



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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Charity No. 1154595

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Induction Training

11th July 2015, 9am - 4pm
Sidcup Community Church
Please contact us if you are interested in volunteering.

Erith Fun Day

18th July 2015, 2pm - 5pm
Erith Riverside Gardens
A community event, free entry, with music, activities and games, stalls, food & sweets, licenced bar.

Prayer In The Office

Every Friday, 1pm - 2pm
all are very welcome

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.

Befrienders Needed

With the closure of more public services, there is an increasing gap in the care sector.

Our befriending service aims to help bridge part of the gap by offering support to the elderly by means of a lasting friendship.

We carefully match our volunteers and clients interests and requirements to create a friendship that we hope will be truly rewarding and last forever.

We are taking a high number of enquiries from all over the Bexley Borough from clients looking for friendship.

How Can You Help?

Sparing an hour or two weekly or fortnightly can help build a life-changing friendship and make a positive difference to someone's life.

We have Befriending volunteer opportunities available all over the Bexley Borough. Call us to arrange an assessment.

Social Prescribing

Social Prescribing allows patient referrals between GPs, nurses and voluntary organisations to offer programmes which can help a patient and their particular need. We are now members of this scheme, making it easier for us to reach patients over 65 who are either socially isolated, frequent users of primary care services, struggling to manage significant life changes or struggling to manage health conditions.



Eligible patients are referred by a GP, they will be assessed by a social prescribing coordinator who will refer them to voluntary organisations offering services who may be able to meet their needs. Call Mind In Bexley 020 8303 5816 option 3 for further information.

Praise For Dedicated Lady Working For Charity At The Age Of 95!

News Shopper reports Fran Grier, who turned 95 this month, has been devoutly working at a charity shop in Sidcup for the last 20 years. Her colleague explained how Fran, as she was turning 90, said she would give up work when she reaches 90, to which her colleague replied "oh no you're not!" – to this very day, Fran continues to give her time every Tuesday to the shop.

New Wheelchair Donation

We were pleasantly surprised when we received a very generous donation of a brand new wheelchair. We have decided this will be put to good use by hiring it out to those who do not have their own wheelchair and would benefit from mobility assistance when attending appointments, activities and days out.



Social Media

Find us on the following platforms. Please remember to like us, follow us and share our posts!

Facebook

[www.facebook.com/
EvergreenCareBexley](http://www.facebook.com/EvergreenCareBexley)

Twitter

[www.twitter.com/
EvergreenCareBY](http://www.twitter.com/EvergreenCareBY)
@EvergreenCareBY

Street Life

[www.streetlife.com/page/
evergreen-care-bexley](http://www.streetlife.com/page/evergreen-care-bexley)



Update: Home Support

We launched our Home Support Service in April, and with it has come both challenges and rewards. The challenges have been the need to learn new office and IT processes which has stretched us all.

The rewards have been seeing the needs of our clients met and the relationships grow between them and our Home Support Workers. We have two lovely Home Support Workers, Isabelle and Teresa, who have already impacted the lives of those they serve. Our Home Support was never about just cleaning and shopping etc. but about the wellbeing of our clients and helping them to feel valued and part of the community. We have three other potential Home Support Workers waiting to join us as the work increases, and we look forward to welcoming them to the team soon.

Diane Kot

Update: Clean Team



We launched the Clean Team at the same time as our Home Support and are already onto our fourth job with three others awaiting. Being the only service of this type in the Borough this was to be expected. What we have seen over the last few months has been challenging and upsetting, but also life changing for the clients that we serve. This being said, the rapport we have within the team is great and, although hard work, there is a real sense of fun and ribbing which goes on throughout the days.

The feedback we have received from clients and their families has been heart-warming, one saying she 'didn't think there were such people who cared today'.

Since launching, we have come to the notice of several Social Departments within Bexley, who are beginning to see Evergreen as something different from the norm. If you would like to be a part of this life changing work, then please do get in touch. The Clean Team can never have too many members.

I would like to thank all the team for their hard work, dedication and compassion they have shown to this invaluable work.

Pete Kot

A Prayer of Thanks To Our Father:

Dear Father in heaven,

How wonderful, how great, how amazing you are.

Thank you so much for all you've done to help us in Evergreen. We have been blessed with people who want to befriend a lonely person. You have provided money and resources when we've really needed them. We have a Clean Team now and all the equipment. We have had excellent and enjoyable training courses. Thank you for the fun we've had getting to know each other and the resulting fellowship. You have used the knitting talents of a group of ladies to help raise money and at the same time enjoy each other's company (and scrumptious cakes!). We have a Home Support Service. There have been enjoyable fundraising events and also some delicious tea parties, that we know have been a great joy to some people. They have really looked forward to these social occasions. There are some lovely people working in the office. We have you to thank for all this activity and purpose and we just want you to know how much we love you. You are the very essence of love and in the name of Jesus Christ we ask that you would continue to bless and help us in this good work. Amen

We have a prayer team that is made up of people from churches all over the borough. If you would like to be part of this team please ring the office for more information.

Jill Grant & Christine Ives



Testimony from our Reviewing Officer

I'd just like to make a few comments as the Reviewing Officer for Evergreen. Normally people are so happy with their befrienders, the comments I normally get are:-

- "It has made such a difference to my life"
- "I really look forward to my befriender coming"
- "She is such a lovely person"
- One lady's daughter said her "Mum was adamant she didn't want anyone, but now she really looks forward to her befriender coming and it has taken such a burden off my shoulders to know she has someone calling"

It really is a joy to hear the difference it has made to people's lives and I can only congratulate Diane & Pete, and everyone else for that matter, for all the hard work and effort that has gone into setting up and running Evergreen Care Bexley.

Ann Hale



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