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Happening

Spring 2023

Enabling potential

Spotlight on...
**BBC Lifeline
Appeal**

Sharing three amazing
life-changing stories
from across the UK

Plus

In memory
of Edward
Guinness
CVO

Award
Winning
QEF Retail
Team

QEF

Contents

Spring 2023

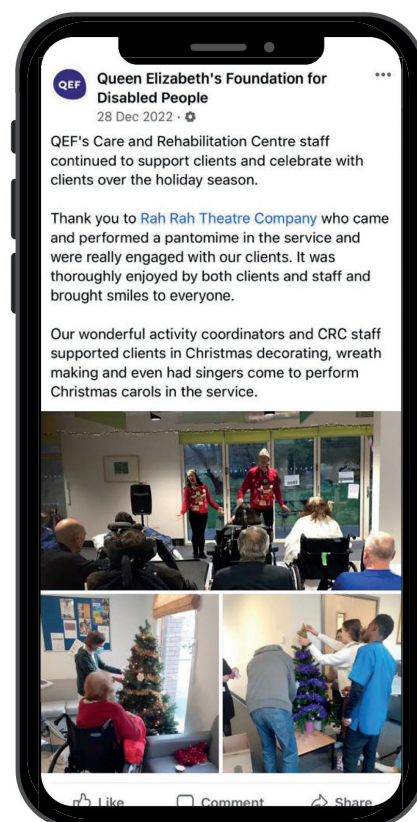
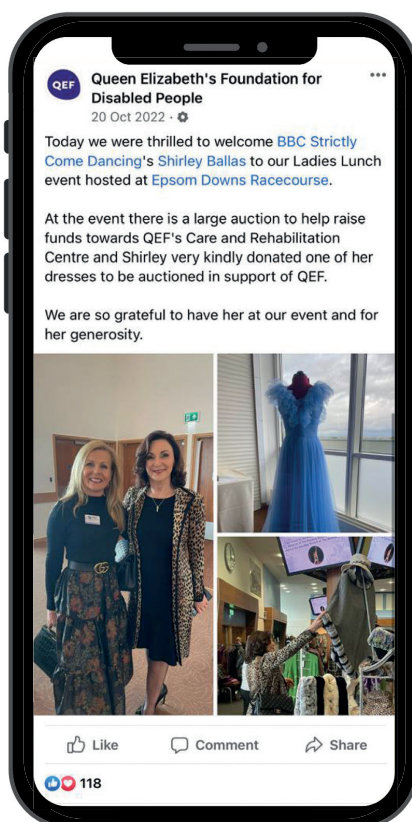
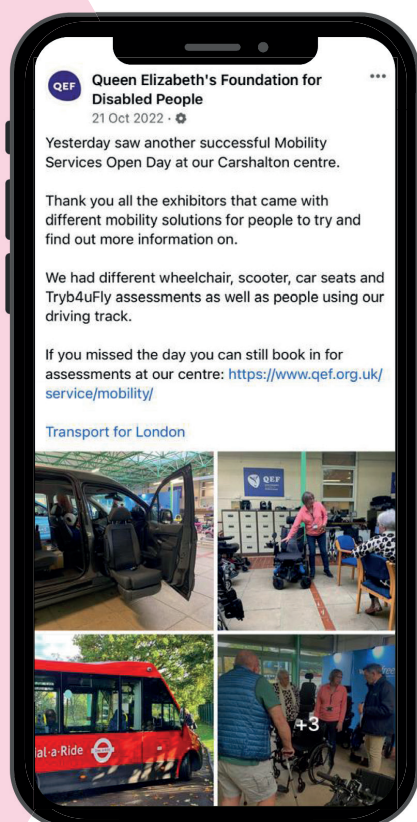
- 3 Message from Karen Deacon
- 4 Award winning retail team
- 5 Spotlight on...
BBC Lifeline Appeal
- 6 12 ways to support QEF
- 7 Charity partnerships
- 8 QEF events calendar



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Published by: Queen Elizabeth's Foundation for Disabled People,
Leatherhead Court, Woodlands Road, Leatherhead,
Surrey KT22 0BN. Tel: 01372 841151 hello@qef.org.uk
Registered charity No 251051

Front cover photo: Richard Hammond

At QEF we're passionate about our person-centred, expert services that focus on individual needs to provide the best holistic support for our clients.

Welcome

It's been a challenging Winter for many of us but as we step into Spring there are lots of highlights to share and exciting events to look forward to.

We were lucky to be awarded a BBC Lifeline Appeal in October which meant we also benefitted from a free BBC film about our work. You can watch this on our website homepage. A big thank you to everyone that took part – I know it wasn't easy, although I'm sure it was a walk in the park for Richard Hammond who generously hosted it for us.

Sadly, we said a final goodbye to Edward Guinness CVO after his passing in December. He had been involved with QEF for over 40 years and most recently led our capital appeal to complete and fully fund the Care and Rehabilitation Centre. We were fortunate to be able to show him the centre in operation last year and name a wing in his and his late wife's honour.

I am delighted we have three new Trustees who bring their professional expertise to QEF to help guide our future growth. We also have an award-winning retail team with a fantastic success story to share with you.



Karen Deacon
QEF Chief Executive



Introducing QEFs newest cohort of Trustees



Paul Beater

Paul has over 35 years' experience working in the IT industry. Paul retired at the end of 2021 from Microsoft,

where he worked for 23 years in a number of leadership roles in the UK and Europe. At Microsoft Paul worked in their services organisation, leading complex transformation and large change programmes to clients in public and private sectors.



Stephen Collinson

Stephen enjoyed a long NHS career at Chief Executive level, followed by a national Director role in a healthcare charity

and an MD role in an estates, property and healthcare company developing joint venture partnerships with the NHS. In his time Stephen has built up Department of Health experience, both overseas and in the UK, including regular Ministerial access and policy development opportunities.



Chris Thorne

Chris is an Executive Director for a leading audio visual and home technology integration business. Initially training

as a building services engineer with the Honeywell Corporation, Chris went on to setup his own business which later merged with Imperium Building Systems. He has considerable experience in building and positioning the value proposition, as well as developing and improving the operational processes required to support growth.

Award Winning Retail Team

Keen eye spots £10,000 diamond in the rough!

Congratulations Peter Fernando, Sales Assistant at QEFs Leatherhead Furniture Shop and QEFs Lynn Robinson and Sue Shewry, for winning the Charity Retail Associations Award for the Most Valuable Item Sold.

The donated item was a portrait by Dutch artist Floris Arntzenius that Peter spotted as potentially having a significant value. Peter tried to research the painting but eventually sought expert advice from Ewbanks Auctioneers, Guildford. Ewbanks thought it was a study of an original that sold a

few years ago at Christies for £28,000! It was suggested that it might raise £200 - £300 at auction.

On the day of the auction the portrait whizzed through the £100's in about 10 seconds before jumping to the thousands. The hammer finally went down on £10,000!

Not all items received by QEF reach the dizzy heights of £10,000, so we still need good quality donated items for all our charity shops. To find out where your local charity shop is and make a donation, please visit: www.qef.org.uk/about/our-shops



A portrait by Dutch artist Floris Arntzenius



In Memoriam – Edward Guinness CVO

Long term support of QEF, Edward Guinness CVO sadly passed away, peacefully, on Thursday 29 December 2022 surrounded by his family.

For over 40 years, Edward had been a long-term friend and supporter of QEF, and Trustee and Chair of the Development Trust.

Edward retired as a QEF Trustee when he was 88 but continued his active and enthusiastic support for the charity, and generously put his name to our capital appeal to raise the final £2.7

million needed to complete and fully fund the new Care and Rehabilitation Centre (CRC).

In November 2019, Edward and his close family launched the Edward Guinness Appeal for the CRC, prior to the pandemic and with no knowledge of how this would impact all our lives and our ability to raise funds. Despite the challenges this didn't stop the fundraising efforts.

Edwards legacy with QEF is significant – the appeal



has raised £2 million so far and Edward's impact in this cannot be underestimated.

Thanks to Edwards commitment and those who contributed to this appeal, QEF are able to support more people to rebuild their lives after an acquired brain injury, stroke or neurological illness for many years to come.

If you would like make a donation, please visit: qef.org.uk/donate

Spotlight on... BBC Lifeline Appeal

TV PRESENTER RICHARD HAMMOND, who himself suffered a traumatic brain injury after a high-speed crash whilst filming in 2006, introduced QEF showing how our expert teams enable disabled people of all ages to achieve their potential and live as independently as possible.

Richard Hammond said, *"In 2006 I crashed at very high speed whilst filming. It took months of rehabilitation for me to recover and was a difficult and at times a scary process for me and my family. That's why I want to tell you about the vital work that goes on at QEF."*

The BBC Lifeline programme was aired on BBC1 and BBC2 in October 2022 and remains on the BBC website, or you can visit the QEF home page to watch it for yourself: qef.org.uk.

The programme shares the experiences of three families from across the UK who have all had their lives transformed by QEF:



EDWINA, a client from the Care and Rehabilitation Centre, was suddenly paralysed from the waist down

due to a rare condition caused by inflammation of the spinal cord.



KUMBA, from South London contracted polio when she was 4 years old which made it painful for her to walk; even with crutches. As a mum to triplets, everyday tasks such as getting her children to school on public transport, were immensely stressful, so QEF's Mobility Services were there to help Kumba learn how to drive.



Twins **CARTER-RAY** and **DEACON-JAMES** both have Centronuclear Myopathy and are dependent on a ventilator to breath and are unable to walk or crawl, so they can't be anywhere without their parents. Both boys received a Bugzi, a uniquely adaptable mini powered wheelchair for children, through the free Bugzi loan scheme that we offer through our partner charity MERU.

Make a difference beyond your lifetime

Gifts in Wills and giving in-memory of a loved one are instrumental to QEF's charitable income to support our work today and securing it for the future.

Friend and loyal supporter, David H says *"It is not only the achievements of the people that QEF helps that amazes me, but also the impact their achievements have on others around them. This is why I am leaving a gift in my Will to QEF, I'm confident that my legacy will have a measurable impact on the future achievements of disabled children and adults supported by QEF."*

When writing your Will, once you have looked after family and friends, please consider QEF. Gifts of all sizes make a real difference and are a wonderful way of making a positive difference beyond your lifetime.

In-memory giving:

Our collection envelopes allow you to easily collect donations in-memory, they're free of charge and you can order as many as you need.

To request your free Gift in Wills pack or in-memory gift envelopes email legacy@qef.org.uk or call **01372 841228**.

Events, Community and Partnerships Update

A special thank you to all at Effingham Golf Club



Thank you to Effingham Golf Club for their incredibly **generous donation of £41,762**. It was a pleasure to work with the Club Captains and the members of the Club to raise funds to fully fund a Bugzi wheelchair and to fully equip a room in the Care and Rehabilitation Centre. QEF is very grateful to all at Effingham Golf Club for their incredible kindness and generosity, thank you.

Strictly judge a hit at our Ladies Autumn Lunch

In October we welcomed over 400 ladies to our Ladies Lunch, which we hold twice a year at Epsom Downs Racecourse. The lovely Shirley Ballas joined us for a fascinating Q&A and the signing of her new book. We also heard an amazing update from one of our clients who spent some time at our Care and Rehabilitation Centre. Guests enjoyed a two-course lunch and a fabulous shopping fayre, which consisted of over 40 stalls selling clothes, shoes, accessories, soaps, candles and lots more. **The event raised over £46,000!** Thank you to everyone who made the lunch such a success.

If you would like to join us at the next lunch, please get in touch at events@qef.org.uk or visit our website.

Working with Unum



The first year of the QEF's partnership with Unum, Dorking as their local charity partner has been fantastic, with lots of exciting activities taking place.

From Unum's ExCo Team kindly creating QEF's new Quiet Room for our frontline staff, to gifting all QEF staff with a wellbeing gift at Christmas (to name just a few). We are immensely grateful for all of Unum's hard work and dedication and we are looking forward to working together for our second year of the partnership.

If you would be interested in partnering with us, please email corporate@qef.org.uk.

The lovely Shirley Ballas and Philippa Beck



12 ways to support QEF

Your support is crucial to the future of QEF. Take a look at the many ways you can help, no matter how big or small, and choose the ones that suit you best!

1 Make a regular gift



Or increase one you already have set up. A regular gift allows us to plan for the future because we know, day in day, out, that we will have a steady income stream that we can rely upon. [Sign up at www.qef.org.uk/dd](http://www.qef.org.uk/dd)

2 Make a one-off gift



Every donation counts, no matter the size. We rely on the generosity of those who give large and small one-off donations every year to support almost 10,000 disabled children and adults. [Donate at www.qef.org.uk/donate](http://www.qef.org.uk/donate)

3 Attend/take part in an event



We have a busy calendar of events including our bi-annual Ladies Lunch at Epsom Downs Racecourse in April and October or you could take on a challenge, like running the London Marathon or skydiving. [More info at www.qef.org.uk/events](http://www.qef.org.uk/events)

4 Leave us a gift in your will



Over 35% of our donated income comes from gifts in Wills. Leaving a gift in your Will to QEF, no matter the size or type, will help us to continue to provide the expert care and rehabilitation and mobility services to children and adults living with a disability or brain injury. [More info at www.qef.org.uk/legacies](http://www.qef.org.uk/legacies)

5 Volunteer with us



Whether it's hours, days or months, the time you give supports our work in many ways. Volunteer at one of our 15 shops, assist at one of our services or help out at our Head Office. We have lots of different opportunities to suit your needs. [More info at www.qef.org.uk/get-involved/volunteering](http://www.qef.org.uk/get-involved/volunteering)

6 Shop with us



Pop into one of our 15 shops situated across Surrey, which sell a wide range of donated good all at bargain prices. You can also donate your good quality items. We accept clothing, bric-brac, toys and games. [Find a list of our shops at www.qef.org.uk/about/our-shops](http://www.qef.org.uk/about/our-shops)

7 Payroll giving



A simple way to make a regular donation to QEF straight from your salary. Donations are taken every month from your salary before tax, which means even more money can go towards supporting QEF. For example, £5 a month donation will cost you c.£4. [More info at www.qef.org.uk/get-involved/corporate-partnerships](http://www.qef.org.uk/get-involved/corporate-partnerships)

8 Support us while you shop online



You can raise money when you shop online, at no cost to you! [Simply sign up to Give as You Live at www.giveasyoulive.com/join/qef](http://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/qef)

9 Play our weekly lottery



For just £1 a week you can have the chance to win £25,000 each week while helping us raise vital funds to support children and adults with physical and learning disabilities. [Play now at www.qef.org.uk/get-involved/donate/lottery](http://www.qef.org.uk/get-involved/donate/lottery)

10 Spread the word



You can help raise awareness of our work by talking about us to your friends, family, and neighbours. Maybe they can get involved and support us. [Follow us on social media and share our posts](#)

@QEFDP @QEFDP @QEF1

11 Support us at schools and universities



Hold a fundraising event at your child's or grandchild's school or university. [More info at www.qef.org.uk/get-involved/schools-and-universities](http://www.qef.org.uk/get-involved/schools-and-universities)

12 Let us know if we can claim gift aid



If you are a tax payer, we can claim Gift Aid on your donation and get 25% more each time. [Complete the Gift Aid declaration on the donation form and return it to us in the freepost envelope](#)

**Any way you can support QEF is greatly appreciated
Thank you!**

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 27 April

Ladies Spring Lunch

Epsom Downs Racecourse

Our Ladies Spring Lunch consists of a shopping fayre, special guest Alison Steadman and a two-course lunch

Sunday 28 May

Ford Ride London - Essex

Take part in this spectacular cycling challenge and cycle through the heart of beautiful London and neighbouring Essex. Please register your interest by 20 April 2023

Sunday 9 July

Asics London 10k

Run 10k through central London with live music at every kilometre

October

Halloween Craft Club

As part of QEF's Craft Club, a children's Halloween activity delivered to your door during the spooky season

Thursday 19 October

Ladies Autumn Lunch

Epsom Downs Racecourse

Our Ladies Autumn Lunch is an iconic event that includes a Christmas shopping fayre, lunch and a celebrity guest speaker

Thursday 23 November

58th Guinness and Oyster Luncheon Mansion House

Held in the beautiful surroundings of Mansion House, the extremely sought-after Guinness and Oyster

Luncheon has been a city favourite event for over 57 years. Each year over 400 guests attend this relaxed, stand up luncheon

December

Magical Christmas Event

Celebrate the magic of Christmas with QEF

April 2024

TCS London Marathon

Why not put on your running shoes and raise vital funds for disabled people? Join Team QEF and take on the TCS London Marathon in April 2024

ONGOING EVENTS:

Skydiving and The Three Peaks Challenge

Once in a lifetime opportunities

If you are interested in hosting your own event or taking on a challenge, please contact the Events Team, events@qef.org.uk or call **01372 841151**.

Please visit qef.org.uk/events to find out more about some of the amazing events we have planned this year!

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 allows us to deliver expert services to enable disabled adults and children to achieve their potential and live with greater independence.

We really couldn't do it without you.

We'd like to continue to contact you about our work. If you would like to change how you hear from us, please email hello@qef.org.uk or call us on **01372 841151**.

Remember our privacy policy sets out how we collect, use and store your personal information. You can read it at qef.org.uk/privacy.

QEF, Leatherhead Court, Woodlands Road, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 0BN
01372 841151 | appeals@qef.org.uk | Registered charity No. 251051 | Ref: H-S-23



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: ____/____/____

giftaid it

Please remember to include your name and address



SCAN ME