



# VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2022

## WELCOME TO THE HILL HOUSE VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER!

The highlight of June has undoubtedly been the summer fundraiser. It was a fabulous afternoon, with all tickets sold and over £2000 raised to divide between BHN and Hill House. The atmosphere was wonderful, friendly and relaxed. The Sri Lankan meal was delicious, and volunteers and guests enjoyed chatting and meeting new people. The performance was a huge success, and we were even blessed with unbroken sunshine once the lunchtime showers had cleared. It could not, of course, have been such a great success without the time and effort of all the volunteers who helped set up and clear up, ran the teas and the reception, worked beforehand to make sure the house and garden were looking their best... the list goes on. The volunteer team worked so well together, helping each other out. There was a real sense of community with everyone. A great big thank you to everyone who helped out on the day or with preparations and clearing up. Also to everyone who has come to volunteer mornings this month, ensuring the house and garden were looking their best for the event.



### HILL HOUSE NEWS

Earlier this month it was wonderful to welcome some of the Amberley community into Hill House over the Jubilee weekend, when the Littleworth street party was moved into the garden to avoid the Great British rain. It was a fantastic opportunity for the local community to find out more about what we do at Hill House, and we are hoping to host more village events in the future.



A number of volunteers and guests attended the asylum process information evening, hosted by Caroline at the beginning of the month. It was a very informative evening, discussing the rights of individuals seeking asylum, the UK's varying responses and how the Nationality and Borders Act 2022 has affected those seeking asylum in the UK. Thank you Caroline for sharing your insights and expertise.

Our walks with guests from GARAS have got off to a great start. Working closely with, and organised by Hill House volunteers, the aim is to enable people to get out of the city, enjoy the countryside and find some respite with friendly faces. There have been two walks so far, starting at Hill House, walking across the common and stopping for lunch in the garden of two of the volunteers. Our friends particularly liked the cows!

We've already learnt that being in someone's home is a unique experience, that the cows are a real connection and that walking alongside one another frees us to talk so much more comfortably. The feedback says it all:

'It was more than amazinggggggg. I really enjoyed everything, the talking, the walking' ... 'they welcomed us in their homes. It felt like in home today' ... 'I'm always in this warm gatherings' ... 'It pushes me forward. Thank you very much'.

If you'd like to join us for a walk, please contact Caroline or Rachael.



### DATES FOR THE DIARY

The next volunteer Mondays are: 4th and 18th of July.

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GARAS walking groups: 5th and 19th of July.  
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Social in Hill House garden for Ukrainian hosts, guests and helpers. HH volunteers welcome! 31st of July.

For more information on volunteering opportunities please contact: [carobeatty@gmail.com](mailto:carobeatty@gmail.com)