

Autumn/Winter 2022



QEF

queen elizabeth's
foundation for
disabled people

Happening

Achieving goals for life

qef.org.uk

STAR-STUDDED GALA DINNER

A night of glitz, glamour and
famous faces, helping to raise
over £200,000 for QEF





Welcome to the Autumn/Winter issue of Happening

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Rugby Legends Gala Dinner 2022

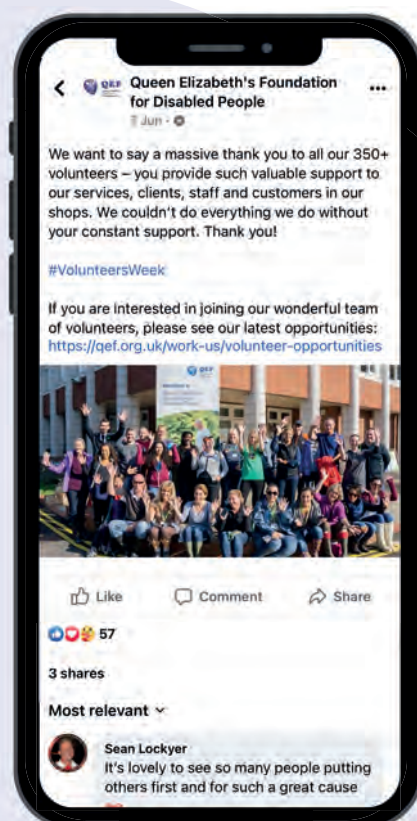
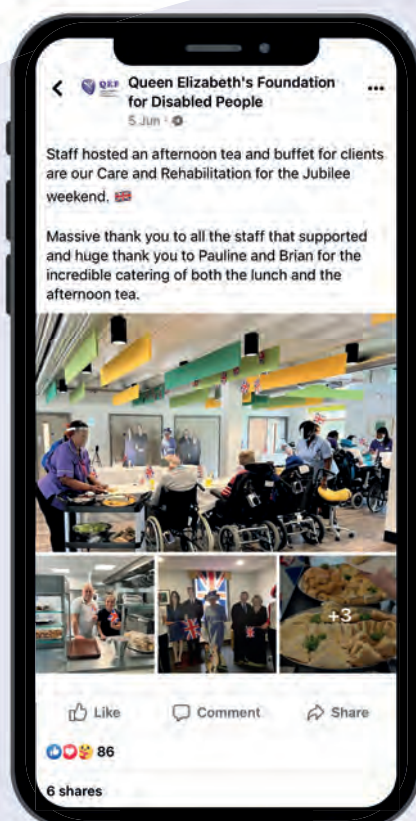
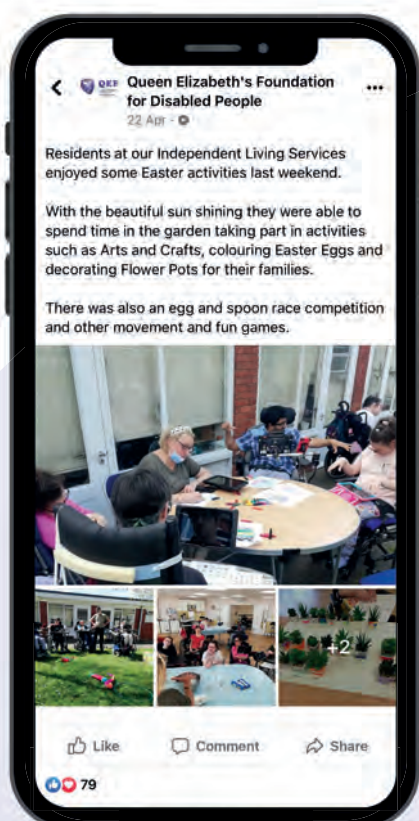
At QEF we work together to deliver caring and creative solutions for people with disabilities of all ages, enabling them to live life to the full.



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Welcome



WELCOME TO OUR AUTUMN 2022 EDITION OF HAPPENING.

It has been a busy Spring and Summer with lots to be proud of across all our services. In July we celebrated the second anniversary of the Care and Rehabilitation Centre (CRC). Our expert teams of therapists, nurses and support workers enable people to rebuild core skills following an acquired brain injury, stroke, incomplete spinal injury or a neurological condition that requires disability management. We accept people straight from hospital and continue to be a key partner to the NHS. Our teams help people to regain their quality of life and maximize their independence. Ian's story on page 5 highlights the impact we make on people's lives, enabling each person to achieve their potential.

Back in March we had our first Rugby Legends Gala Dinner at the Grosvenor House Hotel, in support of the Edward Guinness Appeal, raising money to fully fund and complete the CRC. This missed our last issue of Happening, so this is a great opportunity for me to

publicly thank everyone involved including our wonderful host Chris Hollins. The evening was a fantastic success and raised over £200,000. Read more on pages 6-7.

With the sad passing of Her Majesty The Queen on 8 September 2022, it is with nostalgia that we look back on how our clients and residents celebrated The Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June and how lucky we were to be able to celebrate this historic achievement. There were lots of activities creating flags and posters, as well as afternoon teas and quizzes, live music and a wonderful buffet lunch. See more on page 8. These memories are now even more special for everyone involved.

"Lots to be proud of across all our services"

If you've had a chance to look at our website recently you will have noticed quite a change. In September we launched our new website with better functionality and accessibility. We've also refreshed our branding which you can see across all our digital activities. Our new strapline 'Enabling Potential' reflects how our unique combination of services support every individual with a person-centered approach, so each person can achieve their potential. You can read more on page 4.

This winter is going to be financially challenging for many of us and I would like to say how grateful I am for any support you can give us over the next few months. Your generous donations of both time and money enable our expert teams to make a positive difference to people's lives everyday – thank you.

Karen Deacon
QEF Chief Executive



Celebrating two incredible years



The return of in-person events

Reflecting who we are and what we do

QEF's 2022 brand refresh

We wanted to share the first-look of the new QEF brand refresh which is due to launch late-2022.

A branding refresh is about reflecting QEF from the inside out - who we are, what we do and who we support, whilst also building on our heritage. We wanted to evolve rather than revolutionise, improve accessibility for all our digital and printed materials and to ensure QEF are contemporary and relevant in a rapidly evolving disability sector.

ENABLING EACH PERSON TO ACHIEVE THEIR POTENTIAL

We're **passionate** about our **person-centred, expert** services for disabled children and adults, that focus on individual needs to provide the best **holistic** support for our clients. These four principles allow us to stand out within the disability sector and are core to our brand.

Our vision is for everyone we support to be able to live the life they choose in a fully inclusive society. And our mission is to deliver expert services that enable disabled people of all ages

to achieve their potential, so they can be as independent as possible. Our strapline will also be changed to 'Enabling Potential' to reflect the focus of all of our services. This will be used on all our materials alongside our refreshed logo.

OUR REFRESHED LOGO

Many people know us as QEF, whilst others use Queen Elizabeth's Foundation for Disabled People. This logo intentionally develops 'QEF' as an

element in its own right, so it can also be used separately which is important for digital activities.

Each service will now have its own version of the logo, keeping QEF at the front and using different colours for clarity.

INCREASED ACCESSIBILITY – A KEY DRIVER

Making our website and printed materials more accessible was a key driver for this brand refresh and we worked with partners who had extensive experience in this area. The colours chosen for each of the services have a strong contrast with the core QEF colour to ensure ease of reading. And our new typeface has been selected for accessibility, such as legibility and effectiveness with screen readers. Our new website has also had accessibility built in from the start.



What to expect and when

We are very conscious of spending money wisely, especially at the moment. So, the new brand will exist across all our digital channels first, such as our website, social media and digital promotions. Then as we replace or create new materials they will be cost effectively developed in the new brand. So, keep an eye out for the roll-out and the next edition of the Happening newsletter that will incorporate the new-look QEF brand.

Ian's Story

"If it wasn't for this place I wouldn't be walking"

Ian talks about his recovery at QEF's Care and Rehabilitation Centre after suffering a stroke and living with MS.

"In January (2022) we went for an afternoon walk and when I came home I felt really tired. I sat down and when I got up I couldn't move - my left hand side had gone. I went to bed thinking it will be OK in the morning, but when I woke up it was still the same - so we called 111. An ambulance came very quickly, and I went straight to hospital. It was very scary for my wife Linda and my daughter, especially when I couldn't move.

"QEF have been amazing"

I had an MRI and a CT scan, but they couldn't be sure if it was a stroke or my MS. A second MRI scan confirmed that I'd had stroke. I stayed in hospital for four weeks at which point I heard about QEF and thought that was the place for me.

I was at QEF for four weeks and it was incredible, wonderful. I couldn't walk when I got there, I couldn't lift my leg, my left arm had no power, and my speech was all fuzzy - I could hear myself talking but it was weird, it didn't sound like me.

After four weeks I could finally walk with a frame, my left arm got better and the speech and language therapist got my speech back.

QEF have been amazing.

When I arrived at QEF, I couldn't put one foot in front of another, now I can walk with two sticks or a frame and it felt fantastic to be ready to go home. Occupational therapists assessed what I needed before I returned home.



The CRC physio suite



The CRC



Now I am walking with two sticks again, and I'm back to where I was before my stroke. And I'm really looking forward to visiting my son in the Channel Islands - I love it there, it's heaven on earth for me.

The staff at QEF really are a breed of their own, all of them there were

"The staff at QEF really are a breed of their own"

fantastic, they'd do anything you wanted. My wife was tremendous, giving me care everyday, taking away my washing - even though they could do it there for me, but she wanted to take it home. She's been so good and a fantastic help to me.

If it wasn't for this place I wouldn't be walking, I think they're absolutely amazing - they've got something ever so special there."



QEF's Star-Studded Gala Dinner

A night filled with champagne, ballgowns and rugby stars

Over £200,000 was raised for The Edward Guinness Appeal at QEF's Rugby Legends Gala Dinner, kindly sponsored by LOM architecture and design.

Thursday 3 March, saw the beautiful Grosvenor House Hotel in London play host to QEF's long awaited, inaugural Rugby Legends Gala Dinner.

Guests arrived to a glittering champagne reception and entertained by contortionist extraordinaire, Suzie Smith. During this time, guests could mingle and chat with the rugby legends themselves; including England's Ollie Phillips, London Irish and Ireland's Justin Bishop, Olympian and former England Captain Abi Burton, England's Jack Clifford, Ireland's Ciara Cooney, Gareth Davies, former Wales captain Ryan Jones MBE, SA World Cup winner Francois Louw, England's Lee Mears, Australia's Alistair Murdoch, former England Captain Tamara Taylor and South Africa's Cobus Visagie.

Host for the evening, Chris Hollins,

one of TV's most popular sports and factual entertainment presenters, delighted guests with his charming wit and sense of humour.

During the luxury three-course banquet, Chris had everyone up on their feet to play some unforgettable and truly entertaining table games, that saw rugby balls being flung from one side of the table to the other!

Guests were invited to purchase unique 6-digit codes throughout the night to play 'Crack the Safe'. The safe, loaned by Banham Security, was up on stage and locked inside was a stunning diamond and pearl necklace, generously donated by Susannah Lovis. And one lucky guest was guaranteed to be taking it home that night.

Captivating entertainment

During the eventful dinner, guests were enraptured by a dazzling performance by World, British Open and National Ballroom Champions Nika and Michael, accompanied by Tony Lorenzo, singer, songwriter and composer. A few of our legends then

took to the floor for a Q&A session hosted by Chris Hollins. It was fantastic to hear anecdotes from Ollie Phillips, Tamara Taylor and Lee Mears and some of their career highlights.

After dinner, guests heard from Barbara, who passionately spoke about the impact that QEF's neurorehabilitation and care has had for her son, David. In August 2020, David took himself to hospital with symptoms of septicaemia and unfortunately, he suffered a large stroke and was on a ventilator for over 100 days. David required a tracheostomy for a period, before being discharged to his local



Rugby legends Q&A



Committee Chair Philippa Beck
with TV's Chris Hollins



World British Open and
National Ballroom Champions



Auctioneer
Nick Bonham



Rugby stars



hospital in Kingston for ongoing stroke management. In February 2021, David came to QEF's Care and Rehabilitation Centre (CRC). On arrival, David was unable to walk and most of his communication was unintelligible due to slurred speech. During his time at QEF, David made excellent progress and remains highly motivated and determined.

Unforgettable generosity

We were honoured to have Nick Bonham, descendant of the family of auctioneers that founded the renowned Bonham's auction house in 1793, expertly lead the auction on the night, helping to raise over £50,000. QEF were gifted a plethora of prizes including: an exclusive guided tour of the HMS Queen Elizabeth, a luxury 5-night stay in the Maldives, Debenture tickets to the Wimbledon Championships and Twickenham's Autumn International tickets to name

just a few. A huge thank you to everyone who donated a prize.

The most poignant moment of the evening, saw guests invited to become Edward Guinness Appeal Champions. It was awe-inspiring to see so many people stand up to pledge £1,000 for specialist beds at our CRC. An incredible £36,000 was raised with each supporter receiving an exclusive Edward Guinness Appeal Champion trophy.

A very special thank you to our Rugby Legends Gala Dinner Committee Philippa Beck (Chair), Caroline Breckell MVO DL, Gareth Davies, Richard Hutchinson, Sam Peel and Hannah Baxter, who made this event possible. We could not have done it without you!

We would also like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all our table hosts, generous sponsors, suppliers, entertainers, companies, our host, rugby legends

and of course everyone who attended the event.

Over £200,000 was raised in support of The Edward Guinness Appeal, raising the remaining £2.7million needed to fully fund QEF's Care and Rehabilitation Centre.

A truly unforgettable evening and hopefully the first of many Gala Dinners to come....

To join the events mailing list to be notified of the next gala dinner, simply email: hello@qef.org.uk

News from QEF's Care and Rehabilitation Centre

Therapy on four legs

Clients at our Care and Rehabilitation Centre were delighted to receive a visit from Gill and her four legged friend, Inca from Therapy Dogs Nationwide.

This organisation arranges for volunteers to bring their dogs into care services to provide comfort, distraction, and stimulation, which is incredibly beneficial to people in rehabilitation centres.



Celebrating 2 years!

On 7 July, QEF celebrated the 2nd anniversary of the Care and Rehabilitation Centre, with a summer BBQ to commemorate this milestone.

It has been a busy and challenging 2 years and during that time we have supported hundreds of clients to rebuild their lives after a stroke, acquired brain injury, incomplete spinal injury or other neurological condition. So, here's to many more life-changing years.

News from QEF's Independent Living Services



Earth Day 2022

In April, Dorincourt residents took part in Earth Day. Through their Art Club, residents made daisy crafts using cupcake liners and drinking straws, recycling and reusing materials.

"We also learnt that daisies are a kind and delicate reminder of how fragile our planet is and how important it is to take care of it"

Residents at Dorincourt had an incredible day for the Jubilee

The residents at Dorincourt enjoyed a fun packed day celebrating the Platinum Jubilee in June.

The day started with a surprise visit from a very friendly police dog called Socks. Socks showed the residents their skills in finding money and then enjoyed lots of cuddles and laps to sit on. Followed by a British/Royal themed quiz, with residents in three teams; red, white and blue.

After lunch the residents enjoyed live music and playing along with musical instruments.

Safe to say the residents (and staff) had a great day with lots of laughs!



Rotary Club sets Rose's wheels in motion

A huge thank you to Cheam and Sutton Rotary Club who have worked tirelessly over the last 2 years to raise funds for a Bugzi. In June we were delighted to receive a cheque for over £5,000 which was immediately put to use to sponsor a Bugzi for Rose.

Rose had been able to try a Bugzi at her school, as part of MERU's 'Bugzi Schools Squad' program. Thanks to the donation from Cheam and Sutton Rotary she now has her very own

Bugzi to use at home, where she can practice her control skills and learn to be more independent.

MERU's free Bugzi Loan Scheme is only made possible thanks to the generous support of groups such as Cheam and Sutton Rotary. Thank you from all of us at MERU and QEF for helping us to make early independent mobility possible for children like Rose.

For more information about sponsoring a Bugzi, email hazel.cornick@qef.org.uk



Thank you Cheam and Sutton Rotary Club

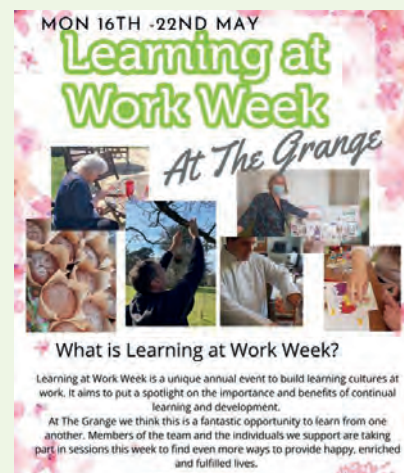
Learning at Work Week @ The Grange 2016

The Grange 2016 recently took part in Learning at Work Week. This is a unique event to build learning cultures at work. It aims to put a spotlight on the importance and benefits of continual learning and development, and a fantastic

opportunity to learn from one another. Members of the team and the individuals we support took part in sessions to find even more ways to offer enriched and happy lives.

Some of the people we support decided that they wanted to do 15 min presentations on things they were passionate about. We had presentations on horses, Formula 1, the music band Little Mix and new food recipes. This was a great opportunity for all to learn something new.

Other activities during the week included guitar lessons, reading lessons, photography lessons, new recipes, literacy learning and much more! **It was a fantastic and hugely successful week.**



Learning something new

Donating in-memory of a loved one

by Charlie Hickman, QEF Legacy Manager.

When a cause has really touched someone's life; family and friends often wish to honour this in a special way through in-memory donations.

I wanted to share with you the story of a wonderful in-memory donation that was made to QEF recently and the impact it has made to the many clients who now benefit from it. A generous supporter had recently lost their sibling and wanted to honour them through a substantial £20,000 donation that they had been left – to a cause that was very close to their heart.

“I know that my sibling would approve as they were registered disabled and mobility was their main problem.”

Working closely with the supporter, we helped identify what they would like to fund, in honour of their sibling. It was agreed that the donation would be split and half the donation, £10,818 to be exact, would fund a specialised piece of equipment called the SARA Plus, an ergonomic electric standing and transfer aid that mobilises our clients during rehab



and everyday activities. This piece of equipment is vital and now offers our clients the much-needed physical support and reassurance needed during their stay at our Care and Rehabilitation Centre (CRC). It was then agreed that the second half of the donation would go towards the CRC to help fund the final stages of the CRC build, through the Edward Guinness Appeal.

All in-memory donations make a huge difference to the lives of people living with disabilities, enabling them to live more fulfilled and independent lives. And this donation was no different, this piece of equipment is now being used every day and the impact and reassurance it offers clients is amazing to witness, and as such we are forever grateful to our wonderful supporters.

Other ways to give in-memory

Friends and family often like to pay tribute to their loved one through a donation in lieu of sending flowers at a funeral, this is a wonderful way to remember and honour their life and support a cause that was close to their heart and important to them.

To find out how you can arrange your in-memory collections either through an online page or through traditional envelopes, please visit: fundraising.qef.org.uk/donate-memory or email charlie.hickman@qef.org.uk for more information. Thank you.





Community and Corporate Update

Game, Set and Match at the Wimbledon Championships 2022!

QEF were proud to partner with the Wimbledon Championships to provide an accessibility service for guests who needed extra support to get around the venue. A huge thank you to everyone who volunteered their time and helped provide this valuable service and for being such amazing QEF ambassadors! It was an incredible experience and some of us have even

managed to catch some tennis and see a few famous faces!

If you are interested in volunteering at events such as this, please email: hazel.drye@qef.org.uk

CHARITY OF THE YEAR – EFFINGHAM GOLF CLUB

Thank you to Effingham Golf Club for choosing QEF as their charity of the year.

On a beautiful sunny day in June, the club captains held their Captains' Charity Day in support of QEF.

Following a round of golf, delicious three-course meal was a fantastic live auction, that raised over £31,000 for QEF - a phenomenal achievement!

A special thank you to the club captains and all members of Effingham Golf Club for making this possible.

Can you nominate QEF as your charity of the year through a club, company or school? For more information, please email community@qef.org.uk.

By Royal Appointment – Charity Shop Window Competition

What better way to celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee than a best-dressed charity shop window competition!

All the QEF shops did an amazing job, but there could be only one winner – congratulations to Michelle Smith, and team at Chessington children's shop.



QEF Events Calendar

From adrenaline-packed challenge events to lunches, dinners and teas! QEF has something for everyone. Find an event that suits you, and enjoy!

Thursday 24 November

57TH GUINNESS AND OYSTER LUNCHEON

Held in the beautiful surroundings of Mansion House, official residence of the Lord Mayor of London, the extremely sought after Guinness and Oyster Luncheon has been a City favourite event for over 56 years

December

QEF'S LIGHT UP CHRISTMAS

Our first Christmas celebration to be held at QEF's Care and Rehabilitation Centre. Join us for a magical evening of carols and candlelight.

Thursday 2 February

CELEBRATION OF THE BEST OF BRITISH WINE

Enjoy a welcome glass of fizz, canapés and sample a host of the very best wines the UK has to offer at The HAC, London

Sunday 23 April

TCS LONDON MARATHON

Ready for a new challenge? Join Team QEF and sign up for the TCS London Marathon returning to April in 2023

April 2023

LADIES SPRING LUNCH

Epsom Downs Racecourse

Our ladies Spring Lunch consists of a shopping fayre, two-course lunch and special guest speaker

May 2023

RIDE LONDON

Cycle for QEF! 100 miles of rolling roads through some of Essex's most beautiful countryside and villages in between

July 2023

ASICS 10K

Run for QEF in the most iconic capital city 10K race.



Celebration of the best of British wine at The HAC London

For more information or to register for an event:

W: qef.org.uk/events

E: events@qef.org.uk

T: 01372 841222

ONGOING EVENTS

March to October 2023

SKYDIVING

Jump out of a plane for QEF! We've teamed up with Skyline Events to bring you this adrenaline-packed experience

Weekends May to October 2023

THE 3 PEAKS CHALLENGE

Climb three of the highest mountains across the UK in one weekend – push yourself to your limits with QEF

Yes, I will make a gift to support the life changing work at QEF

Please accept my gift of: ☐ £15 ☐ £25 ☐ £35 or my choice: £ _____

Please make your cheque payable to QEF OR Please charge my:

☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Maestro ☐ CAF/Charity card

Card No. Security Code:

Start Date: Expiry Date: Issue No (Maestro only):

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

I'm happy to receive emails at:

and calls on: _____

Please let us know if you have chosen to leave a gift in your Will to QEF, tick here [☐]

Please complete and return this form to:

Freepost RTCJ-SRJB-XRKK, QEF, Leatherhead Court, Woodlands Road, Leatherhead, KT22 0BN.

If you prefer, telephone 01372 841151 or go to qef.org.uk/donate

Your support is vital and we really want to stay in touch based on our legitimate interest in communicating with you, but please tick this box ☐ if you do not want to receive this information by post. QEF will never pass your details onto anyone else. All donations will go towards QEF and their life changing work.

We will keep your details safe and you can change your preferences at any time.

For full details of what information we hold and how we protect your data please visit:

www.qef.org.uk/about-us/privacy-policy or call 01372 841151.

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PLEASE
REMEMBER TO
INCLUDE YOUR
NAME AND
ADDRESS

OR SCAN THIS
QR CODE
TO DONATE
ONLINE NOW



giftaid it



Your gift could
be worth 25% more!

☐ I want to Gift Aid any donations made in the last four years and any I make in the future to QEF. I am a UK taxpayer and understand if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Gift Aid is reclaimed by QEF from the tax you pay for the current year. Please notify QEF if you want to cancel this declaration, change your name or address or no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

☐ No, I am NOT a taxpayer.

Date: ____/____/____