

Fundraising

The Citizens Advice Bureau means different things to different people. For me it was a vital source of advice and support during a difficult time; it was then that I decided that I wanted to be part of the Sevenoaks Bureau team.

In 1989 when my daughter started school, I began the part time role (one day a week) of Information Officer, a position I held for ten years! At this time, the bureau had just installed its first (and only) computer. I really enjoyed my time at the bureau; it was a hive of activity, and being there certainly raised my awareness of what was happening locally and nationally.

When my brother suggested that I take part (in a team of three) in the London Triathlon to raise money for the bureau I thought it was a good idea, just the 20 kilometre cycle ride of course as there was no way I was fit enough to also run 5 kilometres or would contemplate donning a wetsuit and diving into the dodgy Thames water.

So, on a sweltering day in August last year, as a dedicated member of the Bureau Fund Raising Committee proudly wearing my Citizens Advice Bureau's yellow and blue sash, I pedalled my way around the Docklands route. Unfortunately, I was so busy pacing myself that I forgot to check my progress; as a result, one hour, one minute and 28 seconds later, I crossed the finish line.

I certainly wasn't the fastest (I could have gone faster!) but it was a great day, with a fantastic atmosphere and everyone encouraging each other.

I raised £620 towards the £20,000 needed each year to enable the current service at the bureau to continue.

*Linda di Cara
Fundraising volunteer*

