

# In Touch

Christmas 2015



## Contents:

<b>CEO's Report</b>	<b>2</b>	Old School House	<b>6</b>	Hitrade	<b>11</b>
<b>Care and Living</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Life Skills</b>	<b>7</b>	Friends of COT	<b>11</b>
Care Services Office	3	Poulton Wood	7	Siblings Group	12
The New Bungalow	4	Art at the Farm	8	Photo Scrapbook	13
Farmhouse	5	<b>Fundraising</b>	<b>9</b>	Contact information	<b>15</b>
Holly Cottage	5	<b>Rare Breeds Centre</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Calendar</b>	<b>16</b>
Watchbell	6	<b>Family and Supporters</b>	<b>11</b>		

## Chief Executive

## Joanne Creighton

### A zorse! A zorse! My kingdom for a zorse...!

As I write this particular article for In Touch, I find myself celebrating a little anniversary: one year to the day since I joined COT.

So much has happened in those twelve months and – as I look back – I find I can separate events into three distinct categories: ‘things I expected’; ‘things I didn’t expect’ and ‘The COT Factor’ (namely those wonderfully wacky things that I wouldn’t have expected in a million years!)



I certainly expected increasing pressures on our local authority funding. No-one who reads the papers or tunes into the news has been able to avoid mention of the government’s plans to reduce annual spending by £20bn over the next five years. We are already beginning to see the effects of that – greater scrutiny of our costs by local authority Care Managers and a definite increase in the level of care required by those being referred to our services (but often without a corresponding increase in the number of hours for which the authorities are prepared to pay). Residential places are being funded only for those with the greatest need and we are beginning to see and understand the impact of that on our existing services. We are not on our own in tackling such developments, though, and our frequent discussions with similar organisations reveal that the very same issues abound across the care sector. Encouragingly, in an unprecedented show of shared concern, a range of care organisations have joined together with local authority commissioners to appeal to the government for a halt to the cuts to services for older and disabled people. As such, we are all waiting with bated breath (and crossed fingers) for George Osborne’s spending review on 25<sup>th</sup> of November. That will set out the detailed departmental budget cuts for the next five years and will give a sense of what we can expect from our local authority relationships into the future. I certainly won’t need any prompting to get out of bed on that day.

Among the things I *didn’t* expect was the sheer extent of the commitment and enthusiasm of the staff team here at COT. It is no exaggeration to say that there have been daily examples of excellence and dedication throughout the year, covering every area of the Trust’s business. Whether they have been problem-solving, heading off troubles at the pass, putting things right, dealing with loss, coping with calamity, being inspected or simply just getting on with the exhausting business of keeping our service users and visitors safe, our staff have been truly first class. They are an inspiration, one and all. Similarly, the effort shown by our supporters and fundraisers has been humbling. From those who cycle across countries and run marathons for our benefit, through to those who make regular, monthly gifts – year after year - the warmth they



feel for our service users is very clear. I knew that COT was well-loved, but I certainly didn't expect such dedication from so many different sources. Thank you, once again, to every one of you. Not a penny you raise is taken for granted.

Finally – the COT Factor: those things that – if I had known them this time last year – I would never have believed. In truth, there are so many that I will have to restrict myself to the highlights:

- The day my 'To Do' List began with the words, "Sort out the Duchess of Kent in the Men's Toilet." That's a long story, but you will be glad to know she is not still there...
- Tom Lovegrove's dancing at the Friends' disco. To the end of my days, I will never be entirely sure how he manages to get his limbs moving in so many different directions at the same time but still in perfect time with the music. It's quite a talent.
- Being asked if I thought it was a good idea to 'adopt a Zorse'. If part of my COT interview had been to make a list of questions I thought I *might* be asked in my first year, that one certainly wouldn't have featured. But that's what has made the last 12 months so wonderful – never a dull moment!

Editors note: if like me you don't know what a "zorse" is it is a cross between a zebra and horse!

## Care and Living

### Care Services Office

Carol Senior

#### **New beginnings and something of a comedy of errors**

New beginnings because we have recently welcomed new resident, Sean Peters, into Homelands and Rob Foley has moved into his supported living apartment at Jasmine House. We wish you both all the best in your new homes.

As for the comedy of errors ..... One evening Fiona, our Head of Care was making preparations to head for home, but at this point she became aware of a loud ringing noise close by. Fire alarm – nothing unusual in that, the residential homes regularly run tests and practices. However, on her way to the car it became evident that the alarm was sounding at Jasmine House and, while most of the tenants were dutifully standing in place at the assembly point, there was one notable exception. With heart in mouth Fiona entered the building where a strong smell of smoke emanating from the apartment of the missing tenant was the obvious source of the alarm. Following a loud tattoo on the door, it flew open to reveal a rather irate tenant who, having left his pizza in the oven slightly too long, was sitting down to eat his somewhat charred dinner, oblivious to the warning bells triggered by smoke from his oven! In the firm knowledge that there was no fire, he was getting on with his meal as usual while watching a spot of TV, not realising that his fellow tenants had responded to the emergency procedures and were outside in the gloom and drizzle.

Satisfied that everyone was safe, Fiona went to silence the alarm and get everyone back to normal. But this was easier said than done, as she had left her specs in the car and was peering myopically at the panel trying to key in the code required to cease the ear-splitting torture. After a couple of attempts it became evident that she needed her specs, so it was a speedy exit to the car to retrieve them, but on grasping the door handle she realised she had left her keys in Jasmine House. Back again to retrieve the keys .....

However, even with specs firmly in place and further attempts at inputting the code, the alarms went relentlessly on. Evidently some fault was preventing the system from returning to normal mode, so the only solution was to ring the engineers. Following telephone instructions, Fiona went on the trail of the initially activated smoke alarm and, precariously perched on a chair, removed the cover and returned to the panel to input the code again but the deafening alarm

persisted, so the engineer confirmed he would be along shortly to set things to rights. At this juncture another sound insinuated into the general melee – sirens of two fire engines rapidly approaching. Oh dear! In all the hullabaloo there had been no time to communicate the false alarm but fortunately the firemen quickly tackled the problematic panel and silence reigned (apart from an echo ringing in Fiona's ears for some considerable time later).

Finally, with the tenants safely returned to their respective apartments, it was time to head for home – phew, what a day! And please, anything for dinner – except pizza!!

## The New Bungalow

It has again been a busy summer for us here at The New Bungalow . After a really difficult winter for some who have had serious health problems we are very happy to report that everyone has recovered well and although it was not possible for some to go away on holiday and others chose not to we have all had some fantastic days out including two trips on the Kingfisher boat, when great fun was had by all and Nigel joined the crew to help drive the boat.

Also , there was a surprise celebration for Nigel Nash who on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November has been with The Trust for 30 years. Nigel's brother joined him on the celebration day and took him to the Holiday Inn for lunch while everyone back at the Bungalow dressed the room with balloons and banners and prepared a cake with Bucks Fizz as a toast.

So, Congratulations to you Nigel, you are a true ambassador for C.O.T.!!

There have been day trips to the seaside , pub lunches, bowling , lots of birthday parties ( particularly a party at the village hall for Karen Bowers 50<sup>th</sup> birthday ) which was attended by her extended family and many many friends, the summer disco and the Halloween celebrations at the farm.

There have been new keyworkers allocated and we are now planning our Christmas shopping trips which will include lunch out. Some of us will be joining our families over the Christmas period and some of us have chosen to remain at the Bungalow.



Our Christmas party dinner this year will be at the local Pub and we have decided to hold it after the New Year as before Christmas is so full of parties that it will be something nice to look forward to.

We also plan to invite families to the Bungalow for Mulled Wine and Minced Pies.

We would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

## Farmhouse

We had a great time at Centre Parcs enjoying all the swimming /slides and all the other activities. While we were on our holiday we visited Longleat and saw up close, monkeys who climbed on our Van !!!! but thankfully didn't do any damage!! We also saw lions, hippos, giraffes and zebras..... it was fantastic. Ricky Sutton enjoyed a trip to Spain and celebrated his birthday in the sun. Ricky and Nick enjoyed a day at Brands Hatch watching truck racing and fireworks. Jackie enjoyed a trip to the cinema to watch Hotel Transylvania and lunch out at Dobbies. Emma no longer works at the tea rooms and is now enjoying much more time with the animals, which she loves. Thomas's spent some more time up in Scotland with his family. Most of the guys from farmhouse have taken up and enjoying Zumba. We want to welcome Sarah Sharp to farm house, we hope you will be very happy here. We are all looking forward to Christmas and all the parties and spending time with our families.

## Holly Cottage

Pamela McCullagh

I have had a busy year this year with Holly Cottage. In October I went on a holiday with the house, Katie, Murray and I went off to Devon for 5 days. While we were in Devon we all went for lots of walks but one day it was raining! I enjoyed all the food I ate in Devon I even tried one of their homemade Cornish Pasties which was lovely! One of the days we went to a place called 'Big Sheep' it was full of all different sheep! We watched a show of sheep being sheared. I really enjoyed this and one of the sheep was even called Tom Jones!!

At the end of October I went on another holiday to Disneyland Paris with my brother. At Disneyland I went on lots of rides and one of them was very dark!! I saw Snow White and the seven dwarves and Cinderella while I was there. We also did lots of walking. I really enjoyed myself there and would like to go again.

I am looking forward to Christmas and to see my brother again. I really like Christmas as I like opening all of my Christmas presents. I get very excited around this time of year!

I have really enjoyed myself this year as I have done lots of fun things and I am excited to see what is planned for next year.

I would also like to say good luck to one of the staff members, Jordan from Holly Cottage who is sadly leaving.

## My Trip To America

Murray Shears

In September I went with my Dad to America for 3 weeks. We go every year to look for car badges for my collection. I have been collecting car badges since I was about 9 years old and I now have more than 6,000 different badges.

This year on the way to Hershey in Pennsylvania, where we spend 5 days at a big car show, we visited some old car museums and art galleries. One of my favourite places was the Henry Ford Museum and Dearborn Village, where I went on an old steam train and a fairground carousel.







When we arrived in Pennsylvania, we stayed with our friend Pat who has an old car museum. We have been good friends for a very long time. Pat took us on an interesting boat trip around a large lake and the captain showed me how to steer the boat.

We stopped to feed hundreds of big carp fish in the lake. Pat also took us to Penn's Cave and Wildlife Park where I saw bison, longhorn cattle, wolves, mountain lions, bobcats and goats.

When we got to Hershey I met lots of friends who I meet each year at the car show. I found some new badges for my collection and took lots of photos of old cars.

I keep a journal of the things I do each day and make it into a book. I also have a copy on disc so I can look at it on my laptop.

I really enjoyed my trip to America and all the things I did. I hope I can go again next year.



## Watchbell

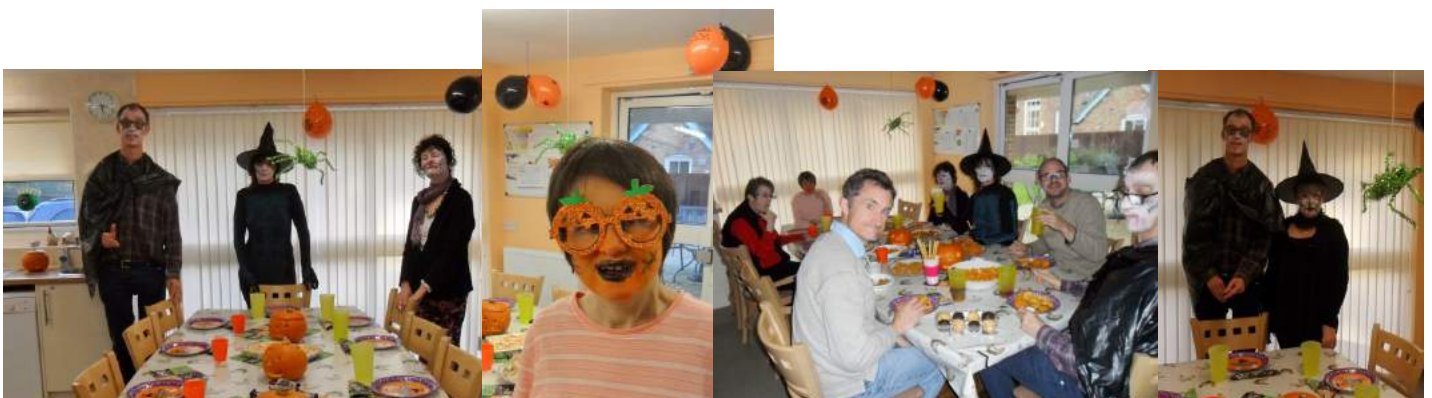
We were all very excited about our holiday to Hayling Island. We arrived on Monday afternoon and had lunch then went to our caravans to unpack, then we all went for a walk on the beach.

On Tuesday we went to Portsmouth and went on a ferry. We ate lunch outside on the harbour as it was lovely and sunny. On Wednesday we went to Marwell Zoo. Zoe was scared of the giraffes but we all loved the penguins. On Thursday we went for a swim then had lunch at the caravan. We went bowling in the afternoon, Debbie won the first game and Helena won the second. We had another lovely meal out then went to the cinema to see Jurassic World, Sally was scared of the dinosaurs but Zoe loved them!

On Friday we had another swim then had a lovely pub lunch, then went to Funland. We all enjoyed the rides but only Laura, Mandy and Georgina were brave enough for the loop the loop rollercoaster. Guess who screamed the loudest? (Georgina!!) On Saturday we went to Southsea and played crazy golf. Debbie won and even won on the last hole to get a free game next time. After a rest in the afternoon we spent our last evening in the club house before sadly packing our bags ready to go home in the morning. Finally, we had a delicious cooked breakfast before our journey home. We'd all like to thank Farmhouse for the loan of their lovely comfy mini-bus, it made the holiday so much nicer.

## Old School House

Everyone enjoyed Halloween, celebrating it with fancy dress and a buffet. Fun was had by all.





We would like to say a big welcome to our newest additions to the staff team, Ellie-May, and Stella who now works with us full time.

## Life Skills

### Poulton Wood

The autumn is beautiful this year, the trees are rich and colourful and the fungi in the woodland are giving us a good account of themselves. Now the leaves are beginning to fall and we've been busily raking them up from the garden and yard to make leafmould. Autumn is such an enjoyable season up at the wood. The weather is much more agreeable for working outdoors and we are all busy getting the timber up



from the woodland, sawing splitting and bagging logs for sale and eating our way through a seemingly endless supply of pumpkin soup at lunchtimes. We've been working on the hedgerows, clearing the conservation field, and building more hibernaculums for the overwintering newts and lizards, with thoughts turning more and more to the winter ahead. After leaf fall we'll be full pelt into our



winter work, coppicing hazel, cutting back rides in the woodland and generally fulfilling the requirements of our woodland management plan. What was the C word has now evolved to its fullest extent and Christmas is openly discussed with the Rangers keen to know the date of our annual Christmas Karaoke at the Walnut Tree. For anyone interested it's Monday 14 December and all are welcome to join us with big thanks to the 'Friends' for providing the funding. We have a new



group of students on the starting block of City & Guilds in Conservation and Woodwork, and 4 new Rangers have recently joined our ranks. We are keen supporters of Children in Need at the wood and all the Rangers are offered the opportunity to have their face painted for £1. The Rangers in turn paint the staff which is fun, especially when you need to call in at Tesco on the way home! This year we've got extra money to add which was raised by the last lot of City & Guilds students who ran the Poulton Wood Car Wash as their enterprise activity. Great woodcrafts are being produced by the Rangers and Julian has been able to bring new techniques to us all which he learned at a spoon carving course recently held at the wood. Check out the picture of Nick Norman's chair. He designed and made every inch of it himself.



Two notable changes to information in September's In Touch. The workshop in the yard is being built by Mark and Dan from Estates in 2 weeks time so big thanks to Jeff and Jerry for making that happen. It's a weight off our minds. The other thing is that Santa has been in touch and unfortunately will not be up at the wood this year! Apparently he's very busy and very tired, but he's definitely going to be down at the farm, so if you see him there tell him "Happy Christmas from the Woodfolk!"

## Art at the Farm

At Art at the Farm we are busy preparing for Godington House Winter Arts Fair which is over the weekend of the 27<sup>th</sup> of November, so please do pop along and see us there. Shortly after this on the 11<sup>th</sup> of December we will be having an evening in the Granary Restaurant to celebrate our new collection of work.



After this we will be looking forward to making lovely gifts with our artists to take home to their families. We also have our new digital equipment in place now so a big thank you to the Fundraising department for helping us make this happen, in the new year we will be exploring the possibilities with the new equipment and launching new projects using photography, image manipulation and animation, it's all very exciting!

By the time we go to press we will also have our 2016 Calendar launched with twelve examples of artists work illustrating the pages, it will make a lovely gift for yourself, family and friends however numbers are limited, so if you would like one you better hurry!

Last but not least we would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy new year from me and the team at the studio, and take this opportunity to thank you all for your support over the past twelve months, we really appreciate it and can't wait to show you what we have planned for 2016!

Also a big well done to Harriet on graduating from her Masters in Fine Art with Distinction!



## Art, Tea & Cakes

**Granary Restaurant, Rare Breeds Centre  
11th December 4.30pm-7.30pm**

Art at the Farm warmly invite you to the launch of our new collection of art work. The perfect opportunity to pick a special gift for someone! So join us for tea, coffee and homemade cake. We look forward to seeing you then.

## Alan Davies





### 3 Cities 3 Capitals

Coral Boyne, COT's very own 'Catwoman', flew the flag for us in the Big Apple in November. Coral ran the New York Marathon in an impressive 4 hours and 54 mins and has raised a magnificent £3,787 for us! Her tireless efforts, enthusiasm and passion for COT, guaranteed her lots of support and even her employer, the National Air Traffic Service, [www.nats.co.uk](http://www.nats.co.uk), donated £500 and allowed her to hold sponsored car washes in their car parks!



Coral says of her achievement: "It was a once in a lifetime challenge, and I'm very glad I've done it. I am SO proud to be part of such an amazing extended family, who achieve so many great things. Coral was our last challenger in the 3 Cities, 3 Capitals challenge, which celebrates 30 years of our charity.

Between them, our fearless challengers, Coral, Kevin, Richard, Malcom, Scott, Marie, Sarah, Matthew, Hayley and Joanna, ran and cycled an incredible 688 miles, raising to date over £12,000.

Our heartfelt thanks go to them all for really pushing themselves to their limits and to everyone who has kindly sponsored them. If you haven't already you can still sponsor the team by going to:

<https://www.justgiving.com/teams/3CITIES3CAPITALS>



### Lording it up at the pub

We had a brilliant night with the "Lord Raglan Pub Fund-raisers" when we popped in to thank them for supporting us! These lovely people came up with lots of brilliant fundraising ideas, including plant sales and dinner parties where guests paid, to raise a magnificent £1,700 for our nursery. Everyone made us so welcome and we decided to make a night of it by staying for a delicious dinner and a few drinks! We're hoping to meet up with them again at their famous onion growing competition! Lyn is now nurturing her onions (yes really!) hoping to grow a suitable specimen so let us have your growing tips - and onion recipes as you know we always like to make good use of our produce!

<http://www.goachers.com/pubs/the-lord-raglan>



## Riding high with Hitrade

What a delight it was to travel up to Hitrade in Sidcup in our new minibus! Luckily the bus carries 17 people as just about everyone wanted to go along to thank the amazing shop volunteers for donating the £25,000 needed to buy the bus. Outside the shop we “launched” the bus and Catherine Henwood helped everyone to say a few words about what the bus means to them. We then celebrated with tea and cake made by our Granary students (including the best carrot cake on the planet!). Of course, everyone had a good shop too with purchases including shirts, dresses, bags and a red sparkly cowboy hat (ok, that was me!).



We just can't thank the shop volunteers, and all the people who donate and buy items, enough for our brilliant new bus!"

(Thanks also to Jerry Kenward for arranging alternative transport back at base so we could make the trip; we'll make sure you can come next time!)

## True dedication

As those who attended this year's AGM will know, the meeting was followed by a lovely tree planting ceremony at Rainbow Wood to mark COT's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary.



The tree itself is a native *Prunus avium*, or Wild Cherry. It will produce beautiful white flowers in Spring with leaves that turn a deep purple/pink and its fruit will help to feed many of our birds and insects. It's a great addition to Rainbow Wood and a fitting tribute to the many people who have helped to shape COT to be the wonderful charity it is today.

The tree is accompanied by a magnificent plaque made and sourced by the rangers at Poulton Wood and hand carved with the wording:

***This tree commemorates all those who have contributed so much to the development of Canterbury Oast Trust to achieve the aims of our founders.***

Our thanks go to Robert Benson for kindly funding the tree and to Hayley Chambers for arranging its planting and future care.

## Rare Breeds Centre

## Hayley Chambers

Wow, what a busy few months!

With the warmer months behind us and while I am not wishing the winter months away, it is time to make preparations for the New Year's school season. We received 150 school visits in the last school season, of these just over one third participated in our piloted educational activity offering (animal talks, pond dipping or bug hunting). I have begun to develop a dedicated environmental education zone which last year we used for bug hunting. Next year we will also be able to use the zone for pond dipping due to a very kind donation by HiTrade, who have rather generously funded our schools pond project, allowing us to create a new pond to directly benefit our schools





programme. The new pond will provide habitats for the myriad of wildlife associated with ponds such as aquatic invertebrates, birds, aquatic plants, grass snakes, dragonflies, damselflies, and newts including the European protected Great Crested Newt. The pond has been excavated by an expert digger, lined, is now full of water and is already hosting water boatman. We plan to plant around the pond and install a purpose built dipping platform in the New Year.

In the run up to our Halloween offer I was busy sourcing materials from Rainbow Wood such as greenery and brash which we used to decorate throughout the main yard. During the creation of our largest addition to the farm, those amongst us lacking in imagination (Simon) had a few reservations of how we were going to turn 4 bales of silage into a spider, but I'm sure you agree Mr Spider is rather dapper! Thank you to all our volunteers who helped to create a fantastic Halloween display this year! As we are gearing up for the festive period on the farm, we are sad to see that Mr Spider has scuttled away; he is just a seasonal visitor after all!



While on the subject of oversized things.... (And I am not talking about the Farm Manager's ears!)..... Those of you keen walkers who venture up to the RBC woods will spot another hint that Mr Giant and his family are settling in to the Rare Breeds Centre. A rather hefty pot filled with a rainbow of enormous coloured pencils has been spotted in Tinkers wood...

## Family and Supporters

### Hitrade

### Barbara and Phyllis

When we last wrote it was for the new look In Touch which we all thought was very well put together and informative.

The Shop is still very busy and at times we wish we could move the walls out to cope with the volume of donations coming in.

Christmas is looming so we are already putting out our Christmas stock .

On the 12th of November we had a visit from Residents and Staff of the Trust who came up to show us the Mini Bus which Hitrade had donated we hope they all had a great time buying DVD/ CD, dresses, shirts and much more - oh, and a Teddy Bear for Angela. Photos were taken Ribbons cut and we all ended up with teas and coffees and not forgetting Cakes from the Farm .

May we finish by saying a very Happy Christmas to every one connected to the Trust from us all at Hitrade.

### Friends of COT

### Margaret E Hanlon

'Cinderella' is coming to The Falcons on Friday 18th December – another visit from the talented performers of SG Productions. Free to all residents, tenants and staff. The performance begins at 7.30pm. Most houses have sent me their numbers – which helps us to put out chairs and buy biscuits – but I'm still waiting to hear from others.

**Tombola** prizes are once again being sought. You'll remember that we cleared our stock right out last summer but it could be good to do another Tombola at Easter if we can get together sufficient prizes. So you know where to send those unwanted Christmas gifts! Contact any member of the Friends group and leave them at 'your' COT house, or in the front office at the Rare Breeds Centre, and we'll arrange to pick them up.

**A Concert** by the Snowdown Colliery Welfare Male Voice Choir has been arranged in the Falcons Centre on **Saturday 24th September 2016**. It's a few years since the choir came to sing for us and they are happy to be coming back, they say they found our audience was one of the most responsive and it was a pleasure to sing at the Rare Breeds Centre, despite less than perfect acoustics. I know it's a long time ahead but if you put it in your diaries now you won't miss out on an evening of powerful singing. More details later.



## Janet Shears



The Friends of COT have organised a Zumba class for Residents and Tenants and as this goes to press the classes are well underway. So far 20 movers and shakers have turned up for 1 hour of fun and exercise to great music. The class is taken by Claire, our lively, friendly, full of energy tutor who encourages everyone to take part and enjoy the hour. If you have not been to a Zumba class before we strongly advise you to give it a try.....go on, you know you want to!! The current course ends on November 24th but Claire is very keen to continue early next year if there is sufficient interest.



It's A Knock Out Fun

## Siblings Group

A group providing opportunities for siblings and relatives of COT residents and tenants to network, share ideas, offer mutual support and learn. Meeting the unique needs of siblings and forming the groundwork for the next generation of the COT family.

Contact Angela in Fundraising if you would like to know more: [ap@c-o-t.org.uk](mailto:ap@c-o-t.org.uk)

## Sylvia Boyne

I would like to congratulate and say well done to all our young people who took part in the 3 Cities 3 Capitals raising thousands of pounds for our charity. My daughter Coral Boyne ran the New York Marathon, my nephew Kevin Gallagher cycled London to Paris. What an amazing effort by them all. Thank you from a proud mum, and auntie.







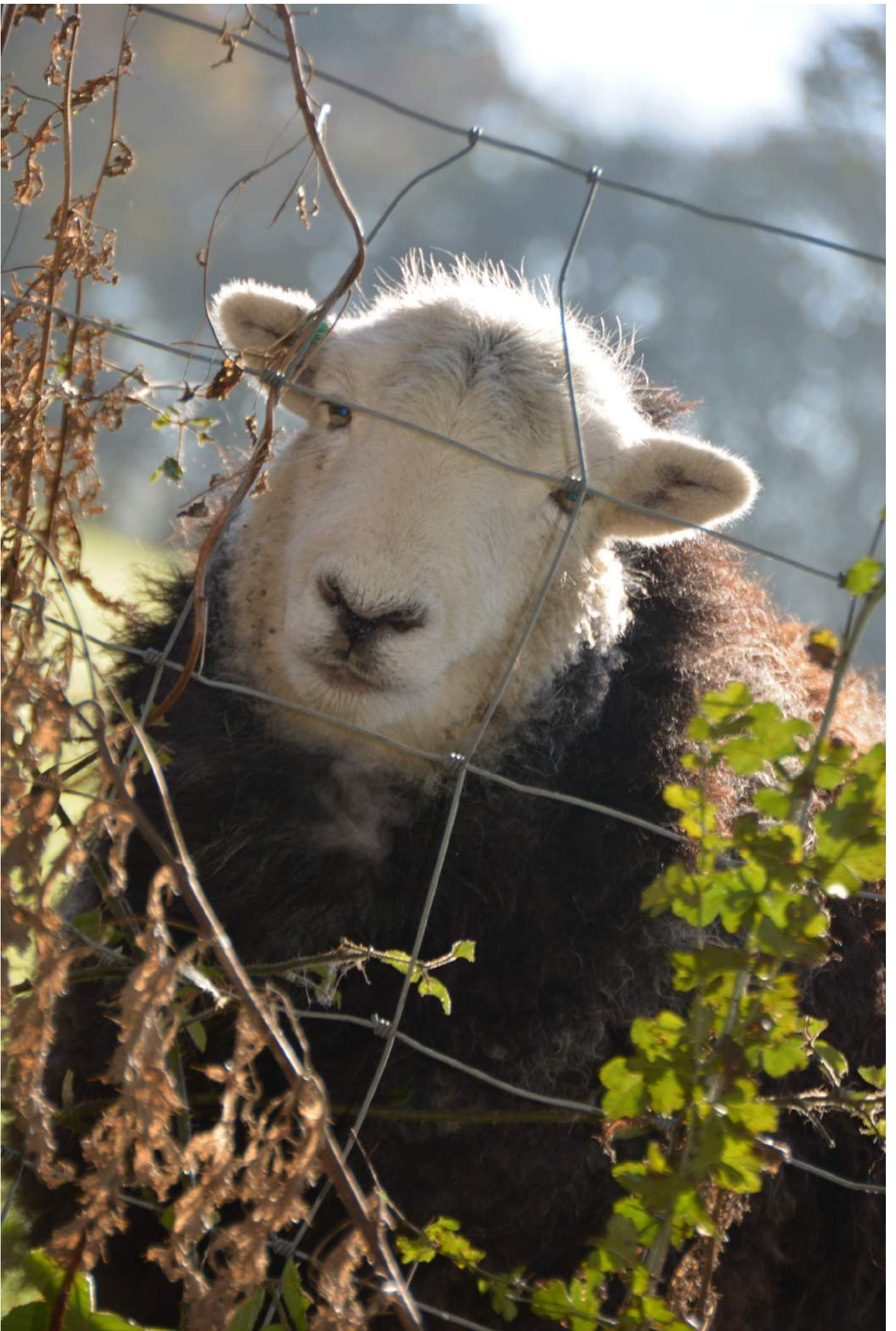


Image: Margot Eastwell Herdswick sheep Rare Breeds Centre



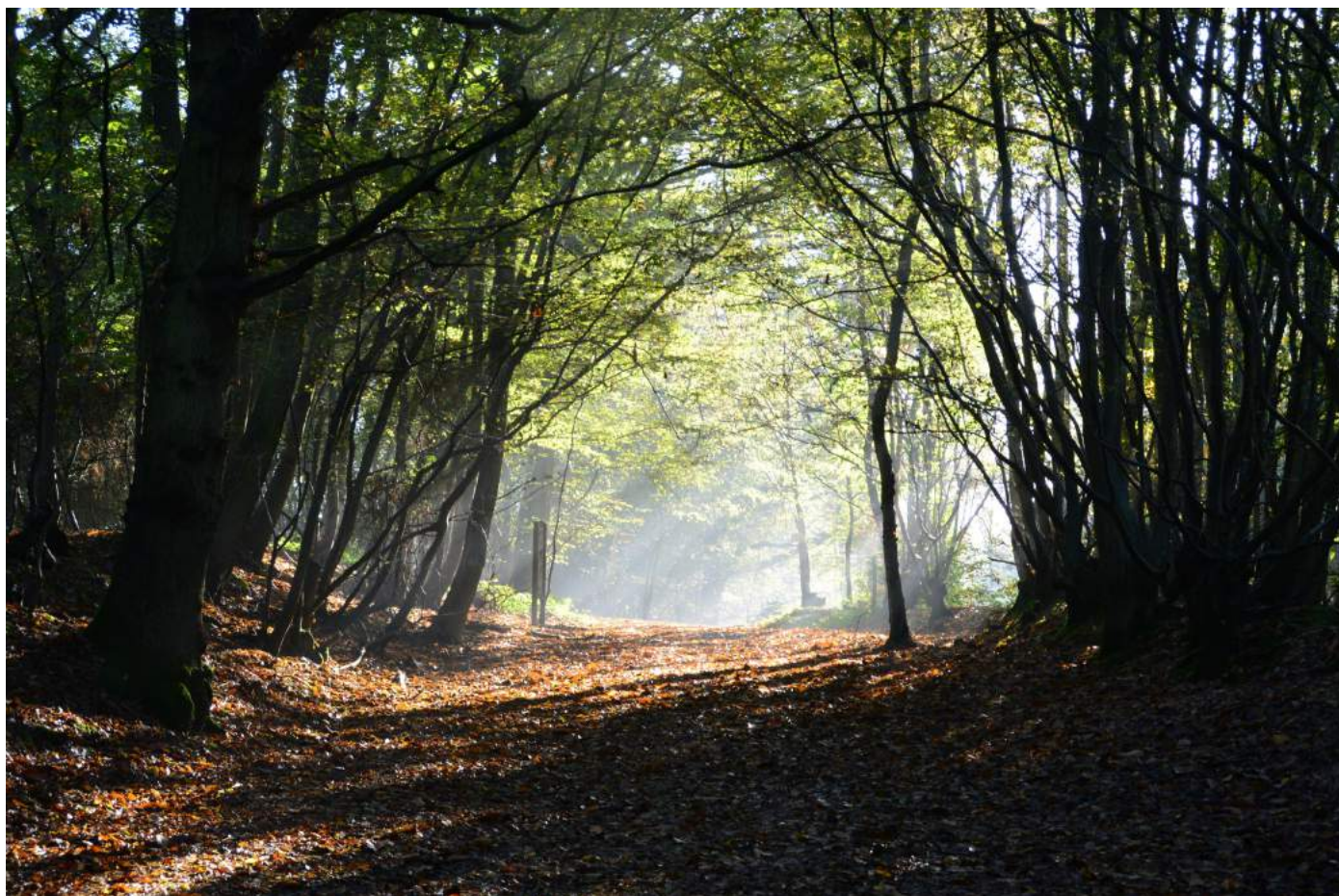


Image: Margot Eastwell Tinker's Wood Rare Breeds Centre

Canterbury Oast Trust was established in 1985 as a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. It provides a home, 24-hour care, a programme of personal development, work training and work experience for adults with a learning disability in Kent and East Sussex.

In the Trust we believe that people with a disability should have the same opportunities as everyone else to enjoy a rich quality of life, both as individuals and as members of the community. They should have a valued role within their community and deserve opportunities for self - fulfilment and independence.



**Canterbury Oast Trust**, Highlands Farm, Woodchurch,  
Kent TN26 3RJ Websites: [www.c-o-t.org.uk](http://www.c-o-t.org.uk)  
[www.rarebreeds.org.uk](http://www.rarebreeds.org.uk)

Registered company no. 1897198

Registered Charity no. 291662

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Please send to: Angela Phipps, Fundraising, Canterbury Oast Trust, Highlands Farm, Woodchurch , TN26 3RJ



## COT Events Calendar

**Keep this calendar handy to stay up to date with everthing that's going on at COT.**

For up to the minute updates see our website calendar at [www.c-o-t.org.uk/calendar](http://www.c-o-t.org.uk/calendar). Or for more detailed info on RBC events go to [www.rarebreeds.org.uk](http://www.rarebreeds.org.uk).

### November

1st: NY Marathon, 3Cities 3Capitals  
4th: RBC Storytelling Day  
13th: Residents'Disco  
13th: In Touch Christmas contribution deadline  
19th: Parents' Focus Group, Chelsfield  
25th: In Touch Christmas edition  
27th: COT Board of Trustees meeting  
27th-29th: Art at the Farm, Goddington House Winter Arts Fair

### December



Order your wreath from the nursery and last chance for Christmas cards from the gallery!  
2nd: RBC Storytelling  
5th-6th, 12th-13th, 19th-23rd: RBC Truly Magical Christmas  
11th: Residents' Christmas Party  
11th: Art at the Farm new collection  
12th: Staff and volunteers part  
14th: Poultou Wood Christmas Karaoke evening  
18th: Friends, 5G Productions Event  
24th Dec-3rd Jan: Life Skills projects closed

### January

8th: Friends, Snow White & the 7 Dwarfs at the Marlowe Theatre  
15th: In TouchMid-Winter contribution deadline  
16th: Friends of COT Meeting, Woodchurch  
26th: RBC Storytelling Day  
27th: In Touch Mid-Winter edition  
29th: COT Board of Trustees meeting

### Coming soon..

13th May: In Touch Summer contribution deadline  
14th May: Friends of COT Meeting, Woodchurch  
20th May: Rotary Golf Day in aid of COT  
20th, 21st, 22nd May: Marlie Farm football  
21st May: Kent Chamber Choir, St Mildred's Church, Tenterden  
25th May: Care and Life Skills Open Day  
24th September: Concert, ChoirSnowdon Colliery Choir  
25th May: In Touch Summer edition

### February

3rd: RBC Storytelling Day  
23rd: Chamber of Commerce, Networking Breakfast

### March

2nd: RBC Storytelling  
11th: In Touch Spring contribution deadline  
18th: COT Board of Trustees meeting  
25th-28th: RBC Easter at the farm

### April

Remember:  
It's lambing time on the farm!  
To buy your Spring bulbs, perennials and vegetable plants from the nursery!  
From April through to May, come and see the bluebells in Poultou Wood!

