

ESSEX RESPITE & CARE ASSOCIATION

Patron – The Lord Petre KCVO, JP

APRIL 2018



NEWSLETTER

**Providing
Respite and
Support
for Carers of
people with
mental health
needs**

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Our New Board Member



We are very happy to announce that Dr Christopher Barry has joined our Board of Trustees for ERCA. Dr Barry is the Professor of Psychology at the University of Essex. Dr Barry will be an extremely valuable member of the Board due to his knowledge and understanding of the situations faced by our clients. As ERCA continues to grow we need all the support we can find to make sure our charity continues to offer a service that, not only appeals to our clients, but also provides the professional and supportive service that is needed. We look forward to working alongside Dr Barry and thank him for giving of his valuable time.

Should you feel you would also like to join our Board of feel you have some time that you would like to give to help those in need in your community, we would love to hear from you. At the moment we are looking for support in sprucing up our website so please contact us if you are able to help.

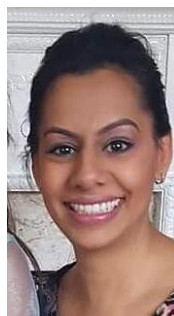
Good Bye Kevin!

After 12 years of service our manager and support worker Kevin Edwards is leaving. The news that Kevin is retiring from his job as Manager will come as a surprise as he has been a very keen and committed member of staff. We will miss his unfailing cheerfulness and his instinctive response to provide help and his willingness to go above and beyond to support our clients. Kevin says..

"I have thoroughly enjoyed my role here at ERCA, the Board and Support workers are all amazing people who truly care and who work extremely hard for their community. I am going to start a cleaning company 'Eclipse Cleaning' doing carpet and window cleaning. I am doing this alongside my wife so we can spend more time together as a family. My 12 years at ERCA have given me many good memories and many fun times with the clients I have worked with. I cannot thank you all enough and wish you all the best for the future."

To fill the vacancy caused by Kevin's resignation, the committee has decided to appoint Lena Dey and Jemma Pollack as joint Managers. They will job share and together will be responsible for the day to day Management of ERCA. This is important because the need for the services that ERCA provides has grown considerably. An example of how much our support is needed is illustrated by a recent comment;

"You are so kind to me, you always make me happy, when I am not."



Lena Dey



Jemma Pollack

FUND RAISING!



Kevin recently applied to "Tesco's Bags of Help" and consequently our charity has been awarded £4,000 from Tesco Chelmsford and £3,000 from Tesco's Epping. This is fantastic news and means we are able to continue our "Activities Project" which supports our clients to go out into the community to be involved in many different activities while learning important life skills.

We understand that all the Tesco shops operate this scheme so if there is a Tesco near you that hasn't been involved let us know and we will apply.

Also if you see any other opportunities to raise money for ERCA or would like to do a sponsored activity please let us know and we will do all we can to support it.

AMICI CANTATE CONCERT, 30th JUNE 2018

Last year ERCA hosted the SWIFT SINGERS choir. The concert held in June at the Trinity Methodist Church in Chelmsford was a huge success raising over £1100. At the event, many well know songs were sung with a good amount of audience participation. We are happy to announce that ERCA is hosting the AMICI CANTATE Choir. The Amici Cantate is a Bishop's Stortford-based choir made up of parents and friends of students in the renowned Cantate youth choir. The concert is being held on the 30th of June 2018 again at the Trinity Methodist Church Chelmsford. The concert will begin at 7.30pm. Tickets will be £12 each and a raffle will also be held. All funds raised will go towards the Charity. Feel free to pre-book so as to not be disappointed and miss out on the fun filled musical evening.



Client Liaison.



We would like to introduce you to Crystal Pannell who is a Client Liaison Worker. Crystal's responsibilities include reviewing the service, liaising with professionals and providing valuable supervision for our staff. Soon Crystal will make contact with all of our clients to introduce herself and to arrange a time to meet. Clients will have the opportunity to share their views about the service and review the support that they receive.