

Show off your wackiness in aid of care charity

by **Beth Woodger**

A CHARITY that helps young people in Woking is calling on the community to dress wacky to raise cash for its work in the county.

The Surrey Care Trust is inviting businesses and employees to take part in Wear Something Wacky Week, which is now in its second year.

Schools, organisations and individuals are welcome to take part in the fun week by donning something crazy, from an unusual hat to a colourful costume.

The charity's marketing officer, Jennifer Britt, has pledged to wear a different wacky hat each day of the week, which runs from January 25 to 31.

She said: "This is a really simple way of raising funds for our work and a lot of fun. You can

join in at work or at home."

Vicky Nash, the charity's events officer, aka Wacky Week Officer, is keeping her fashion plans under wraps for the moment but added: "Extrovert or introvert, anyone can take part – just remember that wackiness can be subtle, too."

"All we urge is that you round up as many people as possible and that everyone makes a donation to take part. We suggest £2 but if people want to be more generous, please don't restrain them."

"It's a great way to brighten up the office, it doesn't take much effort and we only ask for a modest donation. We hope lots of people will take part and look forward to seeing some of the more madcap outfits."

The charity was founded in 1982 and runs a number of projects and programmes. The heart

of its work today is helping people to help themselves improve their life chances through education and building on their skills.

Funds from Wear Something Wacky Week will help support its learning centres for 14 to 16 year-olds who have struggled in mainstream education and are no longer attending school.

There are three centres, in Woking, Redhill and Staines, providing places for young people from a wide area of Surrey.

Money from the event will also help with running costs of the charity's Swingbridge community boats, which are the base for a range of activities, including its environmental work and training programme.

For some inspiration on what to wear, visit www.surrey-caretrust.org.uk/wackyweek to see how people celebrated the occasion last year.



Chris Padmore, Jennifer Britt, Vicky Nash (Wacky Week Officer) and Jacquie Verbeerk from Surrey Care Trust.