

# Beacon Friends' Newsletter



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## Special Edition

# BEACON'S FIRST CHARITY DINNER

An evening of good fun, food and fellowship  
and a hugely successful fundraising effort



(Terry Moor, Elizabeth Zonca,  
Margaret Smith, and Sue Skelton)

Almost 100 people came along last Friday to our first fundraising charity dinner at Marple Golf Club. We were joined by 40 members from Mellor Church and about

56 Beacon supporters, attended a most friendly, enjoyable and worthwhile evening.

At the start David Ackroyd gave a short talk about Mellor Church and its history. Then James gave a moving talk about Beacon and the positive effects counselling can have on a client. He also appealed to us all to support Beacon into the future by becoming a "BEACON FRIEND" and donating a small amount each month by Direct Debit.

After a delicious meal, Graham Smith from Manchester United Football Club spoke very amusingly about his life. Joan Tsalikis and Margaret Lewis had managed to collect a dozen excellent raffle prizes

(donated from a range of Bramhall based businesses). Jenny Dunlop (one of our Counselling Supervisors) had also donated a free week's holiday in her cottage in Ireland.

The evening was rounded off with a surprise auction of a football which had been signed by all the current Manchester United 1<sup>st</sup> team players. This had been generously donated by Graham Smith and was eventually sold for £200 to Ari Tsalikis!

Everyone seemed to really enjoy themselves and we are proud and delighted to announce that a fabulous £2,050 was raised – £1,220 of which comes straight to Beacon. Not at all bad for one evening!

A lot of hard work had gone into the organising of this event and we send our sincere thanks to Graham Smith, David Ackroyd, Joan Tsalikis, Margaret Lewis, James and of course Geoff Hunt (Master of Ceremonies for the evening).

As with most charities, Beacon struggles to make financial ends meet and this year is no exception. Our Finance Committee has warned us that if things continue we could be heading into the red again for 2008

therefore fundraising must be top of our agenda if we want to accomplish all



(Volunteer receptionist Alex Chattington and Trustee Elaine Bates from Beacon)

of our projects for this year. If you didn't manage to come to the charity dinner but wish to show your support for Beacon's work in a really positive way then please, if you aren't one already, do become one of our "FRIENDS". All you have to do is speak to James who can arrange to send you the appropriate form. Please think about it – your donation each month will make all the difference.

Beacon is one of the strongest charities in Stockport, not only in the valuable service it offers to its residents but in the number of dedicated volunteers who support it. Help us to continue with our valuable work.

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