**CELEBRATIONS ANNUAL REPORT 2014**

2014 was a busy, exciting and challenging year for Celebrations, but aren’t they always. We continued, and built on, our programme of development for the Group and, as with last year, re-invested some of the generous donations we have received back into Celebrations.

The programme for the Year in the main focused on a new venture, our project with Lisa Shepherd, the Puppeteer. I think members and helpers found this a really enjoyable challenge, learning new practical skills in making the puppets and different drama skills in presenting the Puppet show to an audience of children. The whole Project was a great success.

As in the previous year we presented two shows, as well as the Puppet show, another Christmas show which was really enjoyed by the audience of Carers and families. As always the costumes were fantastic. We will be working again with Lisa and Dani from Spare Tyre, in 2015.

The year saw our new Website really take off. It’s a fantastic advert for Celebrations and has had a lot of “hits.” Margaret Lawrence has worked so hard on this and in consequence, like any good website, it’s always right up to date.

The other big news in 2014 was our achievement in obtaining £2000 (second place), in the Greenwich and Bexley area Lloyds Bank Community Fund Bid. The girls at Blackfen Branch of Lloyds were so helpful and supportive and all of you, and our friends and supporters did a magnificent voting job. I would like to thank Mary T and Mary B for helping so much on the bid submission and Margaret also for the website which really publicised our bid. The project the money is being used for is really exciting, the filming of a “year in the life of Celebrations” by members. There will be more information on this project as the year progresses and I hope the project outcomes will help very much towards the Future of Celebrations.

Again our Membership has increased and Louise Chorley, Membership Secretary, has done a great job in improving and updating our records in this connection

Thank you Members, as always, for all your hard work, enthusiasm and for adapting so well to the new Centre. I think we now see it as home. As the work we have recently begun on our 2015 Pantomime has shown, you have developed some great skills over the last couple of years and we have an exiting year ahead of us.

Thank you also to everyone who comes every week to support the Club and our members, we are I think, a great team.

Julian Thornington

 28th February 2015