



Summer Term 2016.

I apologise that this Newsletter comes rather later than I anticipated. We have been busy, but for a very good purpose - we managed to install the actual mezzanine floor structure in the metal workshop in February but it has taken the remaining weeks to complete. First of all, we had Storm Katy to contend with because the roof was also being replaced, courtesy of the Landlords, Godalming Town Council, and the temporary covering was ripped away and water came in. We had our guardian angel looking after us because the unfinished mezzanine protected the machinery in the metalwork shop, but was not significantly damaged as it was as yet unfinished.

We managed to furnish the new space with a mixture of careful shopping and kind donations of cabinets from supporters. The new space has allowed us to rationalize the other workshops, provide proper rest space for the tutors and the students, install CCTV to monitor what is happening in each workshop and also to protect ourselves from vandalism and burglary out of hours. It has also enabled us to start teaching other courses, thanks to a donation from Parsons Brinckerhoff, and we are delighted to say that our first candidates have completed their construction drawing BTech module which has been sent off for accreditation.

We were very honoured to have The Lord Lieutenant of Surrey, Michael More Molyneux, attend to officially open



the mezzanine floor on 18th May, forging the traditional

ribbon cutting and successfully sawing through a piece of ribbon bedecked wood!. Thank you Michael - a sterling job, conducted with humour and with many kind words of support.

We hosted just a few people to this event as space was limited, but were very pleased to have the donors of the funds present, and so able to thank them publicly. The Surrey Advertiser printed an article about the event on page 2 of the 27th May edition.



In other news:

- we continue to talk about and research changes to the practical delivery of education; Greg and Vivien hope to be visiting most of our local schools before the end of term, to appraise them of what Skillway can do for the pupils who will be stimulated, enriched and equipped for artisan jobs by attending Skillway, and to better understand what the driving forces are for the Heads and their Learning Support departments.

- We are greatly indebted and grateful to our very supportive donors – via personal payments, on a monthly standing order basis, ad hoc, small fund raisers, and through grant making trusts. Without them and without our superb volunteers we would be in a bit of a pickle !
- We are delighted that Godalming Town Mayor, Councillor David Hunter, has chosen us to be his Charity for the year. The Town Clerk and his PA are much involved with him in the organisation of events and we look forward to a series of fund raising events during the year, which will be notified to you. The first is a **Fashion Show** at Sainsburys on 21st September 6.30 – 8.30 pm. Details will be on our website.
- Phil Kemp and the local Rock and Blues Band, **Cryin' Out Loud**, are putting on a Gig at the Wilfrid Noyce Centre to celebrate their 30th birthday, and to raise funds for Skillway. Tickets available from us.
- Joy Poulter is always a stalwart supporter of Skillway and she has again arranged for us to be the recipient of the Charity cash collection at the **Proms in the Park**, Godalming Bandstand on 10th September. 5pm. Free to attend. We hope to be selling Krispy Kreme doughnuts !




SKILLWAY

WORKSHOPS

OPEN DAY

SATURDAY
18th JUNE 2016

Displays of work 11.00 – 2.00
PRESENTATIONS at about 12 noon

Hot Dogs and Hot & Cold Drinks on sale

NIGHTINGALE CEMETERY DEANERY ROAD
GODALMING GU7 2HP

www.skillway.org.uk

Charity No. 277631

- **Open Day** is in a week's time – 18th June from 11.00 to 2.00. Students will be on site demonstrating their work. Drinks and hot dogs available, cooked on home-made charcoal.
- We have our usual outings for Go-Karting and Canoeing all lined up and students looking forward to it!
- We welcome visitors – please just ring beforehand so that we can ensure we are available to speak to you.
- I continue personally to do my on-line shopping by first clicking the tab for **EasyFundraising.org**. It does not cost me any more for my shopping, but Skillway gets a small percentage – and all the little percentages add up. If you

think you could help by doing the same, do log on to EasyFundraising – it is easy and quick to set up and takes one extra second each time you do on-line shopping. Please try it.

- We continue to have a shopping list for all the things that we can dream about – some probably never attainable, but we continue to dream. This time, my request for help is much more down to earth - there will be several occasions during the next few months when we shall need to run a raffle. We are happy to store ready for these occasions, anything that you might be able to donate to us, suitable as **raffle prize** (so baskets of fruit not appropriate !).

.....and our usual plea - if you, or someone you know, may like to become a **volunteer** here – either to guide a craft, or to be a general pastoral supporter – we would be delighted to hear from you.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST AND ONGOING SUPPORT. It means a lot to us.

