

Message from the Chair

A lot has happened since our last Newsletter. We launched our new website in March, we have completed the work required to comply with the new data protection regulations and in the last financial year we helped

older people with over £390,000 worth of benefit claims as well as providing opportunities for reducing social isolation through our befriending and events programmes. Unfortunately, Mark, our General Manager,

is on sick leave for a while and we send him our best wishes for his speedy recovery. You will be pleased to hear that Yvonne Clarke, who has joined us as the Group Coordinator for the Parkinson's Group (see

staff news below) is helping with benefits claims and other CHEER work to ensure that we continue to make a difference to the lives of older people.
Janis Fletcher, Chair

Women's Wednesday Fellowship

The Women's Wednesday Fellowship chooses CHEER as its charity for 2018.

The Women's Wednesday Fellowship has been active for 60 years has chosen CHEER as their charity for 2018, their diamond jubilee year. They will be raising funds for us at their

afternoon tea party on Wednesday 25th July at 2:30 pm in St Christopher's Church Hall, Claygate Lane, Hinchley Wood. There will be a delicious tea, lucky dip and raffle stalls and the opportunity to chat and meet other people in a friendly atmosphere. Entry is £1 and visitors and

families will be welcome.

The group meet on the 4th Wednesday of every month (except August) at 7:00 pm in Hinchley Wood School. They are a social group and membership is open to ladies of all ages. They have an exciting programme of events planned for the rest of the year, including "1940's

Fashion", "I was there", "India's Golden Triangle" and "Royal Hospital Chelsea". If you are interested in talks, outings and friendship why not go to the tea party on 25th July or to one of their meetings? For more information please contact 020 8398 1914 or 020 8398 2561.

Ruth Lyon, Patron of CHEER

Former Mayor of Elmbridge Ruth Lyon who recently retired as a councillor has agreed to become a Patron of CHEER.

Ruth was first elected in 1974 and has represented the residents of Elmbridge for an unbroken 44 years. During this time she also served as a Council

Observer on CHEER's board and has been a first class ambassador for CHEER, working tirelessly to support our efforts to improve the lives of elderly people in the borough.

We thank Ruth for her work and help and are delighted that we will still be in touch with her as a Patron of CHEER.



Janis Fletcher, CHEER Chair, with Ruth Lyon at the CHEER AGM

volunteer so he has easily transitioned into his new role. We are very fortunate that they have both joined us and have quickly settled into their Parkinson's roles.

We are delighted that Kate Wratten has joined us as a new trustee. She is a Director and Co-Founder of

a research and consulting agency focusing on Africa and other developing markets and has extensive experience of strategy and business planning. She lives locally with her husband and two sons, enjoys outdoor sports and is Chair of the Committee for a local children's triathlon club.

Staff and Trustee News

We are pleased to welcome Yvonne Clarke as Group Coordinator and Martin Jancar as Assistant Group Coordinator for the Parkinson's Group which meets on Mondays at the Claygate Centre.

Many of you may already

know Yvonne as she previously worked for Carer Support Elmbridge. She has a wealth of experience in the charity sector and is able to help CHEER with our benefits work.

Martin started with the Parkinson's Group as a



Concern and Help for East Elmbridge Retired

Summer 2018

Donation from Thames Ditton Centre

CHEER has recently received a donation from the staff, volunteers and



Daniel Cooksley, Thames Ditton Centre Manager with CHEER Donation

members of the Thames Ditton Centre.

We thank them for their generosity, which will help us to fund tea parties and other social events where older people can get out and about.

The Thames Ditton Centre is opposite the Library by Giggs Hill Green. There are regular events on Mondays

and Thursdays such as a singing group; bridge; tai chi; an art class; quizzes and games; and chair-based yoga. There are also outings and other special events such as a chocolate truffle-making masterclass. The popular Men in Sheds group makes garden planters, garden furniture and other woodwork objects and provides a great opportunity to get out, meet new people and discover new skills. Whether you want to try a new hobby such as bridge,



Tea party at St Christopher's, 5th June

or woodwork with Men in Sheds; or improve your health and well-being with tai chi or chair-based exercises you will receive a warm welcome from the friendly team at the Thames Ditton Centre!

Friendships – Judi and Gill

Judi and Gill's friendship did not come together through the normal CHEER way of introductions.

Judi joined CHEER as a volunteer and found herself seated alongside Gill at the 2016 Christmas lunch. They hit it off as they had so much in common: Gill is an accomplished artist and Judi

expressed her creative nature through her upholstery work, being a soft furnisher with a workshop at home. Furthermore, as Judi soon discovered, Gill's late husband, Dennis, was himself an upholsterer. Gill has always lived in Hersham and after Dennis

sadly passed away, she became a single mother bringing up 6 children.

She is now blessed with 20 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren of whom she is very proud.

Judi and Gill, along with other friends of CHEER, attend 'Painting our



Judi and Gill

world in silver' each month at Whiteley Village which they absolutely love.



CHEER Diary

Wednesday 15 th August	12:00 – 14:00	Pie and Pint, Marquis of Granby, Esher
Thursday 23 rd August	11:00 – 15:00	Lower Green Summer Fete, Lower Green Community Centre, Farm Road
Thursday 13 th September	14:00 – 16:00	Molesey Tea Party, Venue TBA
Wednesday 3 rd October	12:00 – 14:00	Pie and Pint, Marquis of Granby, Esher
Thursday 25 th October	14:00 – 16:00	Cobham Tea Party, Venue TBA
Friday 9 th November	12:00 – 14:00	Winter Warmer Lunch