

## COATS TRUSTEE – JANE PIERCE – JANUARY 27<sup>TH</sup>, 2021

It is with much regret that the COATS Trustees announce the retirement of our much-valued Trustee Jane Pierce, with effect from 31 December 2020. Jane has been a huge asset to COATS since her first involvement as a Human Resources advisor back in 2011. She was originally enticed to the COATS team by our then Chairman and former colleague at a local pharmaceutical company. Jane eventually became a Trustee in July 2014. She arrived at a time when employment law was becoming an increasingly complicated field and COATS needed an experienced and capable HR professional to steer the charity through this. Not only did Jane provide day to day HR support to our Centre Manager she also embarked on the mammoth task of updating and enhancing the charity's policies and procedures on a wide range of HR and related topics.

Jane, along with her husband Chris, has also been an enthusiastic supporter of COATS activities beyond her immediate HR role participating in fundraising social events and Crowthorne Carnival amongst others.

Through 2020 Jane has been invaluable in supporting the COATS staff through a number of challenges including the COVID-19 pandemic. She has always dealt with staff in a caring and compassionate manner and remains a firm friend of all of them.

Testament to the value Jane brought to COATS is the fact that we have engaged a specialist HR service provider to fill the gap that Jane will leave. Despite her retirement Jane has put in a huge amount of effort helping us to establish the relationship with our new HR provider spending many hours merging our existing policies and procedures with theirs. We are all working hard to convert Jane's "semi-retirement" into a full retirement by the end of January. She will be missed by all her friends at COATS, but we hope she will keep in touch.

Following her final Trustees meeting in December Jane said "I have really enjoyed my time with COATS and working with such a great team of Trustees and Staff. My best wishes to you all for the future, particularly with the continued current pandemic challenges. I will stay in touch and once the Centre has re-opened, I hope to drop in from time to time"

As soon as circumstances allow the Trustees plan to hold an event to thank Jane for her service and recognise her contribution to COATS. In the meantime you may wish to offer your personal thanks and good wishes via the e-mail address [david@coatscrowthorne.org.uk](mailto:david@coatscrowthorne.org.uk) which we will be sure to pass on to Jane.

The COATS Trustees