

Wheel in motion

By **DAVID MERCER**

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A CHARITY shop which provides vital help for disabled people in the borough has received a major facelift.

Wigan-based charity The Wheelchair Fund has reopened its store in Worsley Mesnes after refurbishment work was funded by the National Lottery.

Susan Sullivan, from the charity, said: "It looks absolutely fantastic and will help a great deal with our work."

"The shop is run by a dedicated core of volunteers. We are extremely grateful to the people who offer their time and energy on an annual basis to raise money for our cause."

The charity, which provides wheelchairs and equipment for disabled people of all ages, celebrates its 30th anniversary next year.

Founder Doreen Taylor set up the Wheelchair Fund in 1980 to assist disabled children in the borough by providing them with pow-



FUND FOUNDER:
The late
Doreen
Taylor.

ered kerb-climbing wheelchairs.

The new-look shop, at St Paul's Avenue, was officially opened by Doreen's husband Jeff Taylor, after his wife passed away five years ago.

Susan said: "We lost Doreen about five years ago, but she would have been very proud of what we have managed to achieve."

Makerfield MP Ian McCartney is a patron of The Wheelchair Fund, which began fund-raising with a concert at Goose Green Labour Club 29 years ago.

The Wheelchair Fund received a lottery grant worth more than £100,000 earlier this year.

The money has gone towards buying mobility equipment and funding the charity's Out and About project, a long-running scheme that provides electric wheelchairs and mobility scooters to those in need.

● For more information, please visit www.wheelchairfund.org



New shop is open for business

GRAND OPENING: Jeff Taylor, husband of Doreen, officially opens the refurbished Wheelchair Fund shop.