

Council September 2022

Item 6 The Good Company People

To follow is an overview of The Good Company, which is a new non profit which is launching across High Weald - Crowborough, Forest Row, Groombridge, Rotherfield, Withyham, Hartfield, Mayfield and Wadhurst.

Lucy Buck, the founder, is attending the September Council meeting to provide information and answer any questions. Council is also asked whether it would allow The Good Company to use a meeting room on a weekly basis free of charge as they have no suitable base at this time.

Introduction

The Good Company People is a non profit set up in July 2020 with the ambition to enable everyone over 60 experiencing loneliness and social isolation, many of whom are living with mild cognitive impairments (MCI) or dementia to enjoy independent, fulfilling, lives for longer in their homes and communities.



People we support

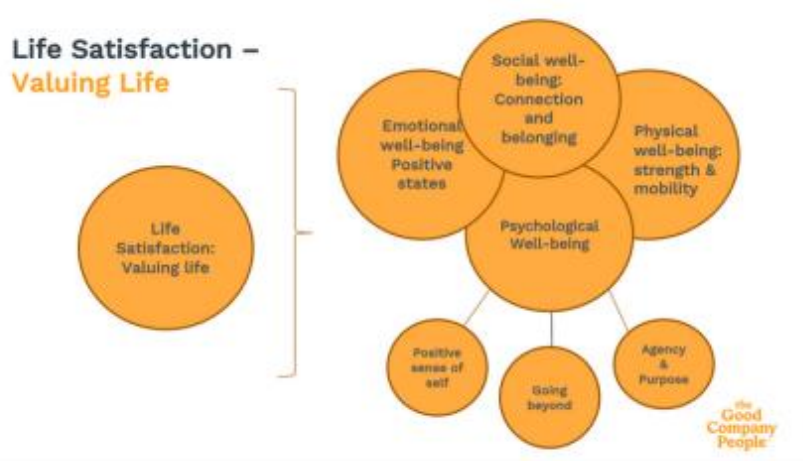
The Good Company People provide a flexible range of services to meet the changing needs of people living with MCI or dementia and their informal carers. Our aim is to identify people at the early stages of MCI or dementia, before a crisis occurs, to help them and their carers live well in their homes and communities. However, our service is not exclusively a dementia service, we have clients who just need a little more support to carry on doing the things they love in Good Company.

We work with professional referrers and voluntary organisations, including the Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust Memory Assessment Service, ESCC Dementia Support Service and Carer Breaks, High Weald Lewes Havens Community Nursing team, Age UK Social Prescribers and GP's, Wealden Dementia Action Alliance, Association of Carers and Care For The Carers.



Guest Assessment

Once we receive a professional or private referral, TGCP team visit the client and their informal carer and carry out an assessment to fully understand their life story, hobbies and interests, their professional career and assess how dementia impacts their everyday life (if relevant), their mobility and satisfaction with life. We also understand the main objectives for their carers to understand their needs and wishes and develop a support plan.



TGCP Concierge service

TGCP Concierge Service is designed for informal carers to provide one to one monthly personalised support enabling them to navigate the complex system of health and social care, access relevant support and services in their communities and plan for the care of their loved one. In addition, carers can access professional dementia advice from our dementia specialists.



TGCP Supper Club

Once a month, The Good Company People Supper Club in Crowborough provides social networking and peer support in a dementia-friendly environment where people can enjoy meeting each other, share stories over a great meal, and the opportunity to sing along to the classics in Good Company.



TGCP Open House

Once a month, Good Company Hosts will provide a free Open House Good Company session and cream teas for up to 20 people living with dementia and their carers. An afternoon of curated activities based on the hobbies and interests of the guests who will attend them with their informal carers who could choose to take part in activities, or simply enjoy a cup of tea and meet others.



TGCP Compendium of Activities

TGCP are in the process of developing a compendium of activities based on the latest evidence of what works for the emotional, social, physical and psychological wellbeing to help live well with dementia which will be available for informal carers and Hosts.



Good Company Hosting Service

Good Company Hosting Service is a highly personalised micro day service for groups of up to 5 people, matched based on their interests, likes and dislikes with a trained and vetted Good Company self-employed Host at the Hosts' own home.

Sessions are designed to help guests maintain their physical strength, mobility and cognitive functioning by doing activities they love in good company and give their informal carers a regular break.

Once TGCP team have carried out an assessment, we carefully match the guest with a Good Company Host. The Host visits the Guest in their own home for a chemistry session to introduce themselves and find out more about the Guest. If both parties think it will be a good match, they will be invited to trial a Good Company session with their carer to meet the other guests and decide if they are the right fit for the group.

After every Good Company session, the Host submits a session review to document the physical and cognitive activities the Guests have done with accompanying photos and videos with any observations or anything they need to bring for the next session. This is sent to their carers to give them the confidence in the quality and the benefits of the service.

Good Company Explore

This 5 hour service is for people who love to go out and about but need a little support to do so. A typical session includes picking up the client from their own home and going out and about - visiting a National Trust attraction, going to a park for a walk and a coffee, or going to explore the local town.

The group go back to the Host's home for a nutritious lunch and an afternoon session will be tailored around the Guest hobbies and interests - arts, crafts, pottery, singing, baking - whatever the guests decide they would like to do before being dropped back home. The 5 hour session costs £55 which includes all travel, activities, food and refreshments.



Spotlight on Gabriel Knollys



Gabriel is a professional artist who hosts Good Company sessions in her art studio in Rotherfield. She enjoys gardening, piano, and crosswords...even the cryptic ones



Good Company At Home

This is a 4 - 5 hour service for up to 5 people who enjoy staying indoors. There will be the choice to be picked up from your home at 9.30 or be dropped off at the Host's home at 10am. The activities are based on the hobbies and interests of the guests. A 4-hour session including all materials, activities, food and refreshments start from £35.



Spotlight on Good Company Host Zola Phillips



Zola is a French teacher and loves reading, current affairs, crosswords and pottering around her garden. She hosts one to one sessions and groups sessions at her home in Rotherfield.



Good Company Bespoke

This is a 3 hour Hosting service for one Guest who would prefer Good Company with a Host. The Host will come to the Guests house and bring activities and games based on the likes and dislikes of the Guest, the Host will prepare a meal at the Guests house. A 3-hour session including all materials and activities is £62.50.



Good Company Host Training and Vetting

Good Company Hosts are self employed and have undergone a rigorous assessment process, training and background checks to ensure they have the skills, behaviours and knowledge to provide safe and stimulating Good Company sessions including:

- Enhanced DBS checks for Host and all adults in their household over 18
- Professional and personal reference checks
- Suitability assessments by an independent social work team
- Home and car risk assessment and dog assessment (if required)
- The Good Company People 2-day assessment
- Home Safety visit by East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service
- Driving licence checks
- Home and Car insurance covered for business purposes and public liability insurance
- Successfully completed a Registration Visit to verify all training, insurance, policies and risk assessments.
- Ongoing dementia training and support to meet the changing needs of guests and carers.
- East Sussex County Council training including Emergency First Aid at Work, Moving and Handling of People and Objects, Safeguarding, Social Model of Disability, Professional Boundaries, Infection Prevention and Control, Mental Capacity Act, Food Safety Level 2, Medication, Deaf Awareness and Falls Prevention training

Partners

