

## How to contact CHEER



You may be referred to us by your GP, social worker, friends, carers or relatives. Otherwise please find contact details below.



01372 879321



[manager@cheer-elmbridge.org.uk](mailto:manager@cheer-elmbridge.org.uk)



CHEER  
Claygate Centre for the Community,  
Elm Road Claygate  
Surrey, KT10 0EH



[www.cheer-elmbridge.org.uk](http://www.cheer-elmbridge.org.uk)

# CHANGING LIVES

**We are your local charity providing advice, friendship and support to older people.**



## About us

CHEER is a registered charity for older people in Elmbridge. Our aim is to reduce the social isolation of those who are lonely or housebound and to provide advice on alleviating financial hardship.

We have been established for over 60 years. Our befriending service covers the whole of Elmbridge, with benefits advice services available in the east of the borough and in neighbouring areas.

CHEER is run by a Board of Trustees.

Our day to day operations are managed by our staff team, who provide advice and support to the elderly in the community.

The staff support a team of enthusiastic volunteer befrienders, each of whom is matched with someone who can benefit from a weekly home visit - perhaps where family are not close at hand or because they have limited mobility.



We offer a unique service because our staff visit people in their own homes to assess the full range of their needs.

CHEER is grateful for the financial support we receive from Elmbridge Borough Council and local charitable foundations, and for all donations large and small, which enable us to provide this free and essential service for the local community.

## How we can help

### BEFRIENDING

Those who are lonely or housebound can be put in contact with our network of trained volunteers. A dedicated volunteer will be able to make regular weekly visits that will last at least an hour. During a visit a volunteer will typically talk to their friend about how they are, discuss common interests and help with any problems that might have arisen over the week.

### EVENTS

CHEER understands that people can become very isolated when they are older and feel cut off from the outside world. We organise a number of social events throughout the year for elderly clients, and volunteers, to help them to meet and engage with other people.



Events include afternoon tea at local venues and some sheltered housing schemes, men's pub lunches and similar activities.

### HELP WITH BENEFIT GRANTS

*(Currently available only in the eastern part of Elmbridge)*

CHEER staff will visit an elderly person who requires help, and together consider their options for seeking financial support. They will help them to complete forms and apply for assistance on their behalf.

There is a range of benefits available, including Blue Badges and Attendance Allowance. Attendance Allowances can make a huge difference to people's lives and provide vital support for those who wish to remain in their own home.