



life limiting illness support

What's Happening

OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2024



Being There is an inclusive Greater Manchester based Charity providing befriending, psychological support, respite sitting, hospital transport and social support to people living with cancer, stroke, heart & respiratory diseases and other life limiting conditions. We also support carers and family members from all communities.

Welcome back to our newsletter. Hope you are enjoying the longer and brighter days of summer. The Being There team have been busy as always with our clients and the services we offer. We have some exciting news to share with you all. Where do we start?

Goodbye Karen & Thank You!

We will sadly be saying goodbye to our long serving CEO Karen Mercer, who is retiring from Being There. Here is a message from Karen.

I have had the privilege of working with many dedicated volunteers, staff and trustees during my twenty years tenure at Being There in my various roles. Special mention goes to our founders, the late Tom Brown and the late Professor Peter Maguire who, recognising the need for psychological support in those with a diagnosis of cancer, went about creating a charity that would begin to address it forty plus years before the mainstream. From a handful of volunteers trained in empathic listening, the charity has grown in size and stature to the organisation we see today. I am proud to have played my small part in the evolution of this marvellous charity.



I would like to thank the Trustees and chairs I have worked with, the late Allen Whittaker, David Lambert and current chair, Jim Yates. All generously shared their many professional skills, qualities and personal insights to support my development as CEO. I must also thank my very able deputies Becky Turner and Ros Cooper, and the wonderful existing team of staff and volunteers who keep the Being There flag flying.

In twenty years, the voluntary sector environment has changed almost beyond recognition. Increasing competition for funding, a shrinking statutory sector and the growing influence of social media. Our core strength remained throughout our empathic listening model and the positive impact it has had on the many thousands of clients we have supported. The societal damage caused by the Covid 19 pandemic highlights the ongoing need for, and value of, the empathic relationships that Being There espouses.

In an ever-shrinking health & social welfare sector, we do what we are able to make a difference to our clients. Long may Being There continue to do so. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome and wish all the very best to the incoming CEO, Vikkey Chaffe. **As ever, thank you for Being There.**

For more information:
0345 123 23 29

Visit our website at:
www.beingthere.org.uk

General Enquiries:
info@beingthere.org.uk



New Being There members!



Counselling Co-ordinator

Meet Saphron Day who is the new counselling coordinator at Being There.



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New Chief Executive Officer - Vikkey Chaffe

I'm Vikkey Chaffe, the new CEO of Being There. I could not be more excited to be joining Being There and to carry on the fantastic work that the charity has already achieved. Having lived experience of living with family with life limiting illnesses I am excited to take on this exciting role.



Financial administrator

Jennifer Taylor is covering for the maternity leave of the Finance Manager.

Thank you volunteers

Thank you to all our volunteers from past to present for your contribution and incredible work that you do. You are a big part of Being There. You have and are continuing to make an impact with every client you work with. Can we also take this opportunity to thank our counselling volunteers for supporting Being Heard.

We also are on the hunt for Bilingual Volunteers

Being There is an inclusive charity and supports people of all backgrounds. We need volunteers from diverse backgrounds, who can also speak more than one language. If you are bilingual and would like to use your skills with Being There, please get in touch. We have many roles in Being There that could be of interest to you. Volunteers are given training and support plus volunteering related out of pocket expenses. **For more information visit our website www.beingthere.org.uk**

What's been happening...

Our North Manchester branch social group went for a trip to Dunham Massey in June. They had a super time and could not have chosen a better day for weather with lots of sunshine! A big thank you to all the staff at The National Trust who helped to organise the day and to our fantastic volunteers who took everyone to and from the park! Well done all!



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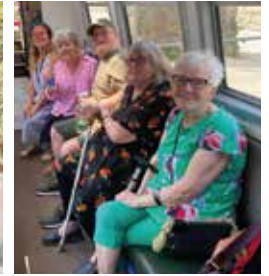


What's been happening...

Being There Trafford spent a gorgeous afternoon on the canal from Marple thanks to The Stockport Canal Boat Trust! What can be better than sandwiches, sunshine, sweet treats, and fabulous company.



Being There Tameside social group had a fabulous day out sailing along the picturesque Marple Locks, also through The Stockport Canal Boat Trust. A big thank you to the fantastic crew who made sure we all got aboard safely, and everyone was able to access the viewing platform. Everyone welcomed the chance to relax in the sun for a couple of hours and have a lovely picnic.



Fundraising Activities

Our Being There Volunteer Coordinator, Sue recently took part in a sponsored walk with members of The Indian Community Centre in Ashton, helping to raise funds for Prostate Cancer support. They raised £195: well done to Sue and everyone who took part.

Thank you to Rise Technical who have chosen Being There as their charity of the year and will be raising money for the charity. They have recently done a Euro 2024 sweepstake. Being There was donated £110 after drawing the winners, Spain. The JustGiving link is here:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/wrtbeingthere>

CHARITY SPONSORED WALK 10 MILE FAMILY WALK
 JOIN US ON SUNDAY 23RD JUNE 2024 START 9AM
 PROSTATE CANCER SUPPORT
 #WellBeingGroupSBM

Every Wednesday morning, free activities include chair exercise plus information/ advice by experts on Health, Legal, Finance & Wellbeing support.

For more information visit <https://www.prostatecancersupport.org>

For more information visit <https://www.wellbeinggroupsbm.org>

Make it just for you! You can still donate directly via the SBM Just Giving page: <https://www.justgiving.com/page/wrtbeingthere>

Event sponsored by:

Being There continues to offer its Counselling Service to registered Being There clients. Language support is available.

being heard counselling service

For further information:
07708 635183

General Enquiries:
referrals@beingthere.org.uk

Visit our website:
www.beingthere.org.uk

For more Information contact

Salford Branch
07599 957153

South Manchester Branch
07845 793889

Tameside Branch
07709 522631

Diversity & Inclusion
Tameside **07871 453269**

Trafford Branch
07716 122613

North Manchester Branch
07749 368339

Volunteer Recruitment
07840 533056

Diversity & Inclusion
Manchester **07897 830637**

For more information:
0345 123 23 29

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