

## The President's Page

Hello Members

I hope you all had a good Christmas, and New Year celebration. As with all good times we suffer for our indulgence and I guess some of us are now enduring a weight loss programme.

On a more positive note, it is many many congratulations! to Alice Purnell, Chair of the Beaumont Trust, who was among those honoured in the New Year Honours List by being awarded and OBE. It is a good signal to see Transgender people are being recognised in society by the establishment.

Congratulation to Robyn Smith, our eastern RO, who has successfully opened a new venue in Bedford. I spent a very enjoyable time at Beau Bedford at its first meeting on a very cold evening in January, but it had a very warm atmosphere inside and was very well attended by members of the local LGBT, who helped to run the event, and other people in the transgender community. This quarter I also went along to the Cortex group meeting at Letchworth, run by Francesca, who had arranged a lovely night with one lady selling jewellery, and the two ladies doing facials and nails. The group was very friendly and chatty which I enjoyed.

This year 'The Big En' social weekend organised by Jenny Baker, had its venue changed from Bollington to Chesterfield. Irene and I went along for two nights and what a fabulous weekend it was. The entertainment and the food was outstanding, and the accommodation as well as the grounds were first class. The hotel staff were amazing, they could not do enough for you, and I have to say this, they showed more respect to Transgender people than some Transgender people show to each other! It was a wonderful weekend.

Now on a more serious note. The Government are now in the process of evolving laws to protect all Transgender people, but some people in our community feel that they will not be covered with this Government effort. If any of you have strong view on this subject, then please email me your concern at [kay.west.online@gmail.com](mailto:kay.west.online@gmail.com), and if I received sufficient I will forward them to the relative Government Department. However, this opportunity will not be open for much longer, so let me know your opinions as soon as possible as there is a closing date. Also, if you are having any problems within the Beaumont Society please don't be afraid to contact me.

Finally, spring is just around the corner, and it is almost time to say goodbye to the dark winter mornings and nights for another year. May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Easter?

Kind regards to you all.

*Left; Kay West in action chairing the Beaumont Charity AGM at Rotherham in November 2011.*

