



# 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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[www.evergreencarebexley.org](http://www.evergreencarebexley.org)

Charity No. 1154595

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### Dementia Café

10th Feb 2017, 10-4pm,  
Sidcup Library, Hadlow  
Road, DA14 4AQ

#### Coffee and Conversation

31st Jan 2017, 9-12pm, &  
7th Mar 2017, 9-12pm,  
Bexleyheath Central  
Library, Towley Road,  
DA6 7HL

#### Induction Training

14th January 2017, 9am,  
Belvedere Baptist Church,  
Nuxley Road, DA17 5JG

Can you help us by  
participating in our events  
and promoting our cause?  
Please call for details.

### FUNDRAISING

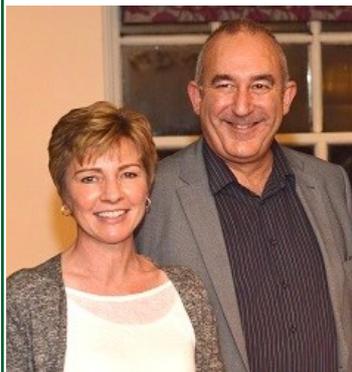
By visiting our website:  
[Evergreencarebexley.org](http://Evergreencarebexley.org)  
you can find ways to  
support us.

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

### A Christmas message from our Founders Pete & Diane

Dear friends,

As Evergreen enters its fourth year of providing services to our older citizens in Bexley, we just wanted to say a big thank you to all our volunteers, staff and supporters who have been on this journey with us. We have heard so many lovely stories from our clients and their families, thanking us for all our support and telling us how the visits from our volunteer Befrienders and Home Support Workers have made such a big difference to their lives.



We are so looking forward to 2017 to see where God takes Evergreen next. There is so much more to be done and so many people to help, but together we will make a difference.

May you all have a peaceful Christmas, and a New Year full of rich blessings.

Pete & Diane x

### Befriending Client Testimonies

Every friendship we spark is carefully matched to ensure an enriching time together for both clients and befrienders.



"We became friends quickly and I really appreciate what she does for me, we have very similar interests, theatre, cinema. I call her the dinner lady - she visits me once a week and brings me a meal, and cakes, and helps me out with shopping. She brings the outside world to my door! To actually see somebody weekly..."



"I look forward to her [my befriender's] visits, at first I thought, what are we going to talk about? But we instantly clicked. She is such a help, we go out shopping, have tea and cake, she has taken me to the dentist, and we have similar interests."

Our befriending service is a mutually rewarding two way friendship. Be a shining light in someone's life, become a Befriender.

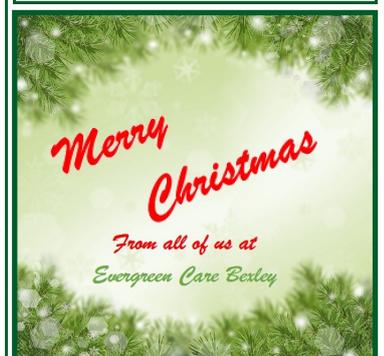
### Evergreen Vintage Tea

On 28<sup>th</sup> October we held one of our Vintage Tea afternoons, supported by the Mayor of Bexley Eileen Pallen. We had about 100 people come to share in the afternoon including quite a few of our clients and their volunteers and Home Support Staff and it was a wonderful time.

Many thanks to all who helped, including the thirteen Police cadets in their uniforms who helped serve and chatted to the people; Manjit from Tesco Welling for her hard work in the kitchen and for the cakes; The Coop and Bookers for their kind donations; and everyone else who helped to make the afternoon a special time.

### Lighthouse Project

To support our older population with the dignity and respect they deserve, then we need to build communities once again. Early 2017 we will be launching The Lighthouse Project, which provides local businesses who care about their community the opportunity to stand with Evergreen in supporting older people in Bexley. Visit the website: [evergreenbexleylighthouse.org](http://evergreenbexleylighthouse.org)



## Evergreen Christmas Meal for the Elderly

We want to say a HUGE thank you to local estate agency Anthony Martin, and Anthony Martin himself, for arranging a truly fantastic Christmas meal and get-together for clients of Evergreen Care Bexley and other local organisations at the Toby Carvery on the 8th Dec. Over 40 guests were treated to a roast and drinks, and enjoyed an evening out, where they got to make new friends and be waited on by staff from the estate agency and Toby Carvery, whilst receiving and enjoying the Christmas spirit of giving!

Anthony Martin staff and local businesses donated prizes for a free

raffle draw given out to our guests. Prizes included poinsettia, hampers, chocolates, restaurant vouchers, shop vouchers, etc.

Anthony Martin employee Lesley said, "I had a great time helping the elderly people in the community."

Paul of Anthony Martin commented, "Anthony asked us if we would be willing to forfeit our staff Christmas Party and help out the lonely and elderly in our community instead – everyone said yes! I couldn't stay the whole night, which was a shame, but judging from the photos and the feedback from my colleagues it seems as if everyone enjoyed themselves. I don't know how Sam Hovey [of Anthony Martin's marketing team]



From left-right: Diane Kot, Pete Kot, Mayor of Bexley Eileen Pallen and Anthony Martin

managed it, she put so much effort in and her hard work and determination really paid off."

Thanks also go to Toby Carvery for hosting the event, the Mayor of Bexley who got involved and spent the whole evening with us, Volunteer Centre Bexley and Crossroads Care South East London for inviting their clients to the event, Bexley Accessible Transport Scheme for providing our guests with transport, and to all the staff at Anthony Martin Estate Agents who gave their time to help make the whole evening a Christmas meal to remember. For more photos visit our website: [evergreencarebexley.org/2016-sponsored-christmas-meal/](http://evergreencarebexley.org/2016-sponsored-christmas-meal/)



## Co-op Local Community Fund supporting Evergreen Care Bexley

The Co-op together with its members are helping raise funds for our charity. So far they've raised over £600!

### What is it for?

The purpose of this funding is for our "Evergreen Vintage Tea" meetings. This gives the elderly members of our community who have been brought up in a similar era a chance to get together and socialise. The meetings are themed, with waiters/waitresses in vintage era uniforms, serving drinks and

cakes. The room is decorated with memorabilia and there is music from times past, giving the event a classic, vintage atmosphere.

### So how does it work?

From 21 Sep 2016 until 17 Mar 2017 when a Co-op member uses their membership card on Co-op branded products and services 5% of their spend is paid into the member's account and 1% of their spend goes towards the Local Community Fund. Members can choose their local cause to support.

### How can you get involved?

Co-op members get to choose their local cause - choose Evergreen Care Bexley!

Visit [evergreencarebexley.org/sponsorship-coop/](http://evergreencarebexley.org/sponsorship-coop/)

Or for more hands-on involvement, which comes with its own rewards, become a Befriender with Evergreen. Our Befriending service is in highly sought after and we are seeking more volunteers for our charity. Please contact the office if you would like to know more, and perhaps come along to one of our meetings and experience the rewards this life-changing service offers. For more information visit our website's Get Involved or Support Us pages.

