



CHAT NEWS

CHAT believes that everyone is entitled to decent, secure and affordable accommodation - somewhere to call 'home'

Supporters still going strong for 25!

Pete's '3 for 30' Challenge



Local man Pete Barker from Halberton, in 2020 celebrates 30 years working for his employer, Taylor Construction Plant Ltd., a National Specialist Plant Hire Company who have a Depot in Kentisbeare. He has decided to celebrate this landmark by undertaking 3 Charity Challenges during the year, 1 for each decade of employment.

The first is due to be on 16th May 2020 (but may be subject to change!) and will be in aid of CHAT. This will be a triple activity 1 day challenge based along the Tiverton Canal:

Part 1 - Walking from Burlescombe to the Tiverton Canal Basin.

Part 2 - Kayak back to Burlescombe and then final leg.

Part 3 - Cycle back to the Tiverton Canal basin.

A total of approximately 30 miles.

He will be helped along the way by friends and family who will be joining him for various parts of the challenge.

You can help Pete to raise as many funds as possible by donating via <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/PeteBarker>

His other 2 challenges will be the 100 mile 'Nello 2020', a road cycle event in Mid Devon travelling between Exeter up onto Exmoor and back to Exeter via various places, in aid of FORCE

Cancer Charity, taking place on the 28th June 2020. The final challenge being the 100 mile 'Velo Essex', another road cycle event but this time based in his employer's home county of Essex, (which is much flatter than Devon, Hooray !!). This time helping to raise funds for the British Heart Foundation, on 20th September 2020.

Simon's year-long Cycle

Each year Simon Cooper undertakes a series of challenging bike rides for charity and this year he's supporting CHAT.

We have had supporters running in the rain and tackling SAS challenges, but Simon is undertaking an awe-inspiring challenge. He faces 4,000 miles, with climbs amounting to 400,000 ft on his bike across the course of the year. In addition, he is going to attempt the equivalent of Mid Devon's perimeter (142 miles) in just one day!

All money raised by sponsors will be matched by Simon himself, so please check out his fundraising page and help him reach his £1,250 goal - which, with his contribution, could be £2,500 for CHAT <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/simoncooper25>



If you need our support or can help please contact us

- If you need help with food please call 01884 255606 between 10-12 Monday - Friday for a telephone assessment.
- If you need Support and Advice with housing you can contact us via our website, or email theoffice@chatmid.co.uk

- Our office hours are 9:30-4:30 Monday - Friday (subject to change)

Visit our facebook page @CHATMidDevon or www.chatmid.org for further details and any changes to the services we offer.

If you can help by donating food, items can be dropped off at Morrisons, Tesco or Reapers.

If you are able to help financially please Scan here to donate or visit <https://chatmid.org/donating/>



Our response to Coronavirus

Our clients are always our first priority, so as the situation continues to develop we continue to ask the question; how do we best keep our staff and volunteers safe whilst keeping our essential service running for those most vulnerable in society?

We are in unprecedented times and are struggling to predict demand in the short and longer term. We anticipate, as people may potentially lose their jobs or manage on less money, the impact may be that more people drop into debt. Our priorities have to be to ensure that people can access essential food items and we will be working with other agencies and volunteer groups in the area to deliver this service. Our foodbank will be much in demand but we will continue to assess all enquiries on a case by case basis. We will keep our Facebook page and website updated regularly with how clients can access our services and our current most in demand needs. If you are unable to bring food please consider making a donation which will enable us to buy fresh items.

For those of us in homes that are safe and secure the uncertainty this current situation brings is unsettling, and at times we find ourselves fearful. For some of our clients they do not have the security of a stable home or a regular income and they are fearful of the future and what it may bring. CHAT has been serving the community for 25 years and when the immediate crisis has subsided we will be still here to help clients to work through the aftermath. If you, or someone you know needs our help during this crisis and in the months to come please be assured we will do our best to help you in whatever way we can. We have been here for 25 years and God willing we will continue to be here for as long as the Mid Devon Community needs us - tackling homelessness, avoiding evictions and bringing hope.

Many thanks for your generosity and understanding
Alison Padfield,
Manger

Rotary Clubs support the work of CHAT

Members of the Rotary Club of Exmoor and the Rotary Club of Exe Valley have presented a cheque for £450 to CHAT. This will be used to finance the training of several volunteers to work alongside our Senior Advisor, Denise Henson.

The work of Denise and others was highlighted in a recent communication from Community Money Advice "We all know, and are already seeing amongst ourselves our families and friends, that

the impact of Coronavirus is about to have a devastating and unprecedented impact on the personal finances of millions across the UK, and that debt crises are going to multiply exponentially.

We all have a heart for those blighted by debt, so we want to encourage you to keep your services running, probably by giving remote advice in most instances."



President John Sims of Rotary Club of Exmoor (centre) & Treasurer Dr Ken Mills of Rotary Club of Exe Valley presenting a cheque for £450 from both clubs.



Become a **Giver of Hope**
a regular gift can **change**
a vulnerable person's life



Donate to our **foodbank** to
enable us to **feed** someone in
crisis



Keep up to date with our latest
news, events and needs on our
facebook @CHATMidDevon

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Freedom from debt
Hope for the future

Member of
advice UK