

Wednesday, September 25, 2013

www.stalbansreview.co.uk

Free

# St ALBANS & HARPENDEN Review

## Ex-mayor hands out £20,000

FORMER mayor of St Albans Eileen Harris raised £20,000 for local charities during her mayoral year.

Councillor Harris, who ended her duties in May, has presented £6,000 to Special Olympics St Albans and another £5,000 to Centre 33 at the Civic Centre.

She also donated £1,000 to Shelter, the homelessness charity, and the balance of the money will go to support the setting up of the St Albans & District Foodbank.

Councillor Harris said: "It was a great privilege to be able to support such excellent causes during my mayoral year.

"I chose Centre 33 and Special Olympics St Albans as my mayoral charities because of the wonderful work they do to support local people.

"Centre 33's drop-in centre welcomes homeless, and socially or materially disadvantaged, people in St Albans.

"Special Olympics St Albans enriches the lives of athletes with learning disabilities and enables them to fulfil their potential.

"I am most grateful to the people of St Albans district who supported these charities so generously."

Mark Arbeid, chairman of Centre 33, said: "We are grateful for the amazing sum of money raised for the charity as a result.

"The events set up by the mayor and



Eileen Harris: privileged.

her team provided a real boost to our morale and to our finances.

"This will enable us to continue supporting those who most need our help."

Susi Williams, Special Olympics St Albans co-ordinator, thanked the mayoral team for helping to raise a great deal of money.

She said: "The year we spent as one of the mayor's charities was an enjoyable one, enabling us to raise our profile.

"Our athletes with a learning disability felt part of the St Albans community.

"The most memorable event of the year was the zumba event for charity. Everyone who took part had a great evening and was encouraged to improve their fitness – such fun."