with information about older peoples needs, allowing signposting to all other voluntary sector provision and offering long term support when the Befriending activity is outstripped by individual need.

Statement of Financial Accounts

AMBER VALLEY COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

31 MARCH 2015

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2015 £	Total funds 2014 £
Incoming Resources					
Incoming resources from generated funds:					
<i>Activities for generating funds:</i>					
Membership, training and services		27,753	-	27,753	25,905
Investment income	2	1,005	-	1,005	1,027
Incoming resources from charitable activities:					
Help at Home Income		344,756	-	344,756	337,603
Grants and contracts	3	31,977	152,757	184,734	174,669
Other income	4	5,553	-	5,553	12,972
Total incoming resources		411,044	152,757	563,801	552,176
Resources expended					
Charitable activities	5	396,978	149,612	546,590	579,390
Governance costs	5	6,240	-	6,240	6,183
Total resources expended	5	403,218	149,612	552,830	585,573
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year		7,826	3,145	10,971	(33,397)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		7,826	3,145	10,971	(33,397)
Balances brought forward		405,783	49,953	455,736	489,133
Balances carried forward		413,609	53,098	466,707	455,736

The charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above.

All of the activities of the charity are classified as continuing.

Balance Sheet

AMBER VALLEY COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE

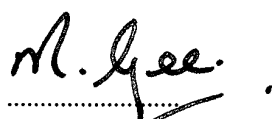
BALANCE SHEET

31 MARCH 2015

	Note	£	2015 £	2014 £
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets	7		53,452	52,564
Current assets				
Debtors	8	14,620		13,682
Cash at bank and in hand		435,247		425,608
		<u>449,867</u>	<u>439,290</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(36,612)	(36,118)	
		<u></u>	<u></u>	
Net current assets			413,255	403,172
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>466,707</u>	<u>455,736</u>
Net assets			<u>466,707</u>	<u>455,736</u>
Funds				
Restricted	11		53,098	49,953
Unrestricted funds:				
Designated funds	12	170,000		170,000
General funds	12	243,609		235,783
		<u></u>	<u>413,609</u>	<u>405,783</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	13		<u>466,707</u>	<u>455,736</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

These financial statements were approved by the members of the committee on the 30/9/15 and are signed on their behalf by:



 M Gee

Trustees Statement on Financial Information

Plans for the future

We intend to work with CVS and Volunteer Centres in Derbyshire to give a strong voice against any funding cuts.

We will continue to support older, isolated individuals with Befriending and Help at Home.

We will lead in the sector on DBS, providing access to disclosure certificates and offering advice on good practice.

Volunteers will be welcomed within the organisation and to the voluntary sector with a quality brokerage service and training support.

With the certainty of statutory funding cuts, we will manage our existing funds to secure the organisation for service in the community in the long term.


Small company exemptions

This report is prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Auditor

Parkinson Matthews LLP are deemed to be re-appointed under section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

On behalf of the board of trustees


M Gee
Chairman
30/9/15

Independent Auditors statement to the Trustees

Independent auditor's statement to the Trustees of Amber Valley CVS

We have examined the summarised financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2015 set out on pages 6 and 7.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and the auditor

The trustees are responsible for preparing the summarised financial statements in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and the recommendations of the Charities SORP.

Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the summarised financial statements with the full annual financial statements and the Trustees' Annual Report. We also read the other information contained in the summarised annual report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the summarised financial statements.

We conducted our work in accordance with Bulletin 2008/3 issued by the Auditing Practices Board.

Opinion

In our opinion the summarised financial statements are consistent with the full annual financial statements and the Trustees' Annual Report of Amber Valley CVS for the year ended 31st March 2015.



R J Matthews FCA Senior Statutory Auditor
Parkinson Matthews LLP
Date 30th September 2015

Cedar House, 35 Ashbourne Road, Derby DE22 3FS

Volunteering

We are fortunate to have a central venue on Ripley Market Place to promote volunteering and receive visits from members of the public who are interested in local volunteering opportunities. However, we also encourage volunteering to all ages through activity in schools.

This year, we have presented to Mill Hill Academy, John Flamstead and Heanorgate students to identify how volunteering can enhance their applications to college or university and give them new skills and confidence. St Michaels School engaged with Community Organisers to identify School projects.



We were also invited to Somercotes Junior Carousel Day where we highlighted a range of local voluntary groups to pupils who then voted to choose a Charity to fundraise for. As part of Carousel Day, pupils heard about the involvement of local people in World War 1, this included links to the now famous War Horse.



In November 2014, Tania Rush was attending a training course at Amber Valley CVS' offices in Ripley. Whilst here, she enquired about what volunteering opportunities we had available.

Tania previously worked in social care and gave it up to bring up her two sons. She wanted to volunteer to update her skills and broaden her horizons, hopefully having the experience to get a new job. Her main interests were around drug rehabilitation, domestic violence, helping families, the legal system, prisoners and ex offenders and mental health.

Volunteer Development Worker, Hannah Curzon, met with Tania and suggested an opportunity that was available with the Derbyshire Appropriate Adult Service (DAAS) who provide support for vulnerable juveniles and adults who have a learning disability or mental health problem, whilst in police custody. An "Appropriate Adult" must be present in such circumstances to explain to the suspect what is going on, help with any communication problems and ensure that the interview is carried out fairly.

Tania volunteered on an on-call basis, when she is able, to work around her personal life.

Tania said, "I have been able to support people from all walks of life with lots of vulnerabilities. I really enjoy going into the police station and prisons. It has enabled me to continue my professional development without the pressure of full time work. I have completed the training and have been successfully placed on the Appropriate Adult register. I have gained skills and knowledge of an area I knew nothing about and I am doing something valuable with my spare time."

...Three months after volunteering, Tania was asked if she would be interested in applying for a paid job with the service!

For more information about Volunteering please contact Hannah on: 01773 512076 or view our social media through Facebook and Twitter



facebook.com/avcvs



twitter.com/avcvs

Help at Home

We recently spoke with Margaret who lives in Devon. We provide cleaning and gardening services to her parents-in-law who live near Borrowash, some 300 miles away from her. Her father-in-law is housebound and her mother-in-law suffers from dementia.

Margaret told us that: *"The 'Help at Home' services take a huge amount of worry off myself and my husband, because although we visit regularly ourselves, we know that there are extra pairs of eyes going into the house and that we will be contacted if anything seems to be amiss."*

Dianne the cleaner and Alan the gardener do a great job with the practical tasks that they are employed to do, but Margaret says it is about much more than that. They are faces that her parents-in-law know and so they are relaxed with them coming into their home and garden, in fact they look forward to their visits.

Margaret explained that: *"The 'Help at Home' staff also provide a form of companionship to my relatives. They are another visitor, which is very important when you cannot get out very much, and they always find time for a cup of tea and a chat. This is worth a 100 times more than the value of the cleaning or gardening."*



We also recently visited Mr Brown* of Long Eaton who has a regular gardener through the 'Help at Home' scheme, to hear his views on the service he receives.



A couple of years ago Mr Brown started experiencing health problems which made digging and lifting impossible. Initially he contacted gardeners he found through local papers but ended up very disheartened as they either didn't turn up, or turned up and did very little. Then one day when he was at the Long Eaton Medical Centre he picked up a 'Help at Home' Gardening Service leaflet and brought it home and showed it to his wife.

After contacting 'Help at Home' Mr Brown says 'everything worked as it should do - it was a Godsend'. He is very pleased with the service and cannot find fault. Mr Brown commented "for reliability I would give them 10 out of 10, and for helpfulness I would give them 10 out of 10". He says since the 'Help at Home' gardeners started working for him the garden is the best it has ever looked.

Alan, one of the 'Help at Home' gardeners, spends an hour a week during the summer months keeping Mr Brown's garden in tip top condition, and during winter months a monthly maintenance visit suffices. When Alan is on leave another 'Help at Home' gardener called Lynne goes and Mr Brown says she too is 'Marvellous'.



The garden is now a colourful, calm oasis and Mr Brown says that every morning he likes to take a stroll round his garden to see how everything is growing. He takes great pleasure from sitting on the patio with a cup of tea watching the birds and enjoying his garden.

* Names have been changed to protect privacy

If you know someone elderly or disabled who would like help in their garden, or domestic support within their home, then please call the Help at Home Department on 01773 512076



Member Groups

Riddings Park Community Centre have been using our design service for the past 6 months, and are pleased with the creativity, quick turn around and affordable printing costs...



Exercise Roadshow CIC have been complimented on how professional their flyers are since we gave them a new look...



If your voluntary organisation needs a flyer to advertise an event or a window display to promote their activities, give **Emma Rodgers** a call on **01773 512076** to discuss how we can improve your image and give your organisation a lift.

Staff List

Name		Job Title
Lynn Allison		Chief Executive
Adele Atkinson		Finance & Administration Manager
Kirsty Barker	Started Jan 2015	Senior Community Organiser
Hannah Curzon		Volunteer Development Work
Lisa Leggett		Administration Support
Jane Massey		Help at Home Co-ordinator (Amber Valley & Erewash Gardening)
Beverley Moss	Started Sept 2015	Senior Community Organiser
Alison Roberts		Office Cleaner
Emma Rodgers		Administration Support
Clare Skelton	Started July 2015	Reception and Administration Support
Kerry Smith		Befriending Project Development Worker
Diane Topping		Help at Home Diary Co-ordinator (Erewash Domestic)
Collette Watson		Community Funding & Development Worker

Thank you to all staff who have contributed so well to our outcomes and performance over the last year. Your commitment, enthusiasm and creativity given to the organisation are much appreciated.

We also have 50 Help at Home staff working in Amber Valley and Erewash to thank.

Thanks to the many volunteers who have helped voluntary and community organisations in Amber Valley. Without your time and support many of these organisations would not exist.

Trustees 2014 - 2015

- B Whittaker
- M Gee
- I Hill
- A King
- L Millington
- V Bacon

Auditors:- Parkinson & Matthews LLP Accountants

Bankers:- Co-operative Bank

Our Major Funders are: Derbyshire County PCT, Amber Valley Borough Council, Derbyshire County Council with additional support from a wide range of other organisations. Amber Valley CVS is a registered charity (1102412) and Company Limited by Guarantee (4763194) registered in England (Registered office as below)

Amber Valley CVS, 33 Market Place, Ripley, Derbyshire DE5 3HA

Tel: 01773 512076 Fax: 01773 748688

Email: admin@avcvs.org Website: www.avcvs.org