



Evergreen Leaves

"But blessed are those who trust in the LORD ... they are like trees planted along a riverbank ... their leaves stay green and they never stop producing fruit." - Jeremiah 17:7-8 (NLT)



NEWSLETTER OF EVERGREEN CARE BEXLEY



EVERGREEN CARE BEXLEY

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ERITH FUN DAY

Erith Riverside
30th August 2014



The Erith Fun Day was a great day, bringing the local community together. The sky was cloudy, but the sun was shining and everyone got involved in the fun. For the kids, there were guest appearances from the likes of Buzz Lightyear and Micky Mouse. From 12pm—5pm, there were games, DJ-led entertainment, a Bagpipes exhibition which made a great impact, and a display of Martial Arts. The variety of activities really made the day enjoyable.

We were pleased to be given the opportunity to have a stall which was a good opportunity to introduce ourselves to the community and discuss our work and how individuals can help us.

THINKING OF BECOMING A VOLUNTEER? OR DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO WOULD BE INTERESTED?

We will be holding another Induction Training course in January 2015, please get in touch for further information.

CORPORATE DONATIONS

We would like to thank Bruce Levy and the Bexleyheath ASDA store for their kind donation of £50 for the ongoing work of Evergreen Care Bexley and for the ongoing support of our charity.



ADULT SOCIAL CARE ANNUAL REPORT 2014

Bexley Council have issued an annual report about the delivery of adult social care in Bexley.

The report includes how people have benefited from the care and support provided, progress over the last year and news about changes and targets to be met.

For more information and to view the report please go to the web link below, the report can be found on the top-right hand side of the article:

<http://www.bexley.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=14823>

FAITH HOPE AND LOVE

Broadway Bexleyheath Churches
Together 20th September 2014

Held as a celebration of our community, with live music, a sports cage, craft and displays, we attended for the second year running. We had a great day and made some new contacts and recruited new volunteers. A doctor came and spoke to us during the day and has offered to do some training for our volunteers.

PRAYER SUPPORT

Prayer is a very important part of Evergreen and we are pleased to have a number of people, from churches across the Borough of Bexley, that are committed to praying for God's blessing on the work that we're doing.

We are at a development stage at the moment with some challenges that need addressing. Please would you take some time to pray for the following?

Office space
Funding
IT support
We have been shortlisted for the London Community Grant, please pray we are successful.

We also need ongoing prayer for the Operational Board, the Trustees, the befrienders, the Knitting Club and the people that work in the office.

Many thanks for your support. God bless, Jill Grant and Christine Ives

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

VOLUNTEERS

CHRISTMAS EVENING

5th December 7-9.30pm at Belvedere Baptist Church. With live music, entertainment and special guest.

MEMORIES

12th December 2-4pm at Belvedere Baptist Church. An afternoon tea from the bygone era, FREE tea, scones and cakes, with music from the past. In partnership with Refresh.

FUNDRAISING

By visiting our website: Evergreencarebexley.org you can find ways to support us.

You can donate online, join Give As You Live, donate by text, make a will or send a cheque.



We are delighted to introduce our new Befriending Lead

TERESA DICKS:

“ Although it ‘had its moments’, as they say, I can look back and say that I had a very happy and rewarding career of 30+ years in social work with Children and Families. I worked alongside colleagues, children, parents and carers who taught me so much, in so many ways, and my life has been all the better for having known them. Earlier this year I was aware of God telling me it was time to make changes and to pursue new opportunities and challenges.

I tentatively approached Di and Pete to see if they had any use for me, as I felt very drawn to the work of Evergreen, despite not having had any previous experience of working with the elderly. Little did I know that they had been praying about having some additional help to support Pete in his role, only days before!

We talked together about my taking on the work of the ‘Befriending Lead’ in order that Pete could be freed up and have more time to strategically plan and develop further services, thereby taking the vision of Evergreen forward.

I have had a great month learning my new role and meeting new people. There are 2 main aspects of the job; the first being to visit the elderly person who has been referred to the service, so that I can meet them and talk to them about the work of Evergreen; the second being to meet with prospective volunteers, interviewing them, taking them through our vetting process and introducing them to their new, carefully matched ‘befriender’.

Seeing the effects on the physical and emotional well-being of an individual ‘first hand’ has really impacted on me. However, the prospect of having the company of a befriender can visibly lift their spirits and encourages them, and this has clarified how worthwhile and necessary Evergreen is as a community support service.

The visits have been so uplifting too, particularly when I have been invited to look at family photo albums and have had memories of specific times shared with me.

It has been heart-warming to meet people who have a genuine care and concern for older people and who want to make a commitment and give their time so generously.

I want to thank Pete, Di, Chris Bryant and other team members for making me so welcome and supporting me, but most of all I want to thank our Heavenly Father for all his loving-kindness towards Evergreen; I look forward to what He is planning next – whatever that is, I have no doubt that it will be to the benefit of our elderly who are in need, and that it will be exciting! ”

VOLUNTEERS EVENING

Belvedere Baptist Church 19th September 2014.

We are so grateful to our dedicated volunteers who are willing to spend their free-time helping meet the need of our borough’s elderly community. As part of our support we take great pleasure in holding special events specifically to thank our volunteers. This is a great opportunity to build team spirit and share our individual experiences of how we are impacting lives as well as how rewarding it can be for our volunteers. We also thanked Bruce Levy on behalf of ASDA who kindly donated £50 to supply the buffet for our event. An approximate head count showed over 50 people in attendance – a great turn out and yet a number we hope to exceed come the next event. Bruce Levy from ASDA gave a short talk on the charity support they have offered in the Bexley Borough and their support for Evergreen. Representing Cruse Bereavement Care, Margaret Ades also gave a speech about her life experience and how the work of Cruse helped her, which in turn led to her joining their team to share in the work they do. We thank both of our speakers for their time and look forward to continued support in the future.

A big thank you to the people who kindly gave their time to help run the event.



Evergreen Care Bexley is committed to serving older and vulnerable people in the local community, by developing and sustaining useful, appropriate and excellent services to support and honour them.