



June/July

Welcome to another edition of VIP news for volunteers. We start by letting you know that, having worked for GCAB for over 8 years, Christine will retire at the end of June. She says "I need to spend time with my family. I have two little grandchildren to play with and lots of things I would like to find the time to do. I hope that as many of you as possible will be able to call in on Tuesday morning 5th June, when we celebrate volunteering and say our 'thank you's'. This will give me the opportunity to talk to you and thank you personally for the tremendous support and help you have given me during my time at GCAB." It will also be an opportunity to meet our new General Manager, Steve Martin, and other members of the staff.

New Volunteers.

We welcome two new volunteers – **Barbara Naylor** from Charlton Kings and **Gwen Alderslade** from Gloucester who will be part of the Hospital Information Team.



**You are invited to join us on
Tuesday 5th June
10.30 am - 12 noon
at
GCAB Centre, 81 Albion Street, Cheltenham
for a
Volunteers' Coffee Morning
to celebrate volunteering**

As we come to the end of an era (with Christine's retirement) and the beginning of a new one, (under the leadership of Steve Martin our General Manager), we thought it a good opportunity to count our blessings, ie the volunteers.

At the moment 72 volunteers actively visit and support people in their own homes, some visiting more than one person. We have 13 volunteers waiting for suitable introductions and 11 special volunteers, including drivers and 'floaters'.

There are 10 volunteers covering reception duties with a further 8 helping with mailing.

Stuart, our Fund Raiser, has 32 collecting volunteers. Two others help him at the Centre.

The hospital out-patient clinics are manned by 13 volunteers. We have a presence in Cheltenham every weekday morning; Gloucester – all day Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings and Thursday afternoons; Stroud -Thursday mornings and Cirencester Thursday and Friday mornings and the monthly Low Vision Clinic.

This means we have a magnificent 153 active volunteers. Including Derek who also completed the London Marathon –Well Done - while raising funds for us on the way! **Thank you all** - we greatly appreciate and thank you for the time you give, the support you offer and for being part of the GCAB team.

Here is an interesting opportunity for anyone who would like a holiday in Teignmouth.

The Stroud MD Group is looking for some volunteers to go with them on holiday later in the year. This will not involve personal care. You will be supporting those members who have no one else to go with them. Let us know if you are interested and we will see that you get full information when it becomes available. Expenses will be paid by the MD Group.