



Chair's Report – AGM February 2015

The AGM is always a good time to look back on what we have achieved and to think ahead to the sort of things we could do in the coming years.

Running any organisation requires the dedication and imagination of a number of people and it is a good time to express gratitude to the committee and our fantastic volunteers whose commitment makes this all possible.

Once again we ran or were involved in organising a group to attend 30 activities during the year, highlights included the famous trip to Mars, an out of this world experience that demonstrated the creativity of Captain Dutton and his crew.

Visits to the Amex Stadium and Great Dixter were very much enjoyed in the spring as were days in Lewes and Shoreham. Another visit to Harvey's brewery was an highlight for those officianadios of our local brew.

We went to 2 shows at the New Venture Theatre and enjoyed a talk from Valerie on feasts and festivals in Sussex.

It was also good to join with our friends from Brighton VIPs for Crazy Golf and Tenpin Bowling.

The above is just a selection, you may have other highlights.

This time last year we introduced you to Sound Tennis which was about to Launch at the King Alfred. Whilst run as separate organisation many City Synergy members and volunteers have been active in what has been a busy and highly successful first year.

We have demonstrated over the years that we can run enjoyable and varied activities and have gained a very positive reputation in the community, We can look back with pride and approach the future with optimism.

As you will be aware from the correspondence we sent out in preparation for this meeting we are making an important proposal to become a part of ESAB. City Synergy has always enjoyed a great working relationship with ESAB and valued the support of Sue Fever and her predecessor Christine Tester.

I would like to thank Daniel for his encouragement and wise advice as we have worked through these proposals.

It is my firm belief that City Synergy has achieved much to date, it might even be said we punch above our weight. My hope and expectation is that with the proposals we can move on to even greater things which will help

us to reach out to more visually impaired people in the future.

Alongside the fun and friendships we also provide a situation where some are helped to come to deal with sight loss or become less isolated, whilst even those of us who have lived with sight loss for some time have an opportunity to talk (and maybe laugh) about it with others who understand.

So thank you everyone for a successful 2014 and here's to 2015 and beyond.

Paul Gillett

February 2015