

Message from the Chair

As we say goodbye to 2016 and usher in 2017 – the Chinese year of the Rooster – perhaps we can be forgiven for ‘crowing’ about what a great year it has been for CHEER and looking forward excitedly to what the new year will bring. As

one of the Mayor’s charities, we have become a lot better known in the community than we used to be, not to mention the fundraising that comes with it. Meanwhile we have continued to meet our targets for benefits and befriending work. We can

look forward with confidence to 2017 when, among other things, we will be taking over responsibility for the highly-regarded Parkinson’s disease group which meets at the Claygate Centre. None of this would be possible without the

commitment of our all volunteers, staff and friends, for which many thanks, and I wish a Happy New Year to everyone involved with CHEER.

Robert Fulton, Chair

Festive roundup

The last quarter of 2016 was a busy one for CHEER with a number gatherings and fundraising initiatives.

The autumn lunch held at the Sedum restaurant in Chessington garden centre saw a large gathering of

volunteers and friends assemble for a social get together with a spot of food. A good time was enjoyed by all (see Friendship column overleaf).

Christmas festivities kicked off with the Mayor’s “Ring

Out The Bells” concert of seasonal music and Christmas Carols. The programme was very ably selected and directed by Rufus Frowde, Organist and Assistant Director of Music at the Chapel Royal, Hampton Court Palace and performed by young singers from Surrey Arts. Rufus got the audience singing along to classic carols and more unusual numbers such as Al Shloshla D’Varim, a traditional Jewish song translated to mean: "The world is sustained by three things: by truth, by justice, and by peace." A very appropriate message at Christmas time. We were also fortunate to have soprano Charlotte-Anne Shipley give us a beautiful rendition of Gesu Bambino by Pietro Yon and O Holy Night. Charlotte-Anne has a truly wonderful voice!

On Sunday 18th December, volunteers, staff and Trustees of CHEER and ECL, the two Mayor’s Charities, along with Mayor Shipley and local scouts spent all days packing bags for busy Christmas shoppers in Waitrose, Cobham. A total of £960 was raised on the day. A great thank you to all those that helped.

We have been blessed so far in 2016’s fundraising events with considerable sums having been raised and hope that 2017 will be as successful.

I hope that you have had a fantastic break and are looking forward to 2017 with renewed energy and friendship!

Happy New Year to all!

From all at CHEER



Volunteers and Mayor Tannia Shipley packing bags to raise funds for CHEER and Elmbridge Community Link

Trustee News

We are pleased to welcome Janis Fletcher as a Trustee of CHEER.

Janis lives in Hinchley Wood, and has been a volunteer with CHEER since 2014. She brings with her a wealth of experience gained during a career which has taken her

from administrative work in Zaire, holding senior positions in banking and computer services, and running her own business as a Domestic Energy Assessor.

Janis and her friend Audrey are featured in our Profile section overleaf.



WALKING RUGBY

FOR THE OVER 50'S

TUESDAY & FRIDAY MORNINGS,

10AM - 12PM START FRIDAY 18TH NOVEMBER

RULES:

No running

No passing higher than shoulder height

No holding of the ball for more than three seconds without passing

No scrums

To register your interest please email walkingrugbyatesher@gmail.com or call 01932 220 295

Concern and Help for East Elmbridge Retired

Winter 2016/17

From the Manager

It's been business as usual in the CHEER office this last quarter.

Age UK ran a campaign in December entitled "no one should have no one" which has been successful in highlighting the issue of loneliness amongst the elderly. CHEER runs a very successful befriending service. We are always on the lookout for volunteers and elderly people who

could do with a befriending home visit. If you know anyone who fits either of those descriptions please contact the CHEER office.

Finally a reminder to all gentlemen of our monthly Pie & Pint Lunchtime  event which is a unique opportunity to meet some new friends. Gentlemen, please join us if you can! Mark

Awards for CHEER Volunteers

We are delighted to report that CHEER Volunteers Gian Brooks and Julia Milburn received awards from the Mayor of

Elmbridge at the first Elmbridge Long Service Volunteer Awards, held on 18th October 2016. Julia (left) and Gian (right)

are pictured with Elmbridge Mayor, Tannia Shipley (centre).

Further information and photographs can be found at <http://vae.org.uk/elmbridge-volunteer-awards-2016/>



Friendships – Janis and Audrey

Audrey met her husband Ernie as a young lady working in Woolworths. He was in the RAF during the war and she missed him so much when he was away that she moved from her home in Chippenham to live with Ernie's mother in London to be nearer him. Audrey and Ernie got married in 1943 and after the war he worked as a pilot for British Airways for many years whilst she was busy bringing up their 4 daughters and looking after the family. She also did voluntary work for 35 years at Kingston Hospital.

Audrey was good at sports, especially swimming and remembers swimming in the river in Chippenham as a young girl. She loves animals and has a cat called Lizzie. Her daughters all live some



distance away from London and, after her husband passed away, now lives on her own.

Janis and Audrey have been friends for nearly 30 years and get on like a house on fire. They have lots to talk about and Audrey enjoys the lunches and tea parties that CHEER arranges. She had a great time at last November's lunch, especially eating the sausages and chips!



CHEER Diary

Wednesday 11 th January	12:00 – 14:00	Christmas Lunch at the Marquis of Granby, Esher
Thursday 9 th February	12:00 – 14:00	Pie and pint, Marquis of Granby, Esher
Monday 13 th February	14:30 – 16:00	Tea party, St Helens, Thames Ditton
Saturday 18 th February	19:00 – 24:00	Mayor's Valentine's Charity Ball, fundraising for CHEER Oatlands Park Hotel, Weybridge (01372 474383 for further info)
Wednesday 22 nd February	12:00 – 14:00	Volunteer Training Seminar and Lunch
Thursday 9 th March	12:00 – 14:00	Pie and pint, Marquis of Granby, Esher
Wednesday 22 nd March	14:30 – 16:00	Tea Party, The Limes, West Molesey