

IDGN Supporter Newsletter - Summer 2025

Welcome to the third edition of our **Supporter Newsletter**, which we hope you will share widely with friends and family.

This time we've got updates on our fabulous photographic exhibition, Lifted, and news of how we smashed our fundraising target. We have also got two new members of staff to introduce you to, as well as another trustee, Anita, to spotlight.

All the best,
Ed Duguid
Chair of Trustees



Lifted

friendship | community | support

A photography exhibition

Over 100 people gathered at the Clarke Foley Community Hub on the evening of Wednesday 2nd July for the official launch of Lifted: a collaboration between IDGN and local photographer, Charlie Swinbourne.

This exhibition marks the culmination of our 50th anniversary year by showcasing how we support older people in the local community.

Why 'Lifted'? We hope this is how our services make people feel, both those who receive them and those who provide them.

£50k target smashed!

We are delighted to share that we have raised a whopping £99,104. We have been overwhelmed by the fundraising efforts and the personal donations of our supporters.

THANK YOU

This has certainly safeguarded IDGN for the future months but we mustn't rest on our laurels and will continue to focus on ways to make the charity financially sustainable for the future. If anyone wants information on ways to give they can visit our website or call the office



Charlie visited our friendship groups, photographing clients socialising together. He also visited clients at home to capture Befriending partnerships, and visited Booths and Tesco to photograph the ShopAssist scheme.

The exhibition has now moved to Ilkley Manor House and will be available to view at weekends in the main house body from Saturday 9th August until Sunday 21st September. Lifted can also be seen at Ilkley Playhouse during the run of 'It's a Wonderful Life', from 4th to 13th December.

Welcome to Charlotte & Helen

Charlotte Allen joins us as our **Dementia Advisor** and has been busy signposting clients to the many different activities taking place in the area as well as providing advice to local businesses about becoming 'Dementia Friendly'. Charlotte loves being outdoors swimming and running on the moor accompanied by her two dogs Evie and Milo as well as heading to the east coast in her camper van to surf.



Helen Bowman is our **Friendship Groups Coordinator**. She is responsible for the two Friendship Groups (previously Moving On) at Clarke Foley (CF) as well as the two Dementia Cafés also at CF and in Addingham. In her spare time you will find Helen pottering in the garden, walking her dog locally or visiting the coast for a regular dose of fresh sea air and fish and chips!



Trustee Spotlight...



Many of you may recognise Anita as the friendly face of our social outings. Anita has been a trustee since 2010 and runs multiple events each year for people on our schemes, including afternoon tea trips in the Dales, group tickets to the local panto and Christmas lunches. Anita also supports our Friendship Group Coordinator, Helen Bowman.

Anita spent two decades running a retail business during which time she volunteered with ChildLine, inspiring her to train to become a psychotherapist. She opened her private practice in Ilkley in 2016 and currently works three days a week. When not working, Anita can be found swimming, walking or spending time in the Scottish Highlands.

Fond Farewell

...to Hannah Walton, who has successfully run our Thursday and Friday Friendship Groups for the last 5 years and who has chosen to return to education, taking up a Counselling course in September. We wish her the very best of luck with her new challenge, as do all the clients she worked with.



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