

# Ryder Cheshire Volunteers

## South Northants Christmas Newsletter

### December 2008

It's that time of year again! Dig out the tinsel, put on the sparkly earrings and novelty tie, heat up the mulled wine and dust the mince pies with icing sugar, warm up for the Christmas carols, put out the carrots for the reindeer and glass of brandy for Santa... Then sit back and enjoy your RCV Christmas newsletter!



### Mary the watercolour wizard!

Mary and volunteer Debbie have been working together for over three years. Debbie visits Mary at her home on a Tuesday to work together to produce water colour paintings, an example of these beautiful pictures are featured in this news letter. (All the pictures have been chosen by Mary as an example of her work)



Primroses – painted in the spring of this year, Pencil and watercolour.

Mary collects art/ photographic books and will often find a picture, she wishes to recreate with Debbie.

Mary has always painted, but in the last few years she has had to re-discover her skills and learn to use her left hand, as she is no longer able to use her right.

Debbie says the speed in which Mary produces a painting is amazing, from sketch to finished painting will often only take two hours.



Dragonfly – painted last year, picture taken from a book. Sketched in pencil and completed in watercolour.



Red flowers – picture taken from a book, Pencil and Watercolour.

### 'Pub lunch' dates for your diaries

Thursday 8th January 12.30pm -The Crown Hotel,  
20 Market Pl, Brackley, NN13 7DP

Tues 20th Jan 2009 12.15pm - Kings Arms.  
40 Market Square, Bicester. OX26 6AH

Thursday 19th February 12.30pm -Red Hot World buffet and Bar,  
Northampton, Weedon  
Road, Sixfields Leisure Park, Northampton. NN5 5QJ

Tues 3 March 2009 12.15pm - The Pepper Pot,  
6 Burchester Place, Banbury, OX16 3WT

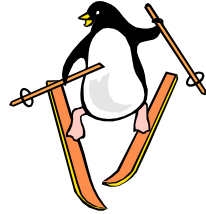
Thursday 19th March 12.30pm - Saracens Head Hotel,  
219 Waiting Street West,  
Towcester, Northamptonshire. NN12 6BX

### Earn money for RCV at Amazon!

We have a link on the RCV website that will take you to the Amazon homepage. Please use this link when shopping at Amazon and RCV will receive a commission on any purchases you make at no cost to you!  
Go to [www.rcv.org.uk](http://www.rcv.org.uk)



## Old Rubbish By Bill Broadribb



I was going to tell you how and where you could recycle as much as possible of the huge amount of rubbish we produce at Christmas. The scrap market has gone haywire and no one can project what will happen in the near future. Therefore I will write about what has happen before and hope it is of interest.

I was born in the early days of World War 2, then nothing was wasted, everything was saved, reused or recycled. Food was in short supply and rationed and there was much anger if people wasted or hoarded food. This had such an effect on me, that even now, in a time of plenty, I still feel ashamed when I waste food.

My first recollection of recycling was in my first weeks of school. There was a drive to take as much paper, cardboard and old books as possible to school. There was rivalry between pupils and schools. Certificates were given that showed how much we had collected to be recycled. It was called salvage and we were pleased to be doing our bit to get the country back on its feet after years of war.

My next recycling was not for patriotic reasons by purely financial gain. Parents did not give out pocket money on a regular basis, so children had to get their own spending money, by working, running errands or recycling. If you took 2 clean jam jars to the local grocers you would get a ha`penny, beer or lemonade bottles were worth a couple of pennies more. Newspaper was in demand for wrapping up food, so if you took a bundle to a shop you would probably be given a treat. A piece of fruit from the green grocer, our local chip shop would give you halfpennyworth of crackling (bits of batter left from the fish frying), not a healthy snack by today's standards but we loved them. The highlight of the week was the Saturday morning films for children.

We would collect as many newspapers from family and neighbours as we could and take them to the waste paper merchant. It was strange that no matter how much paper we collected they were always worth 6d (6 old pence), which just happened to be the price of admission to the cinema.

Fluctuating prices in scrap is nothing new. Sometimes scrap is worth so much that gangs steal it, then suddenly it is worthless and you have to pay for it to be taken away.

At one time I was involved with a group from Friends of the Earth that wanted to collect cardboard and paper for recycling. The problem was we would need a large storage area and it could pose a fire risk. Then someone came up with the idea of meeting at the corner of a busy shopping area and collect the material there once every 4 weeks. We could load everything straight into a van and go direct to the dealer. It worked very well at first, we collected 3 or 4 vanloads in a Saturday morning, and the price was high and paid for the hirer of the van and expenses. After a while the price dropped but we continued to give the dealer it for free, paying the cost ourselves. Worse was to come, the dealer had too much and refused to take ours, even though we were delivering it free. I am ashamed to say we had to take it to the local council tip and dump it.

We tried to stop people bringing their paper but despite all our efforts it continue to appear and we felt obliged to cart it away. After awhile the price went up a bit and we were able to hand over to a local scout group. They had their own transport and able to make a slight profit.

That is enough of a history lesson for now. If space allows maybe Anya will let me write some up to date information on recycling next time?

To all our members, volunteers and supporters.

Thank you all so much for making my first six months as your project co-ordinator so rewarding and I look forward to continuing to work with you in the new year. A special

Thank you to all those who contributed to this news letter.

**Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**



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