

Bye Bye Cherie!

Hi #teamhextol—How are you all?

This edition is dedicated to Cherie, our longest serving employee and someone who is well known to all of you. This is our 14th birthday and Cherie has been here from the beginning! After all this time she has decided to move on to a new job in Carlisle but we hope she'll keep in touch with us.

It's amazing to think that in the time she's been here we have provided over 91000 hours of working opportunities to our volunteers! Cherie deserves to be very, very proud of the part she's played in delivering that. She's also been the first point of contact for many of you when you've joined us and has worked really hard during the pandemic to keep in touch with you all and to make sure you're all ok. Everything she's done has been to keep you all safe, happy and fully engaged.

I asked a couple of you to sum up Cherie in one word. They came up with "supportive" and "encouraging". I really couldn't put it better!

It's sad to see "our Cherie" go but she has our very best wishes and we hope she is happy in her new job. She's certainly leaving having improved the lives of many people. Good luck Chezza!! Bruce



Cherie Sutherland

I don't know what to say for once I'm speechless!!

I still remember the first Greenbox shift like it was yesterday, and we were so happy that we managed to get through 50 envelopes. I can't even begin to explain what the past 14 years have been like for me, not many people can say they loved getting up in the morning and going to work, well I can and have loved watching every single volunteer grow within Hextol, whether they have been with us for 14 years or 4 weeks, meeting our vols at interview and watching them grow is so amazing and I'm proud of every single volunteer I have welcomed into Hextol.

I can't believe a conversation at a party led me to spend the past 14 years gaining so much experience and learning so much about myself, I never thought I could do much but when I look back on what I have done I can honestly say I'm so proud of myself. It's going to be so weird for me to not be involved with you. I'm going to miss every single one of you and I believe in you all so much, I can't wait to see what happens next for you.

Thank you all for making these past 14 years the best - from the laughs, the tears and falls out you are all amazing.

Miss you already Cherie x

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A big thank you from some of our volunteers



“Cherie has always been kind and supportive to me, always wishing me happy Xmas at the annual party. I wish her all the best for the future”

Arthur Vane (Gardening)



“ I want to thank Cherie for giving me the opportunity to volunteer with Hextol all those years ago. I wish her the best of luck for the new job and hope she does good at it”

Adam Reid (Gardening)



“I have known Cherie for 13 years since starting as a volunteer at Hextol. She has been a good support for me. I wish her good luck for the future and we will all miss her”

**Rebecca Hall
(Tans Café)**



“Cherie and I have worked together for 11 years and was always the one to keep me in line and let me know about different job opportunities. She is a really nice person and I am sad to see her leave. I will miss her”

Aaron Graves (Tans Café)



“When I first came to Hextol it was Cherie who I first had contact with. She made me feel really comfortable and really at ease. She is always there if you ever need anything and just very supportive”

**Gillian Dickson
Volunteer Supervisor (Tans Café)**

COVID Update

As we are preparing this edition of *happenings* the government have yet to announce whether the planned easing of restrictions on 21 June will go ahead as planned. If it does then it's the trigger for us to open up catering and LunchClub. I'm afraid it's looking likely there may be a delay but we'll see next week and will let you know.

News came through last week that a whole year group at QEHS had been sent home for 2 weeks because of a COVID outbreak. This comes on top of a couple of local restaurants having to close for the same reason.

Which shows the pandemic is still with us and it's vital we all continue to follow the safety precautions we've put in place and which have worked so well to date. So stay safe everyone.