



More than law

Corporate responsibility newsletter

Issue 3 - January 2011

TWM Solicitors announces new project with Queen Elizabeth's Foundation for Disabled People.



From left to right: Jacqui Walford, Director of Fundraising and Marketing, QEF; Garry Billing, Principal of QEF Vocational Services, Howard House, Senior Principal, TWM Solicitors; Angela Honeywood, Head of Employment Development, QEF Vocational Services.



TWM Solicitors has enjoyed a long association

with Queen Elizabeth's Foundation for Disabled People (QEF). We have admired their excellent work over the years and have been pleased to assist both with fundraising and legal advice. We now have the opportunity to do more, and are delighted to have devised a programme of assistance for the charity and its trainees in the form of a free legal

advice helpline and other initiatives. Jacqui Walford, QEF Director of Fundraising said, "QEF is thrilled to have TWM as a new corporate partner and this relationship is a fantastic example of how a partnership can engage all areas of an organisation in delivering charitable needs."

QEF Vocational Services in Leatherhead specialises in training people with disabilities, for sustainable employment, especially those who

have been forced to change their career direction through accident or illness. Most trainees have more than one disability and may not have worked for a number of years.

Many QEF trainees go on to gain permanent and fulfilling employment. They also have higher levels of confidence and self-esteem and are better prepared to rebuild their lives.

TWM's enhanced range of assistance will include:

- ♦ A pro bono legal advice line for QEF Vocational Services trainees
- ♦ Work experience and employment opportunities at the Firm
- ♦ IT equipment recycling

TWM is also pleased to be supporting QEF's latest fundraising campaign, *Give Disability the Last Hour*, in which employees can donate the salary payment for the last working hour of 2010 to QEF. QEF has an urgent need to raise £50,000 to equip fully accessible, high dependency facilities necessary for speedy and successful rehabilitation for patients. One such example is Emily, who has a brain injury inhibiting her ability to lead an independent life. With QEF's help, Emily has made significant progress and is gradually regaining her independence.

Visit www.qef.org.uk/donate for all the details about QEF's activities and to see Emily's video case study.

Flying high with Surrey Air Ambulance



From left to right: Surrey Air Ambulance Pilot Pete Driver, Paramedic Adam Heywood, Dr Roger Alcock and TWM Trainee Solicitor Dan Church



Our charity of the year is Surrey Air Ambulance and such is the enthusiasm for this charity we have decided to extend our support for a further 12 months. In August 2009, we set ourselves a target of raising £10,000 by the end of 2010. However, we have already not only achieved that target,

but exceeded it significantly, raising an amazing £16,000, enough to fund 11 separate missions.

The Surrey Air Ambulance provides a Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS) to the people who live, work and travel through the county of Surrey. Based at Dunsfold Aerodrome the highly skilled team of Doctors, Paramedics and Nurses can reach emergency situations in any part of Surrey within 15 minutes. The helicopter, with its life-saving crew reduces the delay for the patient to receive prompt and appropriate medical care and has the ability to transfer

patients to the hospital or specialist trauma centre relevant to the injuries sustained.

The Surrey Air Ambulance is on standby to respond quickly to 999 calls, flying unhindered to an emergency scene across Surrey at speeds up to 150mph, 365 days a year.

Surrey Air Ambulance relies entirely on private donations and receives no other funding. With every potentially life-saving mission costing around £1,000, TWM has funded a mission a month since last August.



Charity Run

In June, TWM Solicitors was the main sponsors for the Leatherhead Rotary Midsummer 10k run. The event was run over Headley Common with conditions for running near perfect. The event attracted over 160 competitors, including around 40 runners from TWM. The Firm's fastest finishers were David Hitchcock for the men with a time of 39.06 and Allison Crossman for the ladies with a time of 48.25.



From left to right: Howard House, Senior Principal, TWM Solicitors, Julie Jenkinson, County Fundraiser, Surrey Air Ambulance, Richard Lewis last year's President of Rotary

Funky Footwear Friday

In late September, staff rooted around in the depths of their wardrobes and pulled out and dusted off those items (of footwear) which, for reasons of taste or decency, should really only be worn in the privacy of their own homes. However, they paid £1 to wear them to the office. Others paid double not to.

A special mention and thanks must go to commercial property lawyer Matthew Truelove who wore his fluorescent pink shockers to the office in the morning and then spent a couple of hours at lunchtime collecting money (for SAA!) at Sainsbury's in Burpham - a split venue appearance reminiscent of Phil Collins' dash across the Atlantic for Band Aid.





Marathon Bike Ride

In September, 12 intrepid cyclists set off from TWM's Wimbledon office in the hope of pedalling around all seven offices in one day to raise money for our Charity of the Year, Surrey Air Ambulance. The route took them from Wimbledon to Epsom, Leatherhead, Guildford, the SAA base at Dunsfold, Cranleigh and finally Reigate - a total of 57 miles! They were joined by four others along the way to make a total of 16 Lance Armstrong 'wannabes'.

The weather was perfect. If only the same could be said for the riders' equipment. Apart from flat tyres and dangerously loose handlebars, a few arrived on bikes which would have been more at home on an episode of 'Last of the Summer Wine'. Although mercifully there were no punctures or accidents! It was a fantastic effort by the team to finish the course in just under nine hours, including well earned refreshment stops at each office. Thanks are due to staff at TWM offices who provided refreshments, to Surrey Air Ambulance in Dunsfold, and to Richard Phillips and his team at HJP Independent Financial Advisors in Dorking who also went beyond the call of duty in providing drinks and treats.

Will Aid

For a number of years we have participated in Will Aid, a scheme that runs each November whereby we draw up Wills in the usual way, but instead of charging, ask the client to make a donation to Will Aid. In return, Will Aid distribute proceeds between a number of leading charities including the NSPCC and Help the Aged amongst others. During November we advised over 100 clients under the Will Aid scheme, raising more than £10,000.

Green matters

We remain committed to reducing our impact on the environment and have recently introduced a number of new guidelines for staff. These have been written into our new Office Manual and they form part of our application for Lexcel (a law firm quality accreditation). Examples include:

- ♦ Use public transport or share cars when travelling to meetings
- ♦ Send internal memos electronically
- ♦ Scan rather than fax
- ♦ Print double-sided
- ♦ Cancel junk mail and unwanted publications
- ♦ Switch lights off when rooms are not in use

And finally...♦♦

Our Wimbledon office participated in St Raphael's Hospice – Make Your Will Free For a Fortnight 2010 and raised £585 for the charity.

If you would like any more information about any aspect of our CR programme, or would like to become involved, please contact elizabeth.sewell@twmsolicitors.com.

For further information about TWM Solicitors, please visit our web site: www.twmsolicitors.com

TWM Solicitors LLP
65 Woodbridge Road
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 4RD

twm solicitors