

AGE EXCHANGE ANNUAL REPORT 1993 - 1994

THE EUROPEAN YEAR OF OLDER PEOPLE
AND SOLIDARITY BETWEEN GENERATIONS

MAKING MEMORIES MATTER



THEATRE



Education
Training

EXHIBITIONS

RESOURCES

Books



MUSEUM



REMINISCENCE
CENTRE

Brookland



70

WHO'S WHO AT AGE EXCHANGE

STAFF

Pam Schweitzer - Artistic Director
Penny Rossetter - Administrative Director
Gail Dawes - Assistant Administrator (to May '94)
Bernard Arigho - Reminiscence Co-ordinator
Eloise Harris - European Tour Officer (to Dec '94)
Vanda Carter - Resources Officer (p/t to April '94)
Eileen Taylor - Centre Worker (p/t)
Jyl Cowley - Centre Worker (p/t from October '93)
Kathy White - Centre Worker (p/t)

REMINISCENCE PROJECT WORKERS

Matthew Audley	Pam Human
Noelle Blackman	Shirley McCaw
Fiona Clayton	Jake Spencer
Tess Garrett	Jo Stanley
Liz Kent	Eileen Taylor

FREELANCE TRAINERS

Lorna Barter	Faith Gibson
Ingrid Berzau	Lindsay Royan
Noelle Blackman	Romola Sabourin
Joanna Bornat	Dieter Scholz
Sarah Clevely	Peter Watson

FREELANCE WORKERS

Lisa Wilson - Designer
Andrew Harrison - Designer.
Rib Davis - Writer
Paula Gardiner - Musical Director
Illona Linthwaite - Youth Theatre Director
Alex Schweitzer - Architect and Photographer
Bilber Singh - Stage Manager
Anna Howarth - Stage Manager

Front cover: Taken from line drawing by Helena Platt for "The Reminiscence Handbook" which Age Exchange published in November 1993

AUDITOR

John Green, Certified Accountant

COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT

The following have served during the period covered by this report. Staff at Age Exchange wish to thank them for their continuing support and advice.

Graham Dodd, Solicitor (Chair)
Joy Drewett-Browne (Friends of Age Exchange)
Jim Gillman (LB Greenwich Councillor)
Lilian Murrell (Friends of Age Exchange)
John O'Shea (LB Lewisham Councillor)
Del Pasterfield (Welfare Dep. Ford Motor Co)
Lloyd Trott (RADA and Theatre Clwyd)
Les Eytley (LB Lewisham Councillor)
Philip Newton (Independent Theatres Council)

THEATRE PROJECTS 1993-4

"WHAT DID YOU DO IN THE WAR, MUM?"

Jules Davison	Rosalind Lewis
Lisa Harrison	Suzanne Parrott
Claire Lacey	Melanie Sharpe

"A MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS"

Elsbeth Benjerfield Judith French
Jeremy Browne

"MANY HAPPY RETIREMENTS"

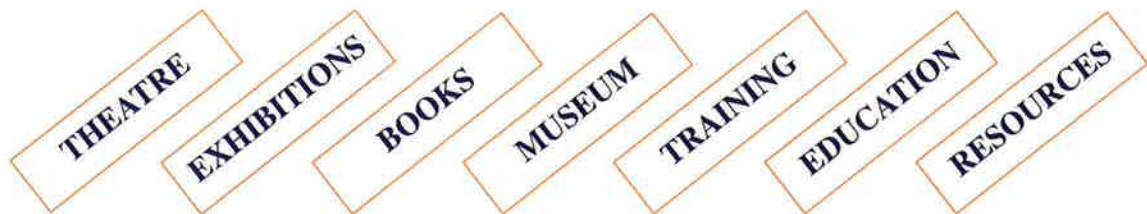
Pam Lyne	John Lyne
Godfrey Jackman	Helen Keene

"ACROSS THE IRISH SEA"

Janet Bamford	Eamon McGuire
Frazer Hoyle	Nell Phoenix



A Workshop on Reminiscence drama by Pam Schweitzer and Andy Andrews, attended by 40 people from all over Europe at the Reminiscence Centre during the 1993 Conference, "Reminiscence: A Celebration"



WORKING WITH OLD AND YOUNG THROUGH REMINISCENCE

AGE EXCHANGE aims to improve the quality of life of older people by emphasising the value of their reminiscences to old and young, through pioneering artistic, educational and welfare activities.

Here is a breakdown of our activities in the period April 1993-July 1994.

PROFESSIONAL THEATRE PRODUCTIONS:

"What Did You Do In The War Mum?":	88 performances
"Across the Irish Sea":	55 performances
"A Merry Little Christmas":	38 performances
"Many Happy Retirements":	30 performances

GOOD COMPANIONS PRODUCTIONS:

"I Remember When.....":	20 performances
"Friends and Neighbours":	2 performances (<i>new show</i>)
"Grandmother's Footsteps"(with Youth Theatre):	3 performances (<i>new show</i>)

Total audience reached through shows : (approx) 20,000



Leaving home - a scene from Across The Irish Sea

EXHIBITIONS:

- "What Did You Do In The War, Mum?"
- "Divi Days "- 150 Years of The Co-operative Movement
- "Back In Your Own Backyard" - Memories of gardens and gardening

VISITORS TO THE REMINISCENCE CENTRE:

Group	
Schools/colleges:	54
OAP groups:	57
Total number involved:	1,603
Individual visitors:	23,474

EDUCATION AND RESOURCING:

- Reminiscence Box Hire: 186
- Age Exchange older volunteers visited 450 pupils in schools

TRAINING DAYS:

- Training days in the Reminiscence Centre: 45 with 600 trainees
- European Training Days at the centre: 21 with 229 trainees
- Training days conducted in Europe: 25 with 500 trainees

PUBLICATIONS:

- "THE REMINISCENCE HANDBOOK: Ideas for creative activities with older people"
- "AGE EXCHANGES: Reminiscence projects for children and older people"
- "REMINISCENCE MAGAZINE", now edited and produced by Age Exchange

CAPITAL PROJECTS:

- Photographic Darkroom
- Reminiscence Centre Tea Garden
- The Old Bakehouse



Local school children visit the "Divi Days" exhibition at the Centre

AGE EXCHANGE IN THE EUROPEAN YEAR OF OLDER PEOPLE

PROFESSIONAL THEATRE AND TRAINING WORKSHOPS

1993-4 has been an exceptional year for Age Exchange. Our involvement in the European Year of Older People has been a major step forward for the organisation in terms of international recognition, and establishing ourselves firmly as the centre for reminiscence work in Europe. We have formed valuable links with projects in Germany, Belgium, Greece, Denmark, France, Italy and Ireland through a programme of 25 reminiscence training workshops which we have offered in other countries, and a series of well attended European workshops featuring practitioners from other EC countries hosted by Age Exchange in London.

The professional touring company has performed during 42 weeks of the year, sometimes with two shows on the road simultaneously, has played in seven countries of the European Union and reached approximately 20,000 people across Europe. Fears about crossing language and cultural barriers proved groundless, and our touring shows found universal favour. Within the U.K., we have greatly expanded our touring circuit, as a result of heightened awareness of older people's need for quality entertainment during the European Year.

THE GOOD COMPANIONS IN EUROPE

The Good Companions, our older people's theatre company established for the European Year, gave performances in five different countries of the show "I Remember When...", based on their own memories, and developed with our sister project in Germany, the Cologne Freies Werkstatt Theatre. These performances have usually been supported by workshops in which we have demonstrated our methods and exchanged skills and experience with our hosts.

In March the Good Companions gave several performances in Denmark where Age Exchange is helping DaneAge to establish their own reminiscence programme. They have worked on two new shows, "Grandmother's Footsteps" in collaboration with our Youth Theatre, and "Friends and Neighbours", with two visiting directors from Munich, Germany, and Columbus, Ohio, U.S.A. The Good Companions now have many requests for performances in the UK and other European countries for 1994-5.



Across the Irish Sea



Routes

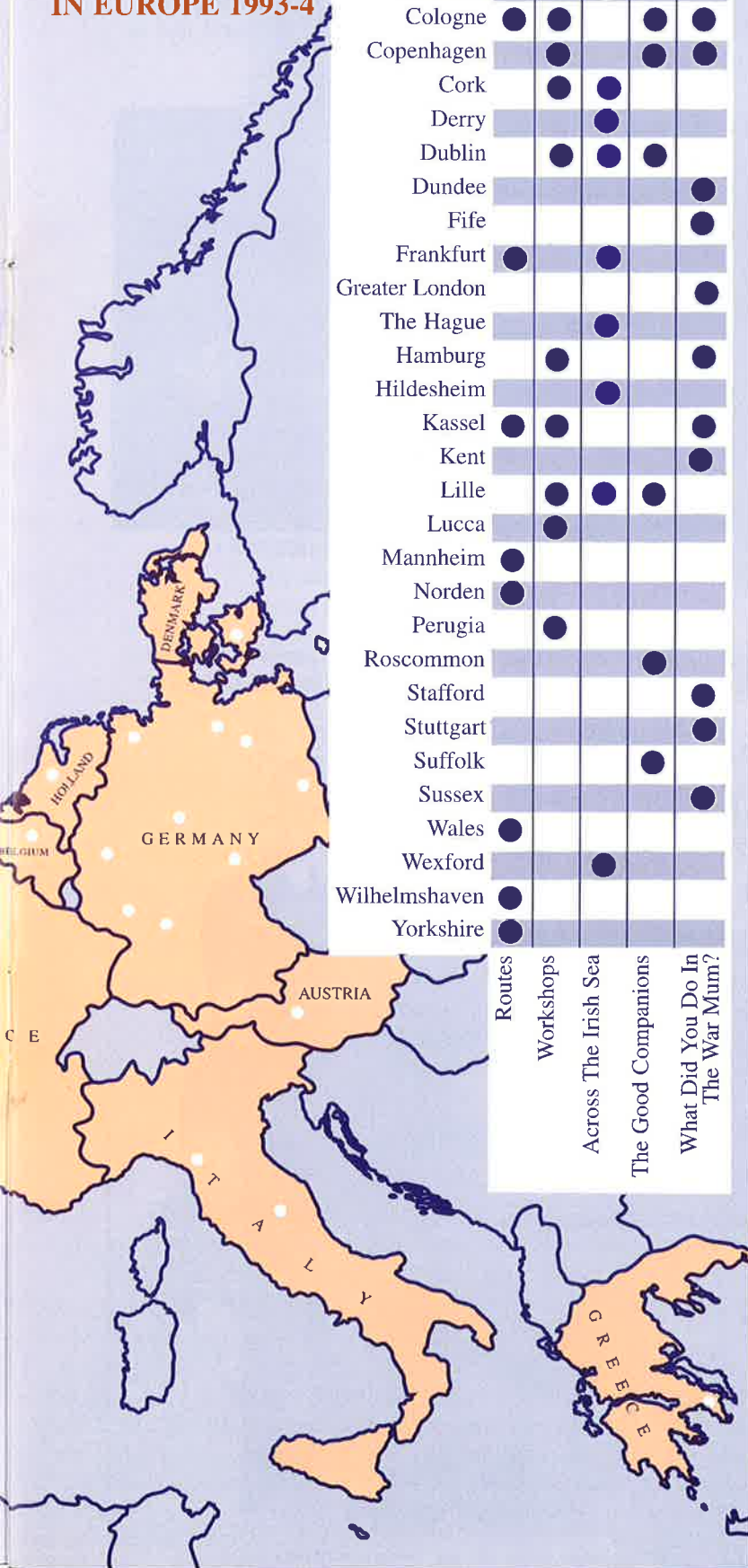


The Good Companions



What Did You Do In The War Mum?

**AGE EXCHANGE
PERFORMANCES
AND
WORKSHOPS
IN EUROPE 1993-4**



THE YEAR OF THE GOOD COMPANIONS

At the beginning of 1993 a group of us put our memories of leisure in the 1920's and 30's on tape and Pam formed us into a show. We were far from being willing to perform, and when in March two drama teachers arrived from Germany to instruct us, we didn't show much enthusiasm. However, once we became really involved our interest grew. We called ourselves "The Good

Companions", and that started a most eventful and pleasing phase for us all.



In May we nervously went out to give our first show at Rotherhithe, and being so well received, set off cheerfully three days later for Cologne in Germany.

We performed there and in Brussels, followed by a stunning success in Roscommon, Ireland, where we were the overall winners of a festival of eight counties of older people's groups. The welcome and hospitality we received there warmed our hearts. October saw us in Lille in France, and in March of 1994 we were performing in Denmark. In between our European trips we have taken our show to Sadlers Wells, Bury St. Edmunds, Stoke-on-Trent, Hackney and Islington, not to mention our own conference at Blackheath Concert Halls in November, where we played to an audience of delegates from all over the world.

Our group of ten have all become firm friends. We thoroughly enjoy ourselves, especially visiting new cities and wonderful people. Our sincere thanks go to all the European organisations that invite us and show us much kindness, and for the excellent dramatic instruction we have received.

Hopefully, October promises a tour of Salzburg, Cologne, Lille and Brussels, then Berlin in November, so off we go again. The Good Companions has become a way of life for our group. We are pleased to be so called, as that is what we really have become. Our ages? Sixty-six years to eighty-three years. It's a great life in Show Business!

Joyce Milan, age 73.

"REMINISCENCE: A CELEBRATION" THE FIRST EUROPEAN REMINISCENCE CONFERENCE

The First European Reminiscence Conference, "Reminiscence : A Celebration" was organised and hosted by Age Exchange. The conference brought together over 200 delegates and 45 speakers from across Britain and the Continent, for 5 days of intensive workshops, lectures and performances on reminiscence in the context of health, education and community. The set of Conference Papers which we published at the opening of the event were much appreciated by delegates and have had to be reprinted for other interested reminiscence practitioners.



Platform speakers at the European Reminiscence Conference: left to right : Caroline Osborn, Faith Gibson, Pam Schweitzer and Joanna Bornat

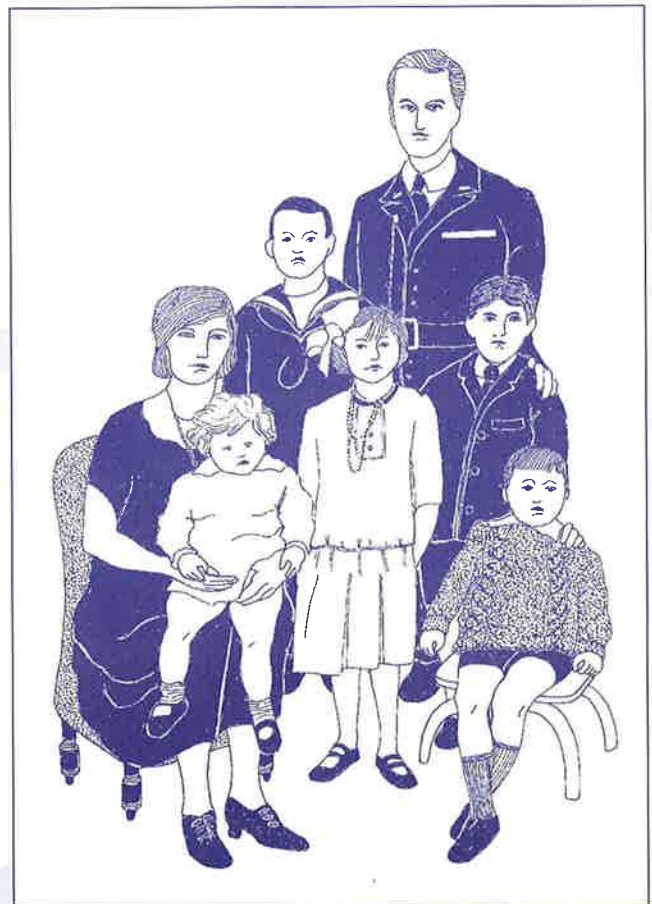
AGE EXCHANGE PUBLICATIONS

Two major new publications were launched this year to coincide with the conference. One was "The Reminiscence Handbook" by Caroline Osborn, launched by our patron, Richard Stone, and financially supported by the Metropolitan Hospital Sunday Fund and the Helen Hamlyn Trust. The other was "Age Exchanges", Pam Schweitzer's book on reminiscence work involving children and older people, which was launched by John Bowis, Health Secretary with responsibility for older people. This book was financially supported by the European Commission, Help the Aged and RSVP, and has already been translated into German. A French translation is likely to follow in 1995.

REMINISCENCE MAGAZINE, A NEW VENTURE FOR 1994

This year we have taken on the editorship of The Reminiscence Magazine, previously produced by Help the Aged, and given it a European dimension. Subscriptions are up and the new-look magazine is proving extremely popular, with offers of copy pouring in from across Europe.

A line drawing by Helena Platt from our new publication "The Reminiscence Handbook" by Caroline Osborn





The Mayor of Dover welcomes Bernie Arigho back to England on his run from Brussels to Blackheath.

"A RUN TO REMEMBER"

A memorable event this year was a solo marathon run from Brussels to Blackheath by our heroic Reminiscence Co-ordinator, Bernie Arigho. Entitled "A Run To Remember" it was an initiative to draw attention to our work and to mark the European Year in an unusual way. It certainly succeeded in both these aims. Supported by volunteers (one on a bicycle and two in a car) and staff from Age Exchange, Bernie completed the run (which was the equivalent of five normal-length marathons strung together) in less than five days. In each town he stopped at, there were receptions and events, including slide shows and talks on our work by Bernie and Pam and meetings with interested groups. Bernie had a much-deserved hero's welcome at the Reminiscence Centre, complete with bagpipes and champagne.

TENTH ANNIVERSARY SUPPER

To celebrate our tenth birthday, we gave a supper for 150 old friends and supporters, with a rousing speech by Jack Jones, the veteran pensioners' leader and long-term supporter of Age Exchange. This was an occasion to thank all the Age Exchange staff, volunteers, management committee and funders for their invaluable help throughout the years, and especially during the hectic period covered by this report.

A magnificent tenth birthday cake was made by the daughter of one of our long-standing Friends, Dorothy Barton, with pictures representing the main mile-stones of the organisation over ten years.

The supper was also attended by a large group of our friends from the Cologne older people's theatre (Freies Werkstatt Theatre) and many European friends and colleagues who were in London for our conference. The supper was preceded by a performance of "I Remember When..." by our older people's theatre company, the Good Companions, and followed by a performance of "Across The Irish Sea" by our professional theatre company, both of which were extremely warmly received.



Celebration supper for the tenth birthday held at Blackheath Concert Halls

CAPITAL PROGRAMME

A NEW PHOTOGRAPHIC DARKROOM

Our capital programme has moved forward considerably this year. We have completed the long-awaited photographic darkroom in our basement area with financial support from the Metropolitan Hospital Sunday Fund. From the autumn onwards, we shall be able to offer tuition in photography to older people who wish to learn how to develop and print, and of course, to copy and enlarge their most highly prized old photographs. Alex Schweitzer, who has been responsible for all our photography over the last decade, including the illustrations in all our books, has made the darkroom and will be evolving a training and membership system in the coming months.



Alex Schweitzer demonstrates the new darkroom

A TEA GARDEN

Early in 1994, we won the agreement of our neighbours, Blackheath Travel World, to knock down the wall which separates our properties at the rear and create a new shared garden. With generous financial support from the London Borough of Lewisham and the New Horizons Trust, we set about landscaping the area in consultation with the many green-fingered Friends of Age Exchange.

We decided on raised beds to prevent too much bending, and lots of benches and old-fashioned tea tables and chairs. We have lots of wonderful plants, all donated by the London Borough of Greenwich and Brophys, the garden contractors, who also provided us with good quality compost for the whole garden. Thompsons, a local nursery garden, donated tubs and bulbs and beautiful stones to put around a little fountain. We can now offer visitors an attractive place for tea and outdoor reminiscence. Joining them out there are a rabbit and two hens provided by the local parks department, so we are even producing our own much prized free range eggs.

The garden was launched recently in great style by Cllr Garcha, the Mayor of Lewisham, and Jim Buttress, the Superintendent of Royal Greenwich Park, and is already a highly popular haunt for local people of all ages.



"Watch it come down!" Volunteers and Youth Theatre members make a start on the new garden.

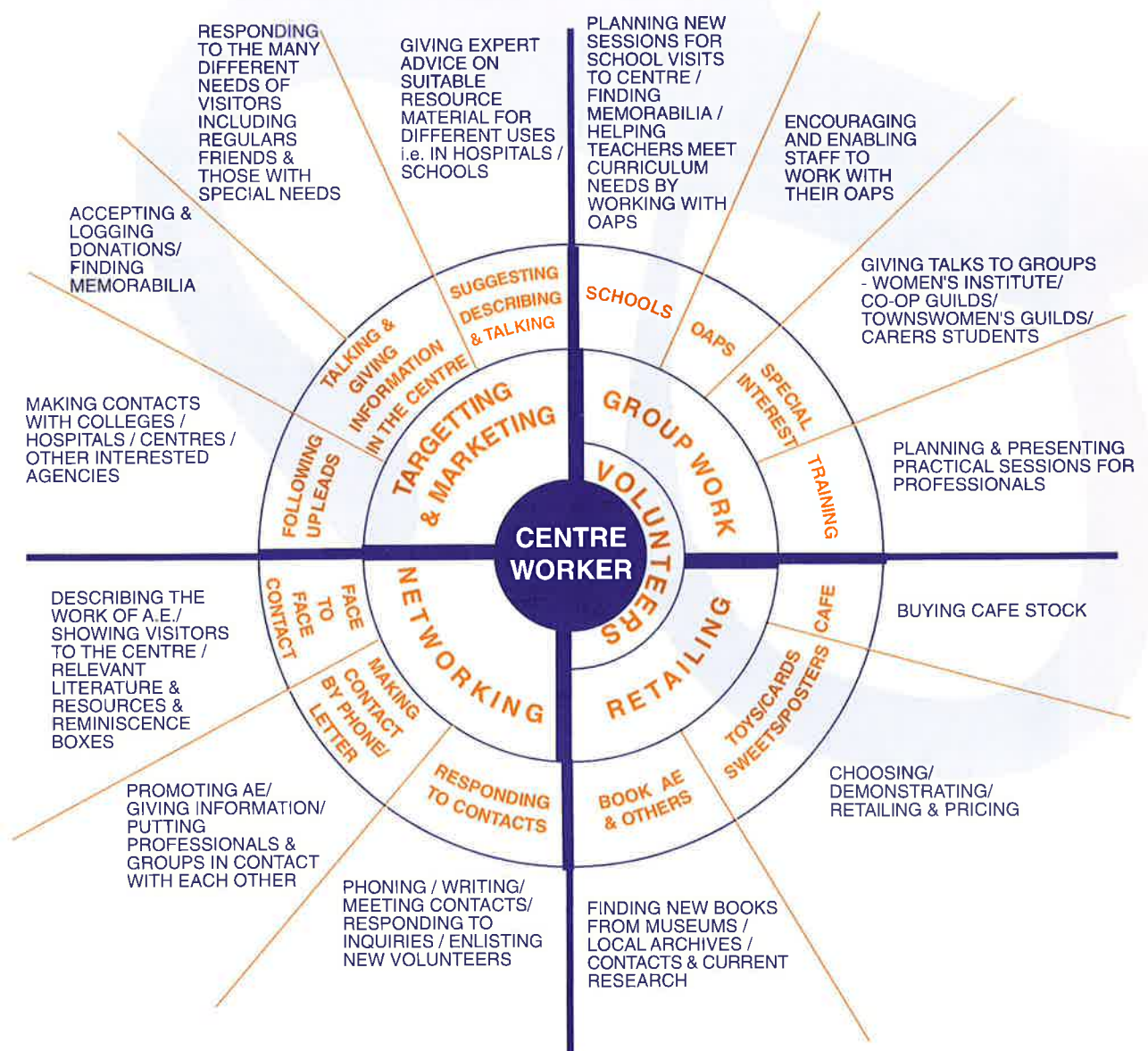
THE OLD BAKEHOUSE

Work starts in October on the refurbishment of the Old Bakehouse as our new European Reminiscence Training and Development Centre, with support from the Department of Health, the Baring Foundation, the European Commission and the London Boroughs Grants Unit. This will open in spring 1995, offering an important new resource to all those seeking to develop reminiscence skills, whether they be older people or those who work with them, providing a home for the European Reminiscence Network which we are currently developing and a good base from which to develop new programmes in the years ahead.

THE REMINISCENCE CENTRE

WORKING IN THE REMINISCENCE CENTRE

The chart shows all the different aspects of the Reminiscence Centre staff's work. Each section should not be seen in isolation but rather as one piece of work complementing another. The Centre could not be run so effectively without our hardworking team of volunteers who are involved in a wide variety of tasks. We all work together and aim to provide a friendly welcome to visitors. The spin-off effects of our work are seen every day - people of all ages and interests coming from different places to visit and all of us responding to their needs. Most people have such a good experience that we see them again and again!



VISITORS TO THE REMINISCENCE CENTRE

The Reminiscence Centre in Blackheath has gone from strength to strength, with at least 25,000 visitors in the period covered by this report, new exhibitions and an increase in numbers of pensioners groups and schools visiting the Centre. Training days held at the Centre for professionals working in the fields of health, education, social services and the arts have all been well attended, with extra days having to be laid on to meet demand.

FOSSILS?

We have never considered ourselves as fossils but we are part of living history, it seems. Our memories of the evacuation are now an essential part of the National Curriculum and we have found it extremely rewarding talking to children about it. They are able to read about WWII in books, see extracts from newsreels of the time, and look at pictures; but to have real evacuees tell what it was like, and how it felt, is bringing history to life. Our memories of that time are still vivid in our minds and we hope we conjure up a realistic picture of 1939.



Pat and Tony Fawcett relive their evacuation with visiting school children at The Reminiscence Centre

We re-enact with them, having a label tied on, walking in crocodile to the station, travelling to a place unknown, and receiving a paper carrier bag of food, from a WVS lady. Then going by 'charabanc' to a crowded village hall, and the humiliation of being chosen and asked personal questions, like, "Do you wet the bed?" or "Have you got nits?".

They grimace when a gas mask is tried on, gasp when the baby is put in its respirator, and say things like, "I'm glad I don't have to carry a gas mask all the time like you did."

We go on to tell how it felt living in Kent, when the Battle of Britain took place overhead: scary but exciting! Also how we collected bits of aeroplane and pieces of shrapnel, sometimes still warm.

We also emphasise that it was fun learning the country way of life, something that we still appreciate after over fifty years. The evacuation of thousands of children on that one day was an amazing undertaking, the organisation of which can only now be appreciated.

Pat and Tony Fawcett



Anne Finer in the Age Exchange Cafe chatting with Frank Ball, our resident music buff.

WORKING IN THE AGE EXCHANGE CAFE

I am a volunteer at Age Exchange working in the kitchen, making sandwiches, pouring tea and coffee, selling home-made cakes and many other things. It is a job I enjoy doing. What makes it so interesting are the people who come in, young and pensioners alike. They talk to me and I like listening to the stories they tell me. It is a nice atmosphere to work in. I look forward to the days I go into work.

Ann Finer, Age Exchange volunteer, age 81

MESSAGE TO ANY WOULD-BE VOLUNTEERS



Irene Shirlaw in the Age Exchange cafe

If you are elderly, the Reminiscence Centre is a nice place to meet people your own age to reminisce on days gone by. I have been a volunteer for about two years. Some have been volunteering much longer, and it has become a part of our lives. Sometimes I am talking to someone about things I did as a child or my first job, or what I did in the war. Most of the time, visitors to the Centre have experienced the same things, so you find you have a lot in common. Also, having around you objects you have used in the past begins to make you think more.

One thing that has opened my eyes is the way children seem to be interested in us older ones, to go over with them about school days, the way we did our shopping, and Monday wash days. They really want to know. So if you have any spare time, you cannot do better than to become a volunteer with the Age Exchange.

Irene Shirlaw, Age Exchange volunteer and retired warden of a sheltered housing scheme in Greenwich.



"DIVI DAYS"

150 YEARS OF CO-OPERATION were honoured in our Centre exhibition "Divi Days", which ran from February to October and brought in a lot of new friends and admirers. Lisa Wilson and Alex Schweitzer designed and constructed a brilliant 3-dimensional evocation of different aspects of the Co-op, including the retail side through a shop window and a drapery counter, and the social and political side through the Co-op Women's Guild and the education department. Children from many local schools enjoyed the exhibition throughout the spring and summer terms. The exhibition also attracted many long-term "co-operators" who were delighted to discover the Reminiscence Centre and have promised to return.

REMINISCENCE PROJECTS AND THE AGE EXCHANGE TRAINING PROGRAMME

Through these services, we aim to provide support and training for everybody interested in developing excellent standards of reminiscence work practice. This last year has been one of continued development of our reminiscence training and project services. The number of people being trained by us in reminiscence work skills has considerably increased, and we are now offering a wider range of specialised courses which meet the training needs of people who work with specific client-groups. At a time of general shortage of funding for training, we have achieved a notable success in proving both the value of reminiscence work and the high quality of our training and project services. We have received generous financial support for this area of Age Exchange's work from the Department of Health, the London Boroughs Grants Committee, the Ashden Trust and the Linbury Trust to all of whom we are extremely grateful.

SHORT COURSES AT THE REMINISCENCE CENTRE

Take-up on Centre courses has been higher than in previous years, and some additional days have had to be provided in response to demand. The new training courses - "Reminiscence in Nursing Care", and "Combating Institutionalisation" - were well-attended. Feedback from participants has been highly appreciative of our multi-disciplinary and experiential style of training. We seem to be succeeding in demonstrating the limitless artistic and therapeutic possibilities afforded by a positive and informed approach to reminiscence work. We have also run an "Introduction to Reminiscence" course for a group of Age Exchange volunteers, and this was much appreciated, so more will follow.

EXTERNAL TRAINING

In the last year we have organised 24 reminiscence training days across the United Kingdom, involving approximately 480 participants with a variety of interests in reminiscence work. This is an important and affordable service for organisations who want to set up a local reminiscence support network. We are now offering training in London and in other countries in Europe, which we see as an area of future growth, especially with the opening next spring of our new European Training and Development Centre. The recent appointment of Bridget Knapper as our European Network Officer is already proving helpful in achieving this goal.

PROMOTIONAL TALKS, PRESENTATIONS, WRITTEN ARTICLES AND WORKSHOPS

It has been a busy and fruitful year regarding the promotion of our training and project services. We have run 20 introductory workshops for groups of students and carers, and presented the case for Age Exchange and reminiscence work at conferences including Age Concern groups, MIND, Social Therapeutic and Recreational Nurses, Counsel and Care/ The Royal Society for Health and PSIGE (Psychologists' Special Interest Group in the Elderly). Both Pam Schweitzer and Bernie Arigho have also had many articles published by the professional caring newspapers, journals and academic publications as well as editing our own specialist Reminiscence Magazine.

STUDENT SUPERVISION

There have been Social Work placements from Croydon College, and we have formed a new link with South Bank University (School of Education and Health Studies). These long-term attachments with Colleges of Further and Higher Education are of great importance to the expansion and development of our training facilities.

COURSE ACCREDITATION

For some time now we have been looking at ways of offering academic accreditation for people who participate in our training courses and who succeed in putting their learning into practice. We are now in discussion with Greenwich University to clarify which courses are suitable for accreditation and how we can meet the University's requirements for quality assurance. This is an exciting development which will raise the profile of our reminiscence training services. It will also provide a stimulus for reminiscence workers to evaluate their work thoroughly and so to raise standards still further.

THE REMINISCENCE PROJECT

We have completed ten projects in a variety of new placements around Greater London, including residential homes, hospitals, housing units for people with mental health support needs, a day care centre and a respite care unit. We have also worked with West Sussex Social Services Department in running projects in three Day Care Centres around the county. The guided work practice for care-staff which is offered by the Reminiscence Project is crucial to ensuring that reminiscence activities become an integral part of total care.

THE FIFTY PLUS REMINISCENCE PROJECT

Thanks to funding from a BT Community Grant we have been able to put together a package of reminiscence training and guided work practice for 16 people who are aged fifty or over. We have already organised a packed 6-day training course for these new workers, and the first set of eight project placements will begin in October 1994. This new initiative is an exciting one, drawing together an enthusiastic group of older workers with a tremendous range of experience between them, to learn new reminiscence skills and to practise them for the benefit of frail older people and their carers in residential settings across Greater London.



A training session for Members of the new 50+ project supported by BT

ADMINISTRATION OF AGE EXCHANGE

1993 was the busiest year for Age Exchange in its ten year history and administratively the most demanding. To deal with the European aspect of the touring and other areas of work that the grant from the European Commission was to fund, we employed Eloise Harris as European Tour Organiser for a 12 month post. We also bought in the services of Gillian Heyworth and Jennifer Darnley to co-ordinate the European Reminiscence Conference in November 1993. Gail Dawes, our Assistant Administrator, helped with some of the important but time-consuming day to day tasks, such as banking and invoicing, leaving the administrator more time to schedule the vast amount of UK touring, liaise with Eloise on European touring and to tackle the computerised book-keeping.

By the end of the financial year it was apparent that even though 1993 was our busiest and best year as far as profile and publicity were concerned, we had not absorbed the cuts in funding from the previous year as well as we had hoped and the recession had taken its toll on the mail order side of the earned income. It was clear that drastic decisions had to be taken. It was reluctantly agreed after much painful discussion, that Age Exchange would have to make two redundancies: Vanda Carter, the part-time Reminiscence Resources Officer, and Gail Dawes the Assistant Administrator, neither of whose posts were funded by any grant aid, their services being purchased from our own earnings in previous years. Both were excellent workers who are greatly missed.

VOLUNTEER HELP IN THE OFFICE

We have always welcomed volunteers to help in the office with ongoing tasks such as keeping up the press cuttings book and updating the database. During 1993 the use of volunteers in the office increased significantly due to the extra workload. Many volunteers learnt new skills on the computer in particular, and these volunteers have continued to help on a regular basis.

COMPUTERISED BOOK-KEEPING

For a long time the Age Exchange book-keeping was largely contracted out to a computerised book-keeping company, but in 1991, when this company folded, we had to revert to keeping our own books, using a manual system. This was a long and complicated process due to the need for detailed information for our Council of Management and funding bodies on the many different projects within the Age Exchange remit of work.

By 1993 it was obvious that there was a need to set up a computerised system of our own. We invested in a new up to date computer and software to handle the work and set to the task in hand with the help of our accountant John Green and a freelance worker to help input the information. The objective was not only to input the information we already had but also to refine and update the systems in ways which would make the complicated finances of Age Exchange more accessible. The job was not easy and we were dogged by problems, not least because we were trying to make this step in the busiest year so far in the history of Age Exchange. However, we have persevered and are now starting to reap the benefits. We now have a monthly updated cash flow, the most detailed quarterly financial reports we have ever produced and a monthly trial balance to be proud of.

FINANCIAL REVIEW BY JOHN GREEN, CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANT

Age Exchange experienced a very testing year financially. In the face of a 10% cut in core funding and total grant income falling from 66% of total income in 1992/3 to 38% in 1993/4, the Company completed an extremely ambitious and highly successful work programme. The fall in grant income was offset by income arising from direct charity activities amounting to £148734 (£80268 in 1992/3).

The Company had just started an extensive European tour at the beginning of the financial year. The funding for that tour had already been received in the previous year and largely because of this the Company is showing a deficit for the current financial year. The deficit of £85035 should be viewed in conjunction with the surplus in 1992/3 of £84610 of which £63259 represented unspent grants to be utilised in the year under review. However, the deficit was worse than anticipated and the Company made use of contingency funds to finance the programme.

Towards the end of the financial year, the Company was experiencing cashflow problems and has adopted a more rigorous policy in deciding whether under-funded work programmes should be accepted.

In May 1993, the Company repaid £25000 of the loan to purchase the properties. The next repayment of £12500 does not fall due until May 1995.

Due to limitations of space the accounts are shown on page 13 in abbreviated version and represent a summary of information extracted from the statutory accounts which have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies.

The Auditors, John Green and Co. have made a report on the accounts in which the only qualification was that the company depends on grant assistance to enable it to carry out its operations and the Financial Statements have been prepared on the going concern basis on the assumption that this assistance continues.

A full version of the Accounts will be sent on request.

AGE EXCHANGE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 1993-4

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1994

	1994	1993
	£	£
Income arising		
Direct Charity Activity	148734	80268
Grants Receivable	116231	225975
Donations	17324	8776
Other Income	24127	27115
Total Income Arising	<u>306416</u>	<u>342134</u>
Expenditure		
Direct Charity Expenditure	(374217)	(242540)
Fundraising	(11578)	(6415)
Administration	(1392)	(1232)
Interest Payable	(4264)	(7337)
Total Expenditure	<u>(391451)</u>	<u>(257524)</u>
Net Surplus/ (Deficit)	<u>(85035)</u>	<u>84610</u>

RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS

Balance brought forward 1 April 1993	<u>304917</u>
Net additions to fixed assets	-
Expended out of balances brought forward	(85035)
Net movement in year	(85035)
Balance carried forward 31 March 1994	<u>219882</u>
Represented by:	
Fixed Assets	266427
Current Assets	58469
Current Liabilities	(30014)
Creditors due after one year	(75000)
Total Net Assets 31 March 1994	<u>219882</u>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 1994

Fixed Assets	266427	271079
Net Current Assets	28455	121338
Creditors		
(due after more than one year)	(75000)	(87500)
Net Assets	<u>219882</u>	<u>304917</u>
Funds		
Restricted fund	6599	63259
Unrestricted funds	213283	241658
Total Funds	<u>219882</u>	<u>304917</u>

GRANTS RECEIVABLE

The Ashden Trust	1200	-
Department of Health	10000	18000
European Commission	35275	64545
Help the Aged	2500	-
Lankelly Foundation	-	25000
London Borough of Ealing	2000	-
London Borough of Greenwich	29370	30443
London Borough of Lambeth	3270	3220
London Borough of Lewisham	5200	10503
London Borough Grants Unit	16464	22464
Lord Ashdown Charitable Settlement	-	10000
Metropolitan Hospital Sunday Fund	1500	5000
Nuffield Foundation	-	10000
South East Arts	2500	1000
Tudor Trust	-	25000
West Sussex County Council	2500	-
Other Grants	4452	800
	<u>116231</u>	<u>225975</u>



Members of Freies Werkstatt Theater who performed at our European Reminiscence Conference in London November 1993

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Help the Aged	New Horizons Trust
Lankelly Foundation	Nuffield Foundation