



## NACC Review of 2012

Well we all seemed to have survived the Mesoamerican Long Count Calendar event which predicted a spectacular end to humanity and have emerged out from the celebrations of the festive season.

Looking back to our year in 2012 brings home what a spectacular year it was, it was a year of Olympics, Royal events, Presidents, our own 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and it will be no surprise to many, 2012 broke all previous rainfall records.

It has been a busy and exciting year for the NACC. 2012 was our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and what a year it has been. In April we launched our latest guidance document "How to comply with CQC Outcome 5 toolkit", the document was released jointly in Harrogate and Oxfordshire to ensure all members had the opportunity to attend a launch event and get a look at the documentation.

Our annual Care Cook of the year competition drew an exceptional number of entrants with all regions seeing a rise in the number of competitors. The competition is our chance to showcase the work, skills and dedication of our chefs who often return year on year to the competition. This year the accolade of Care Cook of the Year went to the North Region and the winner was Ellie Cook from Anchor Trusts Kirkley Lodge, Middleborough. I think Ellie was the most surprised winner of the competition we have ever come across. Ellie's journey with the NACC continued through out the year and this year she will be returning as a judge at our National Final on the 12<sup>th</sup> June.

Our yearbook this year, a commemorative edition, had contributions from our past chairs giving a full history of the organisation, also features on members and events over the years.

The beginning of June saw a start to the national celebrations and a busy summer for Care Catering with parties and events to celebrate the Queens Diamond Jubilee. In consultation with chefs at Buckingham Palace we supplied a menu served to the royal party on coronation day to members to assist them with recreating the day.

At the same time over 8,000 people were involved across the country in the torch relay, including our immediate past chair who was an Ambassador Cyclist in Leeds. The torch relay and the enthusiasm generated highlighted the meaning of the Olympic values – respect, excellence and friendship these three values represent the work of our members 365 days a year. The many inventive ways the torch was carried can also be representative of the inventiveness of our members and the lengths they go to deliver services.

The Olympic opening ceremony showcased Britain its inventions, initiatives and enterprise that define the UK, a theme running through our Day Centres and Care Homes. It was a summer of mini Olympics and parties across these establishments.

During the summer months your NACC officers were working in joint partnerships, updating documentation, and planning with meal providers for our Community Meals week attempting to secure the Guinness World record for hot meals delivered.

September brought about our annual Training and Development Forum in Blackpool a celebratory event of our 25 years. For those of you who were there for the icebreaker evening I am sure you will agree there has never been an event quite like it – I add my apologies to our partners and friends for allowing them to become embroiled in the event. The culmination of our celebration event came on the evening of the awards dinner with all of the NACC former chairs joining us for a “this is the life of the NACC chairs” event. We were also joined by our incoming Deputy Chair Mary Wedge. The feedback from the event was outstanding particularly about the speakers and training sessions, who could forget our brunch speaker on the final day sending us all off across far flung motorways as Rhinos ‘Having it’ – yes you had to be there.

October 1<sup>st</sup> was International Older Persons day and saw the launch of Community Meals week and I went out on tour (well for three days) with Sue Cawthray our Northern Chair. The first day was our Community Meals World Record attempt where we located our headquarters in St Albans the nearest place to where the first community meals were delivered from. All of our Community Meal providers had the opportunity to join us in the attempt, in fact without the support of the Meal providers and our admin team at McCullough Moore this event would have never taken place. I am sure if we could have foreseen the difficulties involved with the attempt we would have possibly taken a different view on it, but we will keep on with this and the team at McCullough Moore are still re-editing, submitting re-requested information and chasing up the adjudicators as we fully intend to keep pushing for this record. Day two saw us on our way to the Apetito Depot in Brent to meet the team there and also meet John Sergeant BBC journalist who was going out with the team to deliver meals, We were due to meet with the Duchess of Cornwall on the Wednesday at Westminster College along with our Care Cook of the year but as we pulled up to the Apetito depot we got the news the Duchess was ill and stuck in Scotland but it was on with the show, we had a great time with the Apetito crew and of course John I would like to thank Ian Stone at Apetito for the kind invitation.

We decided to go ahead with our plans for day three at Westminster College – Geoff Booth and his team had gone to so much trouble to arrange the event and our Care Cook Ellie was on her way, what a great day it turned out to be. Ellie showed her supreme confidence and took a group of 12 students teaching them how to cook for older people in care transforming her winning menu into a meal which could be served as a Community Meal. Ellie was ably assisted by Gill Thrush from Harrogate Neighbours and our South East Chair Neel Radia, the students cooked the meal packed it into containers and delivered it to the waiting Sodexo delivery vans – something none of them had every experienced before. I think we turned some budding Jamie Oliver’s into chefs committed to Care Catering.

The NACC once again have been named in the Public sector top 20 a position we maintained since its inception and we are a leading force in the public sector 100, we have worked to develop strong partnerships and joint initiatives which strengthen our work across other agencies. Many groups are now working in partnership with the NACC including the BDA, BAPEN, HCA, NHS Commissioning board and the Malnutrition Task Force.

Our membership numbers have continued to grow, despite the reduction of services across Local Authorities but the strength and determination of members to provide

services gives gravitas to the NACC body as we all speak out about malnutrition and dehydration in the sector. The support from members supports the growth in recognition of the expertise within the NACC and that is a credit to all members

This year we announced 3 new appointments for the NACC –  
Baroness Greengross has kindly agreed to be our Patron, we have worked with Baroness Greengross across the years in her role at the ILC and campaigning for older people and their rights, her campaigns fit impeccably with our ethos and we welcome her future input as our Patron.

We also engaged our first two ambassadors to promote the NACC across other sectors; Dr Lisa Wilson has worked with the ILC and dehydration for many years and again is a supporter of the NACC and its policies. Our second Ambassador will be well known to many of you, Caroline Lecko has worked closely with us assisting at meetings, representing NACC at events and delivering training sessions bringing fresh ideas and impetus to the NACC. We welcome them all on board.

December brings on one of the busiest months for everyone involved in the NACC with members working tirelessly throughout the festive season to ensure every person in our care have the services they need, this has been challenging this year with the floods across the country but meals have got through, equipment has been delivered or repaired and Care establishments have completed nearly a month of celebratory meals. I would like to personally thank everyone involved. For the first time for many years I ventured out on Christmas Day to deliver meals and witnessed first hand the difference your roles actually make on a daily basis, never underestimate the value of what you all do.

I would like to take the opportunity to wish you all a Happy, safe and prosperous New Year. I look forward to seeing you at meeting and events throughout the year. But what for 2013, your National Committee are currently planning the year's events but some dates for your diary.

Care Cook of the Year – Closing date for entries 12<sup>th</sup> February – Final 12<sup>th</sup> June

National Nutrition Day – NACC and HCA joint initiative 20<sup>th</sup> March

National Training and Development Forum – 11<sup>th</sup> –13<sup>th</sup> September

Community Meal Week 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> November Celebrating 70 years of Service  
“Anytime, Any Place We Care”

I leave you with a comment from Ernest Rutherford (the father of Nuclear Physics).

“We have no money so we will have to think” – maybe in today's current climate he may have added “and no staff and no time but our driver will always remain the same – to deliver excellence for our customers every day “

Kind Regards

Karen