

'Curves' Saffron Walden Supports Home-start Uttlesford



Olivia Bailey from Curves with Linda Robinson

Curves members took part in a "30 Minute Workout" fitness session in March this year and have donated bags of groceries amounting to 1076 lbs in weight, to local children and families charity, Home-Start Uttlesford. Linda Robinson, the senior coordinator said *"the food is already being put to good use and helping mums who are on a tight budget to make nourishing and appetising meals for their families"*

Kim Langley from Curves said *"Curves and our members are delighted to help our community. The Food Drive is an excellent program that fits perfectly with the curves philosophy, promoting the health of the whole woman."*

Home-Start would like to thank everyone at Curves for their support. For more information about Curves you can visit www.curves.com

Celebrating 25 Years

March 2009 marked 25 years since Linda Robinson started work as an Organiser with Home-start. Surprise Parties were held at the Saffron Walden and Great Dunmow Family Groups where parents and children all enjoyed a slice of a special cake made by volunteer Sallyanne Trafford.



Later in the month the Trustees and Board members presented Linda with more cakes and a seaside bucket and spade! The bucket contained a cheque for Linda to rent a beach chalet on the Norfolk coast so that she could enjoy a day of fun and relaxation with her children and grandchildren.



Home-Start Uttlesford



Congratulations!

Eight enthusiastic recruits recently received their certificates to become Home-start Uttlesford volunteers. They will work in the Great Dunmow and Stansted areas supporting families with young children who are finding that being a parent is isolating and difficult. Our new volunteers summed up their feelings at the end of the course saying they were **excited, proud, eager and ready** to put their training to good use. Each new volunteer is now matched with a family and is giving them the regular support that will make a real difference to their lives. Congratulations to Fiona, Lesley, Mary, Rebecca, Alison, Rosalyn, Helen and Carol.



H is for Home-start!!



Radwinter quilters are among 168 people who are each sewing a square for the Home-start Uttlesford Silver Jubilee Quilt. Among them is Ruth Driver, whose enthusiasm and determination 25 years ago raised the funding and support to set up Home-Start for the benefit of the community. The celebration quilt will be raffled later this year to help us reach our £25000 funding target for our charity.

Home-Start Uttlesford has been supporting families with young children for over 25 years. In 2007/08 our volunteers supported 88 families and 215 children by visiting them each week at a time when they are finding family life isolating and difficult.

Other events to celebrate 25 years of Home-Start Uttlesford this year, include a special daytrip to St. Marks College, Audley End for families and children, both past and present and later in the year a trip to Colchester ZOO to see Santa's Reindeer!!!

A big **thank you** to The Eight Bells in Saffron Walden and the Plough in Shepreth, who kindly donate commission from the sale of paintings displayed in their restaurants to Home-Start Uttlesford.



Friends of Home-Start Uttlesford

The Friends of Uttlesford Home-Start are organising two events this spring to tie in with the 25th Anniversary of Home-Start Uttlesford.

A Private View of G.E. Sworder Fine Art Auctioneers Country House Sale will take place on 14th May at the Auction Rooms in Stanstead Mountfitchet, with insights by Guy Schooling.



Recycling Extravaganza!

The *Beat the Blues - Go Green* second hand sale of top quality adult clothes, accessories and soft home furnishings is on Saturday 6th June at Anser Gallows Farm, Radwinter by kind permission of Brian Hedges and Kerry Braithwaite. The farm is on the B1053 which runs from Saffron Walden to Finchingfield via Swards End, Radwinter (turn right at the Plough pub) and Great Sampford. It is opposite the B1055 turning to Hempstead. Entrance £2. Don't forget to bring measurements of windows if you need new curtains!

We would like to encourage all donors to complete a Gift Aid form so that Home-Start can reclaim tax on each pound donated. Forms will be available at all events.

100 Club winners

March - Mrs E. M. Whitehead, Annette Daniel, Christine Grierson
April - Sally Hearne, Annette Daniel, Clare Anstead

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer with Home-Start or would like to make a donation or would simply like to find out more about our organisation then please visit our website at www.homestartuttlesford.org.uk or call 01799 520728 or e-mail homestartuttlesford@btinternet.com