



THE FOURTEEN CLUB

(FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES)

Registered as a Charity No. 273849

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P R E S S R E L E A S E - I M M E D I A T E

THE FOURTEEN CLUB CELEBRATES 35 YEARS

An open evening was held at The Fourteen Club this week to celebrate 35 years of providing social, educational and recreational activities for people from the Wantage and Faringdon area with learning disabilities.

The party was attended by over 100 members and friends of the Club including MP for Wantage and Didcot and Conservative Shadow Culture Spokesman Ed Vaizey, The Mayor of Wantage Patrick O'Leary and the Chairman of Grove Parish Council Frank Parnell. As well as Fourteen Club members, also in attendance were parents and carers, our volunteer helpers and drivers, local councillors and representatives of local organisations involved with people with learning disabilities. The Club had its first meeting at Fitzwaryn School in 1973 and two founder members, who are still members to this day, Caroline Burson and Ian Bedford, were also in attendance.

Ed Vaizey paid tribute to the work of the Club and cut the birthday cake (photo attached) accompanied by the ladies of Ridgeway Harmony who sang 'Happy Birthday' and other songs. Jim Homer gave us his reminiscences of being a driver since the Club's beginnings and members John Curtis and Sarah Fearnley spoke of their time at the Club and how much they enjoyed it. Bill Oakes, a founder of the Club and first head teacher at Fitzwaryn School, presented a cheque to the Club for £100 on behalf of the Rotary Club of Wantage.

Photo ref 1 Ed Vaizey cuts the Fourteen Club's 35th birthday cake overlooked by the Committee. L-R: Vera Hollister, The Mayor of Wantage Patrick O'Leary, Tim Pocock (Treasurer), Ed Vaizey MP (seated), Mark Clutterbuck (Club Leader), Garry Shand (Chairman), Jemma Howland, Sabine Wood (behind) (secretary), Helen Harwood, Anne Alderson.

Photo ref 2 Some of the members of The Fourteen Club at the 35th anniversary party with Ed Vaizey MP (centre), the Chairman of Grove Parish Council Frank Parnell (left) and The Mayor of Wantage Patrick O'Leary (right).

For further information please see the website at www.14club.org or contact Tim Pocock on 01865 760526 or timpocock@lineone.net

Thank you.

Tim Pocock – Treasurer - The Fourteen Club

12th November 2008

