Dear Friends,

The SCRATCH logo that you have been used to seeing has been in existence for nearly 20 years (in fact it has been around since SCRATCH was launched in October 1999). Whilst it is well known and recognised, we felt it was time for a change and would like to introduce you to our new modern look logo - we hope you approve! This was instigated and created by a group of Solent University Students who did some work with us over the winter.

We have certainly been enjoying the beautiful summer weather at our premises next to the River Itchen and most days it has been rather pleasant in the breeze (we usually freeze during the winter months!). In June we enjoyed a BBQ one sunny Friday evening as part of National Volunteers Week celebrating the fantastic work that our volunteers do - a great time was had by all.

We have a variety of voluntary roles here at SCRATCH (which you can read about later) and are always looking for new people to come and join the team. During our last year, ending March 2018, we supported 19 volunteers into work and 43 volunteers participated in accredited training which has helped people increase their self-confidence, provide up to date information to add to their CV and ultimately help them move towards employment. That is not to say that all volunteers need this support - we really do value other people who come and support us, who have perhaps retired / have time on their hands / want to support other volunteers or just love the work we do and want to help. Whatever your situation, if you want to join us, Annie our volunteer manager would love to hear from you.

Mike Smith & Annette Davis - Senior Management Team

Sainsbury's Local stores reach out to local charities in the communities to help provide support in any form each year. During the financial year 2017 / 2018, Burgess Road Sainsburys has been supporting SCRATCH through on-going food and cash donations and attendance at events. Some colleagues completed the Fire walk in September 2017 and got involved instore by holding raffles. Customers have been supportive throughout the year by constantly donating change at the checkouts. The running total is an amazing £669 and still going!

Sarah (Store Manager)
WANTED PLEASE

Do you have any sewing items or fabric remnants that you no longer need? We would love to use them to support SCRATCH upcycling projects.

Please drop off any items to our premises on Mount Pleasant Industrial Estate (weekdays 9am to 4.30pm) or our shop at 21 East Street, Southampton, SO14 3HG (10am to 4pm weekdays)

If you are skilled with a needle and thread/sewing machine we would love to hear from you.

NEW MILTON SITE

As mentioned in our last newsletter, we now have extra storage space and a new charity shop (the provisional opening is Tuesday 24th July) in New Milton thanks to the generosity of Bradbeers. We will be using the storage area as an overflow from our site in Southampton and will be managing deliveries and collections in the New Forest from there.

We are looking for new volunteers from that area to help operate the shop and to assist with the delivery and collection of furniture (either as drivers or driver’s mates).

We have a variety of exciting volunteer roles currently available at SCRATCH - from van drivers, to retail assistants, to cooks and cleaners. We also have administration and drivers mates roles, as well as the opportunity to have a go at upcycling and re-upholstering furniture. There is a role suitable for anyone, whatever their age, skills and abilities. We are also currently seeking a minute taker for SCRATCH board meetings, 6 times a year.

Volunteers benefit from: -

♦ Reimbursement of travel expenses
♦ Social events
♦ Working with a great team of people
♦ Full induction and training
♦ Helping to deliver our projects, supporting the most vulnerable and disadvantaged in our local areas.
♦ Volunteers at our Mount Pleasant site benefit from home cooked meals most lunch times.

With our new premises at New Milton, we are especially looking for people to volunteer in the charity shop and to help with deliveries and collections of furniture in the local area.

The various role descriptions can be found on the volunteering page of our website - www.scratchcharity.co.uk. If you are interested or have any questions please contact Annie our Volunteer Manager on annie@scratchcharity.co.uk