

NEWS FROM THE FUNDRAISING OFFICE

We are excited to bring you the latest updates and news from Queen Alexandra Charity. Here's what's been happening and what's coming soon.

Sports Students take on a cycle to Paris!

Back in May, our sports students planned and took part in their own fundraising challenge in honour of the Olympics/Paralympics. They cycled the distance from QAC to Paris to raise money for new sports equipment. After a successful (if not gruelling) week in and out of the gym using the hand cycles and exercise bikes they clocked up the 412 miles required and raised an incredible £395 in doing so.



Talking of sport...

We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who attended our SporTea event last Spring. This event put a spin on the traditional coffee morning. Our sports and hospitality students hosted various guests for an inclusive sports session, introducing them to new para-sports. Afterwards, our hospitality students provided much needed refreshments!

This event not only enabled our students to put into practice what they had been learning but also enabled our guests the opportunity to learn more about QAC, whilst networking with other businesses.

More SporTea events are planned for 2024/2025. If your business would like to get involved please see the last page for more information.



New term brings new improvements

As we enter the new term, we are thrilled to announce various initiatives and developments that will enhance the learning experience for our students, that have taken place over the summer months.

Returning students will have noticed huge improvements in both our Evolution and Bradbury buildings. Thanks to the generous support, from the Birmingham Royal Institute for the Blind we were able to renovate and upgrade our toilet facilities in both of these buildings.

Our students working in IT and Creative media will also be dazzled by the results of a grant from the Karten Network. Thanks to their continued support the Karten Centre has acquired new interactive screens, desktops, monitors, and laptops.

A huge thanks also goes to the Harborne Parish Lands Charitable Trust for enabling us to create an allotment at the Court Oak Road allotments for our students to use to support their horticultural learning. The funding we have received is being used to buy tools, equipment, and other necessary items to establish and run the plot for educational purposes.

Coming Soon

Looking ahead, we have some exciting fundraising projects in the pipeline including the introduction of covered walkways. Thanks to the Eveson Trust, we are set to implement the first of our covered walkways on site during the October Half Term, which will greatly benefit our students, particularly those with visual impairments.



Support for Community Services

Our Community Service Hub, previously located next to the college, has now been moved to our Umberslade site. They are settling in well and have already set up designated areas for various activities. These include growing spaces, a sensory garden, buildings for craft activities and games, a fully functional kitchen, and social spaces. A large part of this service relies on charitable donations and we are so grateful to the CB and HH Taylor 1984 Trust and the We Are Making A Difference charity for supporting this work.

Ricoh Europe

Over the last year we have been fortunate to have a group of staff members from Ricoh Europe get involved with the charity.

Led by Vanessa Anness, the team have visited on a number of occasions - the SporTea event, bringing their expertise and experience to the table and taking a session with our Creative Media/IT students and more recently fundraising to enable the QAC Football team to have their very own kit! We're so grateful for their continued support.

Hitting the Target

Ian, who runs our archery clubs for staff, clients and students approached the fundraising office earlier in the year wondering if it might be possible to fundraise for some new equipment - he was running out of old broken kit to take apart to mend existing equipment! Thanks to support from a Sport England Award and GB Archery working in conjunction with The Fletchers Trust, QAC are the proud owners of brand new archery equipment to the value of £3,500.

Rebrand Launch

In July, we launched our rebrand, marking an exciting new chapter for QAC. Queen Alexandra College, now known as Queen Alexandra Charity Birmingham demonstrates a better understanding of our services. Our work with students and clients are now represented through our four areas - College, Residential, Community Services and Enterprises. The rebranding represents our growth, with distinct logos for each service area. The charity's mission remains the same: "enabling abilities, inspiring lives," as we continue to support young adults with learning difficulties, disabilities, and visual impairments. If you are able to support our work in any way please read on...



It'll be Christmas before you know it

QAC will again be donning their Christmas jumpers in December and staff and students will be invited to donate £1 to the charity which goes into a draw for a hamper. Why not get involved this year as a company or workplace and hold your own Christmas Jumper Day?

Last Christmas we were delighted to welcome Barry Jeavons who donated an incredible £1500 to the charity. Barry works for Thomas Dudley who like to support local causes at Christmas and, as Barry's son attended the college, he put us forward for a donation.



NEWSLETTER

WILL YOU JOIN US?

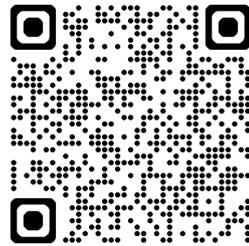
YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

If you are interested in supporting young adults with disabilities in Birmingham, please reach out to us. We would love to hear from you. For instance, we recently met a wonderful lady who raised £300 by selling her poetry to friends and family, and we also have a regular monthly visitor who does a food shop for the fundraising office to share across the charity. We are so grateful for the support!



DINNER IN THE DARK

Join us for a unique dining experience at the Macdonald Burlington Hotel on 27th November where you'll enjoy a 3-course meal in limited darkness.



Corporate Corner

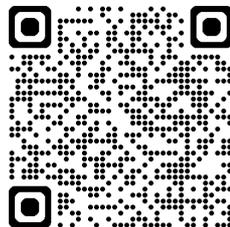
VOLUNTEERING AT UMBERSLADE

Volunteering at Umberslade.

Do you have Corporate Social Responsibility Days or Make a Difference Days? Why not volunteer at our community services base and get involved in painting, clearing and gardening?

CALENDAR SPONSORSHIP

Have you ever seen the wonderful calendar featuring our students artwork? We're creating a new student artwork calendar and offering sponsorship opportunities. Your business can sponsor a month for £150. Interested? Please get in touch!



Did you know that we are part of the Birmingham Community Lottery? Your participation in the Birmingham Community Lottery supporting us will help support our initiatives and projects.

Christmas Jumper Day 2024

Get involved with our Christmas Jumper Day by donating £1 to wear your Christmas jumper.

SporTea

A coffee morning with a twist

You will be getting involved with our sports and hospitality students. Join us as we showcase their learning and enable them to lead and host. Contact QAC fundraising@qac.ac.uk if you are interested.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO GET IN TOUCH!

QAC Charity Newsletter?
Sign up to the QAC Charity Newsletter here
<https://forms.office.com/e/CWx5q1u28b>

PLEASE CONTACT THE TEAM ON 0121 428 5050
OR FUNDRAISING@QAC.AC.UK

Cathryn, Pippa & Zoe