

Fran Monson, Chair of Fenland CVS
McMillan Cancer Relief Network Team

History

Fran has been Chair of Fenland CVS for approximately 6 years. Fran is currently Voluntary Services Manager with North Cambs and King's Lynn Hospitals.

Fran has been involved with the voluntary sector in Fenland for over 20 years. She was Manager of the Fenland Volunteer Bureau for a number of years and some of the projects she was involved in during this time included:

- Fenland Domestic Violence Help Line
- Chatter Bus
- Furniture Projects

She is a member of local, regional and national networks including VSMs Live (Voluntary Services Managers NHS).

Janet Feary, Fenland CVS Board Member

History

I first became involved in the voluntary and community sector as a volunteer fundraiser for Fenland Crossroads in 1986 when, as a carer, I was receiving help from them. Since that time I have been a Trustee for several organisations. Over the years I have become more and more aware of the importance of the voluntary sector to local communities and the difference that volunteers and volunteering can make to both individuals and organisations.

Being aware of the need for a Council for Voluntary Service in Fenland I joined the steering group for the feasibility study which was commissioned in 2000. I became a founder Trustee for FCVS when registered in 2001.

Janet is also involved with the following groups: Homestart Fenland, Fenland Volunteer Centre, Mercheford House Patient Participation Group, Cambridgeshire LINKs, March Museum Society and March District Nursing Association

Celia Johns, Vice Chair of Fenland CVS

History

Recently retired from full-time employment with HM Revenue & Customs and a five-year stint with Business in the Community, I am now occupied with being a Trustee both for Fenland CVS and with Camtrust in Cambridge.

I sing with two choirs and have for many years been the Secretary of one in Peterborough. I am also currently the Treasurer and Vice-Chair of the National Association of Choirs, a UK-wide umbrella Charity with just over 500 member choirs.

I have considerable experience of the voluntary sector from both inside and outside - BITC was a catalyst for realising what the problems are and (in part) how to try to solve them.

I have lived in Fenland for over 30 years, having relocated from London due to family commitments, and having now acquired four grandchildren in the area can safely say that I shall not be moving away any time soon!

Linda Hutchinson, Fenland CVS Treasurer Fenland Citizens Advice Bureau

History

Having spent my early career as Marketing and Market Research Manager with Mars Confectionery and then Cadbury Schweppes, I joined the voluntary sector in 1984, firstly as a Specialist Caseworker on Debt and Welfare Benefits and since 1998, I have been the Manager of Fenland Citizens Advice Bureau. I am also actively involved with two charities in the East Cambs area – Riding for the Disabled, where I am Secretary and a Trustee, and Cats Protection as a volunteer coordinator.

I therefore feel that I bring to the CVS experience of the voluntary sector from all aspects, as well as a sound working knowledge of business and charity procedures. My particular interest is ensuring that our services are open to, and easily accessible by, all sectors of our diverse Fenland community.

Margaret Dunham, Fenland CVS Board Member Dunhams Wood

History

Co-owner of Dunhams Wood at March, a small woodland open to the public, but also used by many voluntary organisations for their own events.

Previously worked within Scouting, Young Farmers, Agricultural Training & Assessment - always in the voluntary or charitable sector.

Member of St Mary's Church in March and also of the Mothers' Union.

Terry Jennings, Fenland CVS Board Member
Guyhirn Village Hall

History

At present I am the Chairman of Guyhirn Village Hall Committee, Chairman of the East London Inventors Club which I formed in 2001 based at the University of East London. I formed my own company with Brenda Reay to market my own inventions. During this time I have undertaken a number of responsibilities/initiatives appropriate to that role and have visited several other Companies/Institutions in order to further develop my role as an inventor and Managing Director.

Previous to this I spent 35 years running my own business in the Electronic Engineering and Construction Industry and managed small groups of up to 15 employees. As a one man business I needed to take an overview of the whole business to ensure that standards were high and that each member of the staff was able to work efficiently. In general to promote a Company of excellence. A Company with high standards. These principals and standards have been carried through into my present activities.

As far back as I can remember I have always been interested in electronics and inventing and, as a child, used to invent and alter things to better suit my needs and my parents needs. As a teenager, my interest in electronics enabled me to gain the RAE examinations pass and become an 'A' licensee in Radio telecommunications. During this time and my early/late twenties, I gained experience in small electrical repairs and servicing together with all aspects of electrical engineering and installations by studying at evening classes to gain a City and Guilds qualification in electronics I also achieved an HNC in maths.

Later in life, I was encouraged to take a MENSA IQ test. This I passed and am now a member of MENSA – an organisation for people with high IQs and have been for many years.

During the coming year I am looking forward to developing my proposal for permanent safety lighting on vehicles, a disabled aid for elderly and disabled, as well as acting as a Consultant to the firm licensing my former invention.

Katherine Nightingale, Fenland CVS Board Member
Art Angels

History

I have been an active member of the Fenland Community for the last 4 years. I have had a retail business in March which then lead on to teaching in a number of schools in the area. As crafting is a passion of mine I formed a social enterprise called Art Angels with the objective to offer craft to people who wouldn't normally get the opportunity and we have worked with Ormiston young carers and teen parents.

I am also involved with Young Lives which is a charity that offers many opportunities to both young people and organisations supporting young people. I am currently the Arts Officer with Fenland Arts which I absolutely love. I am keen to get more involved with the communities in Fenland and look forward to this opportunity with both the CVS and Fenland Arts.