

## Issue number 18, July 2018

### Annual General Meeting, 2018

This year's AGM was held in the parish room of Holy Trinity church at 2.30 pm on Saturday 27 January. Cllr Pam Stuart, then Mayor of Stevenage, gave an inspiring speech on the importance of education. Norman Herbert and Dr Robin Bailey were welcomed as trustees.

### Financial situation

We have been very fortunate in receiving several generous donations during the past twelve months. Councillor Pam Stuart named The Betty Game Opportunities Trust as one of her two charities for her mayoral year and presented us with a cheque for the magnificent sum of £2,616, which she had raised through her fund-raising activities. Suzi Boast ran in the London Marathon on 22 April and raised a hard-won £410 in aid of the Trust. We are delighted to have the support of both Pam and Suzi and extend our grateful thanks to them. We also benefit from donations from loyal supporters who give regularly. In addition, we are able to claim Gift Aid on many donations. Thank you, everyone

### Grants awarded

So far this year we have awarded 9 grants, fewer than previously. This is the result of a national decline in the number of people taking part-time degrees, particularly at the Open University, which is currently undergoing a major reorganisation. However, our healthy financial position will allow us to help Stevenage students on other higher education courses and we expect the usual onslaught of applications in the autumn. In particular, we are now working closely with the Universities of Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire, in order to put systems in place to allow their Stevenage students to apply to us..

### Fundraising Events

The Stevenage Male Voice Choir concert on 17 March was very enjoyable and attracted a good audience. Some of the voices were very young, as the Choir was augmented by boys

and girls from Round Diamond School Choir, who gave a splendid performance and were greatly appreciated. The event raised a welcome £353 for the Trust. Many thanks to all who took part.



### Future events

Everyone is welcome to Tea in the Garden on **Wednesday 15 August 2.30 – 5pm** at 10, Pound Avenue, SG1 3JA, in aid of the Betty Game Opportunities Trust. There will be tea, soft drinks, coffee, cakes, raffle and time for supporters and friends to meet and relax. No entrance fee. To offer cakes or other practical help please ring 01438-354171. Many thanks.

**A Question of Size** is the title of this year's **Paper Quiz**, once more devised with fiendish cunning by Pauline Maryan. Buy your copy at Tea in the Garden, or beat the rush and get one now, from one of the trustees, or from Pauline herself. For only £1 you will have hours of enjoyment and the chance of winning £25.

**The Birthday Quiz** will take place at Symonds Green Community Centre on 29 September, 2018. Teams of six and bring your own food and drink as usual, but note that ticket price has ben **reduced** to £5.

**Reception for Students** and others, by invitation, will be held on 26 November, in the Ingelheim Room, Daneshill House.

*The Betty Game Opportunities Trust, Charity no. 1133370  
1, Drapers Way, Stevenage, Herts. SG1 3DT  
Tel. 01438-354171. website [www.bgot.org.uk](http://www.bgot.org.uk)  
Email [bgotrust@virginmedia.com](mailto:bgotrust@virginmedia.com)  
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/bettygameopport>  
Trustees: Jim Wilcock (ch), Dr Robin Bailey, Pat Milliner, Margaret Ashby, Cllr Sharon Taylor, Norman Herbert, Revd Mervyn Terrett*