



Southern Befrienders

Summer 2024 Newsletter

A Message from Suzanne – Scheme Manager

So, what happened to the sun during spring? I don't know about you, but I am beginning to look translucent. Fingers crossed the rain and wind has stopped now, or by this winter you won't see me!

The spring has been a busy period with 26 new members joining us. 'Phew' I can hear you say, and I agree, poor Deb is never in the office now, but it means we are supporting many more people in our area, which can't be anything but good. If you see Deb on your travels around, say hi and 'well done', she's doing a marathon around our area at the moment!



We have had some fun outings over the last few months, including a visit to see Wendy & Peter Pan at the Gaiety theatre; an interesting visit, and a tour around Manx Radio, which went down a storm. In fact, Mandy had such a long waiting list for spaces that we may have to put the tour back on the programme in the next few months. We've also had our regular breakfast get togethers at the Whistlestop Café; great breakfasts,

but they have now come to a stop, with the summer here and visitor numbers growing we must wait until the Autumn to bring them back again.

As ever the TT put a stop to some of our events, but things are back up and running now and I hope you'll find the new events programme has something interesting for you on it. Be aware – some of our days out this next couple of months are not the usual days – for instance we have an event on Friday 12th July; so, keep your eyes peeled and make sure you mark those you wish to attend in your diary on the right date, not the usual Tuesday or Thursday. 😊

We had a great night last week with one of our new corporate sponsors. We were invited by Flutter to watch the Euro's; the England game to be precise. The evening was great fun even though the football wasn't up to much, we ate Pizza and had some beer, the members who came with us enjoyed themselves. We are hoping a Tennis afternoon is as much fun, although it will be scones and strawberries rather than pizza and beer. If you join us for the afternoon, come dressed nice, we can pretend we are in Wimbledon. The afternoon will be hosted by IFGL who have joined us as a corporate sponsor this month. The Tennis will be our launch event with them. We are looking forward to being able to offer more events like this in the future, they have a fabulous room that we can use and lots of staff members who would like to help us host. Watch this space and the future programmes.

On another note, I would like to say thank you for your continued support, we really wouldn't be where we are without you.



For information on events, fundraising, volunteering, or our befriending service, please contact us on 01624 833025.

Email: southernbefrienders@manx.net. Website: www.southernbefrienders.im

Southern Befrienders, Thie Rosien, Castletown Road, Port Erin, Isle of Man IM9 6BD. Manx Registered Charity: 939

Our very own 'Vinted' afternoon:

This month we will be hosting a **pre-loved** clothing sale/swap, it's our attempt to support the sustainability agenda. It's the first one we have run, and if it goes well, we may do more.

So, if you would like to join us and be part of the swap/sale then give us a call and let Mandy know. You can either have a stall (table) or just come along and browse. We aren't charging for this event, but any donations will be gladly received.

Remember, it's a great way to clear out your wardrobe and ensure that the cloths you've been meaning to get rid of for so long go to a good home. We really shouldn't be throwing cloths away.



We have been given a great discount from the Taylorian Productions in August for their presentation of **'We will Rock you'**.

The musical is a jukebox musical featuring 24 of Queens biggest hits combined with a hilarious futuristic comedy script by Ben Elton. Set in a dystopian future where individuality and rock music are banned, the story follows Galileo Figaro and Scaramouche, two young rebels who embark on a quest to restore freedom and revive rock music. Along the way, they encounter various characters, including the Bohemians, a group of underground rebels who preserve the legacy of rock.

Why not join us and come along and see the spectacle. This is a Sunday afternoon event and where possible we can offer transport. Make sure you book your place, its guaranteed to fill up quickly.



Join us in august for a leisurely Lunch Club on the Dining Car on **August 8th**.

This should be a lovely afternoon out, leaving Douglas at 12pm and returning by 2.30pm. Travel in style while enjoying the views as you eat a two-course lunch and maybe have a glass of wine! 😊

In fact, why not make a day of it, travel to Douglas in style, then back again after lunch. A full day of train travel, relaxed and in style.

New Volunteers are Vital to our Services - We will always need more volunteers as our referrals increase and our need to raise much-needed funds continues. Our New Volunteer Evening in June went really, really, well. We had many people come to see us to discuss what volunteering with us offered. In the end we gained 8 new volunteers, which is fabulous. We do still need more though, if you do know anybody who would like to volunteer then please let us know, we are happy to post or email details to them! We only ask for 2hrs a week.

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