

### Message from the Chair

Welcome to our newsletter. It has been a very busy time for CHEER and there have been changes at both Staff and Trustee level. However, we have lots of exciting challenges ahead and are delighted to have been chosen as one of the Mayor's

Charities (see below).

This will mean that not only can we continue to do our work, but with additional funds and a higher profile, we can consider our plans and options for future growth.

We are developing a new outreach programme for men - 'Going Strong' - supported by the Wisley Foundation. This complements our existing 'Pie and Pint' activities.

All these opportunities

wouldn't be possible without the fantastic support of our volunteers and with their continued help, we can ensure that we continue to change lives and make a difference!

Pat Budge, Chair

### Elmbridge Mayor Tannia Shipley has chosen CHEER as one of the Mayor's Charities.

On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May Tannia was elected Mayor of Elmbridge and chose CHEER and Elmbridge Community Link (ECL), two charities she has been closely involved with, as the Mayor's Charities. This is a great privilege that will raise the profile of CHEER and provide some opportunities for fund raising through collection boxes at events supported by the Mayor (See Diary overleaf).

The Mayor's Charity launch was held at All Saints Weston Green Hall on 20<sup>th</sup> May and was attended by the local press and dignitaries. Mark Michelmore and Rachel Geddes delivered speeches on behalf of CHEER.

*"I've attended many press launches in my career as a journalist but have only been asked to speak at one! That's what I found myself doing last month when CHEER was unveiled as one of the charities chosen by the new Mayor of Elmbridge*

## Elmbridge Mayor's Charity 2016/17



CHEER and Mayor Shipley at the Charity Launch: Tracy, Margaret, Mark, Tannia, Rachel and Nicky

*Initially I was petrified but soon realised it was a chance to tell people about the brilliant work that all the volunteers do to help older people in the borough. I needn't have worried. It was a very relaxed, low key event hosted at Weston Green*

*Church. It was a great opportunity to meet other CHEER volunteers and chat to representatives from Elmbridge Community Link, the other charity the Mayor will be supporting. I really hope that with the Mayor's support we can raise the profile of CHEER*

*and get more people involved with the charity."*  
Rachel

THANK YOU to all volunteers, staff and trustees who have made this possible.

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*"I've visited CHEER and seen them in action. It's a wonderful local charity providing support and friendship for the elderly in our community. I'm delighted to see them get this support and recognition."*

Dominic Raab, M.P. for Esher and Walton

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# Concern and Help for East Elmbridge Retired

Summer 2016

## Staff News

A new Joint Manager, Jane Chilcott, was appointed at the beginning of 2016, joining Charlotte Chatwin who has been with CHEER for the last six years. Unfortunately, due to personal circumstances, Charlotte had to stand down in June but has indicated that she would be available to help us with ad hoc tasks when she can. A huge thanks to Charlotte for her contribution to CHEER's success over recent years. Fortunately, Mark

Michelmore, former Deputy Manager, has agreed to step up to the role of Joint Manager. One of Mark's key responsibilities will be our 'Going Strong' project aimed at weekly events run by men for men, based at the Thames Ditton Community Centre.

The CHEER team's main focus is to continue to support its clients by: ensuring they receive the benefits they are entitled to so they can remain at home;

providing a befriending service to help those who are lonely or live alone; organising events and programmes to help prevent social isolation



Nicky, Mayor Tannia Shipley, Daniel and Julian at the Elmbridge Annual Council meeting reception .

## Friendships – Brian and Daniel

Brian was born in Staffordshire where he grew up and attended Edward VI school, Stafford. He initially had ambitions to work at Wedgwood using his artistic skills or alternatively to be an architect. He moved to Molesey over 45 years ago and other doors opened, first in accountancy and finally in recruitment. He was a keen sportsman playing hockey, cricket and football for local clubs and still supports West Bromwich Albion. Brian lives at home with his wife and daughters but is no longer able to drive. He was introduced to me through CHEER and we now meet up



every Saturday lunchtime for a coffee or lunch and talk about sports and what we've been up to. We can often be spotted in the coffee shop attached to East Molesey Cricket Club where Brian used to play as a specialist leg-spinner. What better way is there to spend a sunny day than to watch a cricket match sipping a cappuccino in good company?

*Daniel*



## CHEER Diary

Thursday 7th July	12:00 – 14:00	Pie and Pint at the George and Dragon, Thames Ditton
Saturday 9th July	11:00 – 16:00	LEISURE LIVE Family Day Out (with Elmbridge Community Link) at Hershams Green, Burwood Road, Hershams
Wednesday 13th July	14:00– 16.00	Tea Party (Paragon), Clayton House, Long Ditton
Thursday 21st July	12:30 – 17:30	Elmbridge Community Raceday at Sandown Races. Please come and support the CHEER horse in the Pantomime race! Box office: sandown.thejockeyclub.co.uk or 0344 5793012.
Monday 25th July	14.00 – 16.00	Befriending Afternoon Tea The Pheasantry, Bushy Park
Thursday 8th September	12.00 – 14.00	Pie & Pint at the George & Dragon, Thames Ditton
Friday 16th September	14.00 – 16.00	Tea Party (Paragon) at The Firs, Claygate
Friday 23rd September	12:00 - 14:00	Mayoral Event: Ladies Lunch at Woodlands Park Hotel, Cobham