

## Newsletter September 2020

Welcome back to our new monthly newsletter! We hope that you have all had a wonderful summer and that everyone has remained safe and well. We are sadly unable to commit ourselves to a date when the normal BGO&A club activities will start again; but we are in daily contact with MENCAP Headquarters and as soon as we have good news, we will let you know. However, we thought this would be a good opportunity for a catch up and to reflect on what has kept us busy over the Spring and Summer months.

### Our visit from BBC TV!

Back in June Becky was lucky enough to have a visit from BBC Points West!! They got in touch about some Lockdown Keep Fit sessions which were happening in Becky's Road in Weston, Bath; and when they heard about Bath Gateway Out & About Club they decided to do a feature on us and they sent lovely Alex Lovell to spend the day with Becky and members of the Club.

As well as interviewing Becky in her garden and hearing all about the Club and its activities, the BBC Team also visited and spoke to Sam and Kayleigh from the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday Club, Leanne and Gill from Monday club and Kieran from the 2nd Wednesday club. They were all very excited to meet Alex and be on the television.

This was a wonderful opportunity to create awareness about the club, the activities that we offer, our hardworking volunteers and of course you, our wonderful club members.

This is a [link](#) to a video clip of the feature, which can also be found on our [website](#).



## New Volunteers and Team Members



Our board of Trustees is now complete and we have also recruited a Fundraiser and an Admin Assistant. We thought it would be a good idea for new team members and volunteers to introduce themselves; so here they are:

### Juliette Millard – Trustee



I am a senior Nurse Manager, and I have worked in quality and governance for private and charitable health and social care organisations for nine years. I am passionate about supporting people with disabilities and have managed a care home for people with complex needs. My work experiences include having worked for NICE supporting the development of clinical guidelines and quality standards.

Personally, I enjoy gardening, travel and history and my spare time on my allotment or travelling in my motorhome with my husband and dog.

My role with BGOA enables me to support and engage with people with disabilities in my local community.

### Janette Carter – Admin



I was looking for an interesting part time administrative role to work alongside my activities as a practising artist. I have previously worked as PA to the Headteacher and Senior Management Team at a SEN School in Devon for several years. I am looking forward to working with Becky and supporting her in taking Bath Gateway Out and About forward.

### Tim Archfield – Fundraiser



I joined the Bath Gateway Out & About team because I love writing. As well as producing advertising copy, blog material and press releases for a living I also write in my spare time, and thoroughly enjoy explaining to potential funders the incredible things that we're able to do with their donations - and how much their generosity means to our members. When not hunched over my keyboard I can usually be found on mountains hiking and skiing, or trying (and generally failing) to learn new activity sports. I also play the guitar, occasionally in front of people - though that usually requires lots of persuasion and a few drinks beforehand.

## Our Annual General Meeting



Its nearly time for the Bath Gateway Out and About Annual General Meeting. This is usually a time for the Trustees, volunteers, staff and club members to get together and talk about what has been happening and the plans that we have for the future. This year we are holding the meeting on Zoom and it will take place on October 19. More information will be sent out to everyone nearer the time. Everyone is welcome!

At the meeting we will be asking for a volunteer to help set up and run a new Members Committee; so, if this is something that you might be interested in, Becky would love to hear from you! It is important that the Members have a voice and it would be wonderful if someone felt able to take this on. The meetings would likely be held every 3 months at the beginning of January, April, July and October.

## Thank you to all of our Volunteers!!!

**Thank  
YOU!**

A huge thank you to all of the clubs amazing volunteers, especially those who have joined in and contributed to the members interactive zooms sessions. Your commitment and efforts are all very much appreciated!!



Get the latest news and photos on our web site and Facebook page  
[www.facebook.com/Bath-Gateway-Out-and-About-297355700455247/](https://www.facebook.com/Bath-Gateway-Out-and-About-297355700455247/)

<https://www.bathgatewayoutandabout.co.uk/>



## Donations and Subscriptions to the Club

You have all received an email from Becky about donations and subscriptions to BGO&A during the Covid restrictions. If you would like to make a donation; you can do this by donating via our charity sites online; the links are listed below and you just have to press "Ctrl" and click on them:



<https://localgiving.org/charity/gatewayoutandabout/>

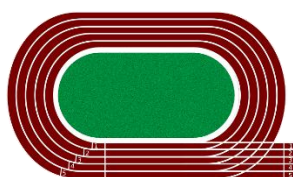


<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/donation-web/charity?charityId=1008807>



<https://www.facebook.com/Bath-Gateway-Out-and-About-297355700455247/> (click Donate button near top of page)

Or you can send a cheque made payable to Bath Gateway Out and About, to Becky at the address on the last page of this newsletter. Other clubs have continued to collect subscriptions and several people within our clubs have suggested that we should be doing the same; but it is up to you to decide how you would like to respond and what you feel is appropriate.



## Our Virtual Autumn Sports Day!!



We are going to be holding a Virtual Sports Day Event; to replace the Sports Day at Odd Down which we sadly had to cancel earlier in the year. This will be an opportunity for all of our members to get involved in an activity outdoors; which will also help us raise some much-needed funds so that we can plan trips and events in the future. We will be sending a list of activities out to you which can do during our Virtual Sports Day Week. Don't worry if you don't like doing sporty activities as there will be other fun things to do in your garden; or in the park!! We would like you to get the support of family and friends to sponsor you and we will send out some sponsorship forms for this.

More information to come!!!

## A Sad Loss



You are probably all aware now of the very sad loss of our dear friend Sharon Pile. Sharon passed away in April and we would like to send our heartfelt condolences and best wishes to all her family and friends.

She will be greatly missed.



## Recent Donations



In the Spring we received two wonderful donations which enabled us to buy the Chrome Books for some of our members and also provide activity packs. This enabled members who didn't have internet access to join in with our weekly Zoom sessions and others to take part in crafty activities to help keep them busy. A huge thank you to:

***The Community Lottery Fund and  
The Clothworkers Foundation***

## New Zoom Meeting!! Come for a cuppa and a chat!

We are looking at setting up another weekly Zoom Meeting; for Members who haven't yet joined our other meetings and activities. This will just be an opportunity to have a chat and Members can just sign in for a few minutes if they want to. There won't be any specific activities like Quizzes etc.....just friends having a chat!!. This will be coming soon and will take place on a Wednesday; times to be confirmed.



Don't forget to keep in touch with our Facebook Page. Search for us and give us a like to join in with the chat and to share your photos.

### **Becky Morgan**

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