WRVS Committee April 2012
Heather Shiell, Sarah Lopes, Karin Armelin
Tracy Brain Secretary, Ruth Hurst, Angela
French Chairman, Barbara Gray Treasurer,
Margot Walker Dias.

UPCOMING EVENTS for WRVS  Find us at
www.bcclisbon.org wrvsportugal@gmail.com

Social Teas;
3rd Tuesday of every month at Quinta da
Fonte British Ret. Home. Entertainment and
afternoon tea. Open to everyone.

Think Tank pot luck lunch for Labels 4 Less
11th April at the home of Karin Armelin,
Murches. Bring ideas and something to
share! Email angelajfrench@gmail.com

Charity Lunch
10th May at the Cascais Naval Club
Email angelajfrench@gmail.com

Quiz Night
21st April at Lar da Boa Ventura, Carcavelos.
Contact angelajfrench@gmail.com to book in.

Car Boot Sale
19th May in Carcavelos market. Contact
Simon Webb on simonwebb92@gmail.com

Labels for Less Clothes Sale
31st May. Daytime and also evening sale to be
organized for the first time. Details to follow.

Queen Elizabeth the Second
Diamond Jubilee Street Party
16th June at Quinta Da Fonte. Help us
celebrate this special year for the British
Community.

The British Community Council's (BCC) Fun
and Games Fundraising Day
23rd June at St Julian’s School, Carcavelos.
Make sure you don't miss out on participating in some of the new less
strenuous Games on offer this year.

Updates on WRVS activities from Summer
2011
The money which was donated to
Sailing for Disabled was well
received and thanks were forwarded which
included the happy information that
the team won several prizes in the competition,
including that of European Champion, for
the second year running.

September 28th IWP Activities Fair. This
event was well attended with 130 existing and
potential new IWP members. Everyone
enjoyed the food and coffee that was passed
around by WRVS members.

The November Social Tea was a roaring
success with Margot Walker Dias hosting
another of her fun quizzes. Five teams
participated made up of visitors and with at least
one resident on each team.
September 9th **Quinta da Fonte Annual Garden Party** – 160 people attended, which makes this the largest party to date. There was lovely feedback regarding the whole event and our contribution. WRVS provided the finger food and was responsible for circulating and serving it during the evening.

**Casa Sol.** A group of WRVS members visited the Children’s Home and saw for themselves that the house was in a state that required some immediate attention. There was only one working bathroom for all 22 children. We sought tenders for the work required and with the funds raised (3050 euros) through WRVS events and IWP we have been able to make great improvements to the bathrooms and plumbing and repainting some of the rooms. As any householder knows there is always more to be done and we will continue to look into the needs of the home. The children’s book, ‘Satisfaçam a minha Curiosidade a SIDA’ we recommend to help understand AIDS and the situation of the children in Casa da Sol.

In Sept, 2 members, **Ruth Lindley and Chris Rola** retired from the committee and we would like to thank them for all their help in the WRVS. Ruth was a valued member of the committee for many years, both as the Secretary and being responsible for the smooth running of the monthly Social Teas, where her enthusiasm and ready good humour has delighted us all. I hope her new job commitments don’t stop her from visiting us in our activities. Chris Rola hasn’t gone too far as she continues to be our link with the IWP but she had realised both are demanding organisations and has had to choose her master! We thank her very much for the time she has worked on the committee, for her insights into the UK health working practices and dedication to care of others.

September 24th **– Car Boot Sale.** This was another successful event, raising nearly 1800 euro’s. Almost 80 cars took part from which vendors sold their wares! WRVS members also raised money with the ‘White Elephant’ tables of donated items and books, and supplying the food tables with sandwiches, cakes and buns, including delicious homemade jams and chutneys. At the end of the day several willing members took unsold items such as children’s clothes and toys to O’Seculo and all men’s clothes and shoes were taken to Crèche Nova.

October 12th **– CACEP.** 2 Committee members attended this meeting of Lisboetan English speaking charity groups run by member Ian Crocker where we have a chance to meet and discuss what we are all doing, to encourage each other and to find out about other Charities in need of help.

September **Social Tea at Quinta da Fonte, British Retirement Home.** Many thanks to New Zealand group Fiddlelore who performed their wonderful music at the home, and had everyone tapping their feet and singing along.
One of our recent social tea speakers was the retired TV and film Director Herbie Wise, on his film on Pope Hohn. There wasn’t even standing room left to listen to this popular and entertaining speaker.

The British Retirement Home (QdF) wishes to thank the various members of the community who volunteer to help in their many and varied ways with the successful running of the Home. Although there are trained professional staff to manage the day-to-day work of the home, it is in fact a registered charity with no state funding with a management Board run by volunteers. The residents receive extra care and attention from the WRVS members and other community groups. The Home is very grateful for the work of volunteers.

October 13th – Labels For Less (L4L) This was held once again at the home of Aide Bugge and again raised a wonderful total, this time of over 660 euro’s. A fantastic effort by all the L4L team, but special thanks to Aida and Angela for all their hard work, which involved advertising, encouraging donations, transporting, storing, running this event and distributing the unsold items to charities afterwards, the best of which have gone to ‘Trash and Treasure’ in Carcavelos to be sold from there. If you have items throughout the year to donate, be sure to ask for our WRVS list of charities who would be willing to receive your donated items.

25th October – Quinta da Fonte, Social Tea. The talk that Terry Blissett delivered on Dickens and Women attracted 18 visitors, who thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon. Many thanks also to Primrose Ridley-Thomas who regularly supplies homemade jams and chutneys which are sold from here. She also made Christmas cakes for us to sell at the December social tea.

Now that Ruth Lindley has left the committee, Karin Armelin has taken on the role of the catering at the social teas, but we still need your help to serve and chat and join the baking rota!

14th November – Living History at IPS. Margot and Ruth Hurst, along with several others, went to discuss their memories of WW2 to children aged 10 and 11 at the International Preparatory School in Manique. The children came well prepared with their questions and even brought boxes of facts they had made, including replicate ration books.

15th November – Riding for Disabled were the recipients of the 2nd car boot sale’s fundraising this year. Barbara Gray and Karin Armelin handed over the cheque for 1790.00 euros.

The WRVS Christmas Gift Giving It was noted by Barbara
Gray, our Treasurer, that €18,500 was donated to charities through WRVS last year.

Pisao – Their Christmas party with lunch followed by dancing was held on December 20th. Unfortunately Ruth Hurst was unable to attend the party as she normally does to give encouragement as well as gifts of pretty scarves, gloves and personal toiletries. However she has been there since to give the gifts. Members are very welcome to come along with the committee when we deliver our donations to various charities.

Vincente De Paulo – Our regular Cheque for 150 euro’s was sent.

Irmas do Bom Pastor – Shopping was done for grocery items by Chris Rola and Sarah Lopes and delivered to the Sisters who make meals for distressed families in their neighbourhood.

Mira Sintra – The WRVS was delighted to help with a donation of 2000 euro’s to enable the handicapped residents to have their annual winter break along with self-funded students of St Dominic’s International School.

Knitting group – Jenny Gatefield, with the help of new member Catriona Glasgow, has started a knitting group at the retirement home on Thursdays from 2.30 to 4pm followed by tea. She has a large amount of wool, needles and patterns for the group. Before Christmas all the lovely knitting was collected and allocated to various charities. We have discovered a need for many more baby items for newborns and the ‘prems’ at the Alfredo Costa (Maternity Hospital) and are now keen to fill this need. New or experienced knitters, WRVS members or non-members are welcome to join the group class or add to the box of Baby’s clothes (cardigans, hats and booties) and blankets. Adult hats and scarves are always needed. Come along to knit and natter!

WRVS Recipe Book – After an enormous effort by Ruth Hurst and the layout composer Linda Braz as well as the rest of the team, the cookbook was completed in time for Christmas. Despite the title ‘Oh No, Not Another Recipe Book!’ 870 of the first 100 books sold within a month! This meant Ruth had to go to the printers on December 5th to have the second run of recipe books printed. Congratulations are extended to all the team! Thank you also goes too to all the recipe contributors, our sponsors Garland, and those who have bought the book. A new run of 200 books is now for sale from any member of the Committee and also at Quinta Da Fonte.

The British Community Council’s (BCC) Fun and Games Fundraising Day, Carcavelos
This year’s event on 23rd June will include games for older and/or less athletic members of the community. It’s about time for us all to join in and have some stimulating games, without the fear of torn muscles and sunstroke holding us back! There will be meetings about what type of games we can run and we’ll be looking for ideas and teams to take part. If you would like to be involved in any capacity just let us know!

Pastoral care continues with our lending of physical aids/ emergency equipment such as crutches and wheelchairs, commodes and walking frames. These items are stored at QdF.

The Committee members thank everyone for all the help, contributions and support so generously given throughout the year.
The WRVS is open to all members of the community, male or female and of any nationality.