

## Janet Wright

Trustee, Cherish Dementia Holiday Trust



***“Being part of a team working towards a common aim has its own rewards.”***

Janet Wright decided to set up Cherish because of her experience as an occupational therapist for the NHS working with people with dementia and their carers.

“Living with dementia is highly stressful for everyone involved”, said Janet. “Over the course of my work I was often told by carers of people with dementia that going on holiday was difficult. Because of this, it seemed a worthwhile thing to do in my upcoming retirement to set up an organisation to provide holidays for people with dementia and their carers and families.”

In 2006, Janet and co-founder John Mather organised the first holiday. Following its success, other holidays were organised each year by a growing team of volunteers. In 2012 Cherish Dementia Holiday Trust was formally set up and charitable status was granted by the Charity Commission. The charity, which operates predominantly in North Warwickshire and Coventry, has now run affordable assisted holidays and day trips for people with dementia and their carers for over 10 years.

Janet’s ongoing work as a trustee involves a wide variety of activities including fundraising, networking and attending regular trustee meetings. She also promotes the charity by giving talks to groups, with the aim of recruiting new members and encouraging groups and individuals to donate. She is also involved in administrative tasks, such as generating charity commission returns and supervision of the charity’s employee.

Said Janet, “When you are passionate about ‘making a difference to people’s lives’ the work involved in being a trustee is worthwhile. Being part of a team working towards a common aim has its own rewards. When holidays provide a rewarding experience for couples, their feedback makes it all worthwhile being part of the Cherish ‘family’.”

🔗 <http://cherishholidays.webs.com>

Photo details: Janet Wright with charity co-founder John Mather.