

Message from the Chair

It's been 'all change' in the office and on the trustee group since our last newsletter, with Pat Budge and Nicky Taylor sadly standing down from the trustee board. I am acting as chair on an interim basis while we look for someone

to take on the role permanently, in addition to my role as treasurer (see also Staff News overleaf).

Meanwhile our programme of events and activities continues unabated, thanks in no small part to the

fantastic support and commitment of our volunteers. The highlight has been our involvement in events as one of this year's Elmbridge Mayor's charities, which you can read more about below. These activities will continue throughout the

rest of Councillor Tannia Shipley's term as Mayor, alongside a full schedule of benefits visits, tea parties, men's pub lunches and individual befriending. So we are certainly keeping very busy!

Robert Fulton, Chair

A Day at the Races

On Thursday 21st July, Sandown park hosted the Elmbridge Community Race Day to which CHEER was invited as one of the Mayor's Charities.

I was very privileged to attend the event with one of our volunteers, Janis Fletcher. We had a wonderful time in the Royal Box and had lunch in the Equus restaurant. We were able to explore some of the more "upmarket" parts of the race course that are not always open to the public.

I have lived in Esher for many years but had never been to a race meeting before. At lunch those of us who were inexperienced race goers were given some tips to help us place our bets. I chose to back horses

ridden by Frankie Dettori and fortunately they all won their races.

Naturally I also supported "CHEER Up!" the CHEER representative in the "hobby horse race". Our horse was ably manned by Joshua Geddes and his mum. The race was kicked off by Michal Aspel and, although our horse ran its best, a couple of singleton horses without hind legs took an early lead and got past the finishing line well ahead of the rest.

At the end of the day CHEER volunteers with collection buckets encouraged the race goers to part with their winnings and a good sum was raised for the Mayor's Charity. It was great day out, good weather, good



CHEER Up! The CHEER Stallion getting ready for its race.

food, good company and excellent entertainment. Thanks to Cllr Shipley for

inviting CHEER. Christine Andrews, Trustee

Trustee News

Overseeing CHEER requires its own commitment, much of which goes unseen. Sadly, both Pat Budge and Nicky Taylor have stood down recently. Pat served on the Board including as Chair for some years. Nicky first joined CHEER as a befriender and then

brought first hand awareness of the part that volunteers play when she joined the Board. We thank them both wholeheartedly for their generous time and strong contributions. However, we are able welcome to the Board, Daniel Geddes, who is also a volunteer.

Would you like to be involved in making a film?



**The Freewheelers
Theatre & Media Company**

Whether you are a budding actor, writer or camera person, we would love to hear from you. **Freewheelers Theatre and Media** will be delivering a series of free Media workshops for older people this autumn in Cobham. No experience is needed. Call 07599 077044 (Jenni) or 01932 860950 (Viv) for further information.

Concern and Help for East Elmbridge Retired

Autumn 2016

Staff News

As reported by our new Chairman, there have been some staff changes over the summer.

Our manager, Mark Michelmore, has been doing a great job running the CHEER office single-handedly, following the departure of Jane Chilcott in August. Fortunately, we are able to call on our former managers, Charlotte Chatwin and Charlotte Atkinson, to help us out on an ad hoc basis when we need an extra pair of hands, particularly with home visits and running our ever-expanding befriending scheme. So, as the board undertakes the recruitment of a new member of staff, it's

business as usual for us and therefore please don't hesitate to contact Mark if you need any help, information or guidance. He is in the office from 9am to 3pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and occasionally on a Wednesday.

If for any reason you ring the office and he is out, please do leave a message and he will get back to you as soon as he can.



The CHEER stand at Leisure Live, 9th July

Friendships – Trevor and Barbara

Trevor has been a resident in Elmbridge for over 70 years. After an education at Tiffin School and an apprenticeship to Vickers, he was head hunted by Barnes Wallis for their Research and Development team. He studied in the evening for a degree at London University, travelling by motorbike from Weybridge to North London 4 nights a week. During 48 years service at Vickers Trevor was a pioneer in DIY rewiring, re-plumbing and decorating the family home always with the most efficient methods that conserved energy. After retiring Trevor and his wife had time to



visit their family around the world. Trevor uses Skype to keep in contact with his son and family in New Zealand.

Trevor found CHEER three years ago and Barbara Shaw is now his befriender. Trevor shops independently but is pleased that Barbara's regular visits and phone contact keep him in touch with a wide friendship group.

"Thank YOU very much for the tea party on Monday afternoon. I thought it was a lovely venue as well. I know that Vivienne and Derek enjoyed feeling part of a larger organisation, and I would imagine that meant lots of other people there felt the same"

Monica Baughen, Volunteer



CHEER Diary

Wednesday 19th October	11:00 – 12:30	Volunteer get-together and training
Thursday 10th November	12:00 – 14:00	Pie and pint, George & Dragon, Thames Ditton
Wednesday 16th November	13:30 – 16:15	Tea party (Paragon), City Wharf, Thames Ditton
Wednesday 23rd November	12:00 – 14:00	Befriending autumn lunch (Venue TBA)
Friday 16 th December	TBC	Mayor's Christmas charity concert, Cornerstone The Church, 38 Station Ave, Walton-on-Thames KT12 1NU