



## Welcome Message

The festive season is well and truly upon us, but unfortunately for some, it is also the time of year that can be the hardest with certain situations seeming endless and unbearable. On behalf of your industry's charity, I would like to thank you all for your support throughout the year.

As an industry we are incredibly fortunate to have our own charity. This year your charity supported over 4,000 cases, with financial and practical services giving back just under £1 million to the industry. We supported lung, heart and kidney transplants for patients with financial assistance, and funded an operation not covered under the NHS, to enable a little boy to walk. We supported families through cancer diagnosis, held their hands through treatment and celebrated with them when they became cancer free.

We aided people with serious mental health problems, guided colleagues through addictions and didn't give up on them when they relapsed. We helped families navigate the rough waters of divorce, provided accommodation for families who found themselves homeless, and gave emotional support providing counselling for those who lost children, spouses and parents. We arranged practical support for families with disabled children or partners, autistic children, and parents with dementia. We were there when they thought no help would be available. We were their industry support.

The importance of giving back can never be overstated at this time of the year. To all our supporters and donors, thank you for your generosity and most importantly thank you for supporting your industry's charity.

**Tessa Ogle, Managing Director**

## Did you see?

[Edition 01: December 2016](#)

[Edition 02: February 2017](#)

[Edition 03: June 2017](#)

[Edition 04: September 2017](#)

## 'I'm an alcoholic and I needed help to break my downwards spiral'

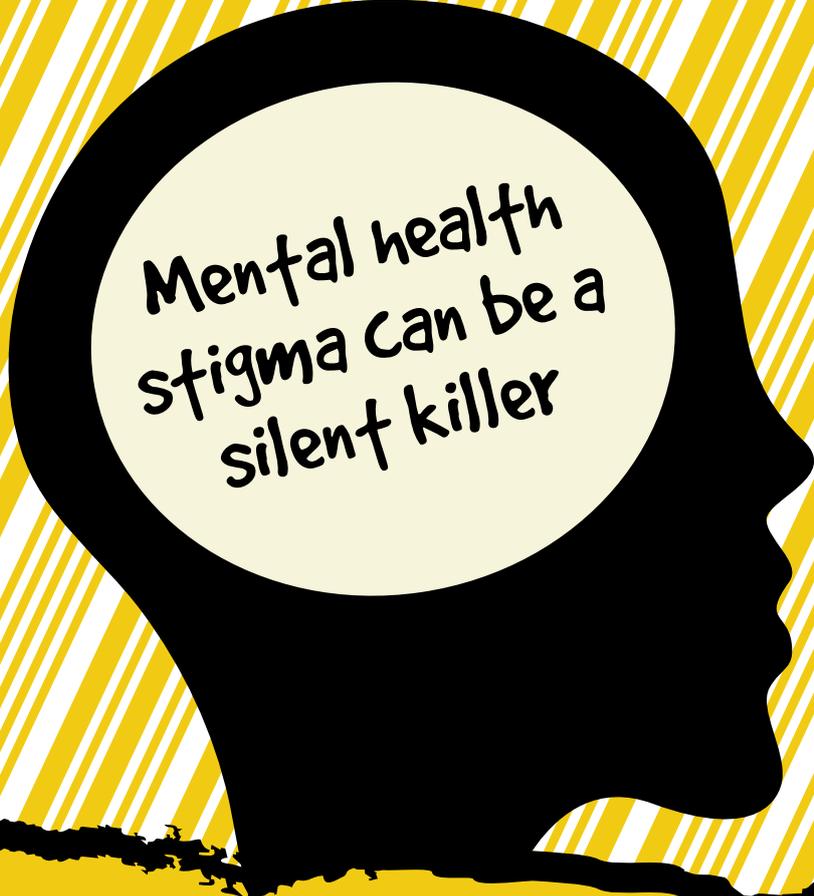
Brian O'Rourke from McGill Electrical was referred to the Charity following the separation from his wife at Christmas 2016. Brian became very depressed and turned to alcohol to ease his suffering. This had been his coping mechanism for all big traumas in his life following the suicide of his fiancé in his early 20s. Brian's drinking got so bad that he lost 3.5 stone and his life was left hanging in the balance. With an 8 year old son who is autistic Brian knew he needed help so he could be the father his son needed and deserved. The EIC organised and paid for private rehab and family therapy. Without this, Brian would not be alive today and his son would be without a father. Early intervention is key and is why the Charity offers counselling services free to anyone in the industry.

'If I had to describe the EIC, I would say they are clairvoyant. They know that people have problems, sometimes before they admit this themselves. And if you need help, the EIC gives it, often where otherwise you wouldn't receive it. They will sort you out, not might but WILL.

There may be lots of people who won't admit to having a problem like mine, because you feel ashamed. But once you admit it, you can say I am looking after No. 1 now. I am going to protect my life and my relationships. Now, I take my son to the golf driving range, the cinema and swimming too. We have a great time together.

Thanks to the EIC, my life just now feels blessed and my eyes are smiling. My son has his Dad back. For that I'll be forever grateful.'

**If you find yourself in a similar situation to Brian, seek help now or show help to someone who needs it.**



Mental health  
stigma can be a  
silent killer

# Not Just a Number

We have just launched our mental health awareness campaign called 'Not just a number'. The campaign has been designed to shine a light on some startling statistics in our industry. This year 1 in 3 applicants sighted mental health issues as the primary reason for seeking assistance. Not surprisingly the main reason for assistance was relationship breakdown. Did you know our industry has the highest divorce rates? Sitting at 69.8% (national average 42%). We also have the highest suicide rates of any other sector in the UK, 2.7 times higher than the national average. Over the last 5 years there were 942 suicides in electrical and electronics trades and 1409 in the construction sector. We have to do something different.

Mental health stigma can be a silent killer, and it is having catastrophic effects on people's wellbeing. We need to reframe the way that mental illness and mental health is seen by society and the electrical sector. Mental health issues affect 1 in 6 of the population in the UK. To us you are **NOT** just a number! Stigma is the biggest barrier to seeking help and it is having catastrophic effects on people's wellbeing. 95% of people in the industry often lie about how they are feeling, or don't tell anyone that they're struggling. Don't shut yourself away, beat the barrier, as we are always here to talk and provide support.

Early intervention is key, that's why we offer counselling services free to anyone in the industry and their families. Your mental health and wellbeing is important to us. Our free Employee Assistance Programme is available to everyone, offering a range of confidential support services.

## EIC's support services:

Telephone counselling

Cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT)

Training support through our partners

Free confidential helpline available 24/7



You are **NOT**  
just a number



# powerBall2017

We are always delighted to see the industry come together to help shape a better future for the electrical, and energy industry. Every year we aim to bring you the leading event in the industry to serve as a platform for networking, industry camaraderie and some good old toe tapping, hips swinging fun. This year we are pleased to announce that over £140,000 was raised on the night and a further £51,00 in pledges, whereby an astonishing 51 individuals pledged to raise at least £1,000 over the next 12 months by undertaking various challenges.

We also received an outstanding show of support for the Dickinson family whereby many companies got involved on the night with the Raise the Roof build project and offered a wide range of their products and services which will help with all necessary house renovations to help Caz with her future independence.

Thank you so much to everyone that attended this annual industry event, helping to make it the show stopping memorable occasion that it has become. We would also like to express our sincere gratitude to our sponsors who helped make this event possible CEF, Heatrae Sadia, ABB, Aico, Blue Sky Pensions, Dimplex, G2 Energy, Morgan Cass, Rexel and Schneider Electric.



Relive the evening through the [Event Photo Album](#) where you can also purchase those taken of you.

**We look forward to celebrating with you all in 2018, save the date for Friday 9 November at the prestigious Grosvenor House.**

## Get Involved

Take on a challenge that's right for you, we have plenty of fun and adventurous challenges on offer catering to all levels of abilities. Step outside your comfort zone and have fun whilst raising money for the Electrical Industries Charity. Sign up as a workplace team or individual to one of our organised adventure challenges below or get in contact to create your own bespoke event. Are you up for a challenge? View the challenge events on our website

[www.electricalcharity.org](http://www.electricalcharity.org)

### Volleyball 2018

Our infamous EIC Beach Volleyball is back! Get your colleagues and clients out of the office as it's going to be bigger and better than any Volleyball event before!

All levels of players are welcome for this fun inter-profession challenge. Thursday 28th June, Richmond Volleyball Club, just £750 for 6-8 players. Enquire your interest with [charlotte.laurent@electricalcharity.org](mailto:charlotte.laurent@electricalcharity.org)



### Great Wall of China 2018

Venture along one of the great wonders of the world, this is one to knock off the bucket list! Snake through woodlands and the Hidden City while following the contours of the Great Wall in remote areas of Beijing. This trek carries many steps, breath-taking scenery and a fascinating insight into a rich culture and history. Trip dates 13-22 September 2018, only 8 places still available. Enquire your interest with [charlotte.laurent@electricalcharity.org](mailto:charlotte.laurent@electricalcharity.org)

# Our Fundraisers

## EIC Challenge for a Cause- Caz Dickinson

The Electrical Industries Charity - Challenge for a Cause is a series of events held throughout 2018 which is helping to raise funds and build Caz Dickinson and her family a purpose-built house. Caz Dickinson, a mother, grandmother and loving wife spent 15 years working in the electrical industry for a wholesaler until her life changed in the blink of an eye, if you would like to read more about her story please visit [www.electricalcharity.org](http://www.electricalcharity.org). These challenge events will include Arctic Adventure, Great Wall of China Trek and the iconic London Marathon to name a few. You can register your interest to take part in 2018 by joining one of our organised events or by creating one of your own.

Contact [Charlotte.Laurent@electricalcharity.org](mailto:Charlotte.Laurent@electricalcharity.org), 0203 696 1711.



### Arctic Adventure

EIC received an outstanding show of support for this challenge event, with 19 committed and adventurous industry individuals signing up to accompany the charity's Managing Director, Tessa Ogle in the sub-arctic temperatures of Finland. This will not be a walk in the park, the team will be exposing themselves to the elements of wilderness as they cross country ski, hike and perhaps crawl through the arctic conditions and temperatures below freezing to complete the five-day challenge.

Please support the team on their journey to change a family's life.

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fund/CFAC2018>

**Paul Rhodes** - Lighting Electrical Installations

**Keith Sampson** - Petroc UK

**Mike Burnard** - Edmundson Electrical

**Paul Reeve** - ECA

**Geoff Kerly** - KEW Electrical

**Darren Wetherill** - DW Electrical

**Dave Gilbert** - SCV Electrical

**Charlie Harwood** - CEF

**Mark Booth** - Stearn Electric

**Sean Miller** - Stearn Electric

**Kate Menzies** - Stearn Electric

**Scott Champion** - Stearn Electric

**Rachel Wright** - GEFCO

**Rebecca Dickinson**

**Jodie Dickinson**

**Joseph Wu** - T Clarke

**Andy Reakes** - JIB

**Alan Plummer**

**Cathy Plummer**



### Great Wall of China Trek

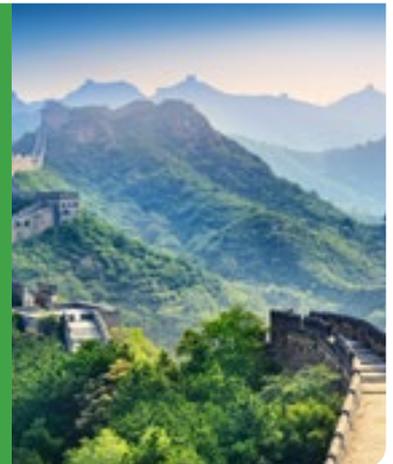
This is one to tick off your bucket list! We currently still have places available to join this trek, being one of the most sought after wonders of the world, this challenge event will test your most inner strengths. Whilst combating the elements, our team will trek through woodland and terraced farmland, following the contours of the beautiful hills and mountains in remote areas north of Beijing. We will follow old sections of the Great Wall, as well as restored sections with smooth flagstones and lots of steps! We challenge you to join your fellow industry men and woman and set your New Year's resolution with us in September 13-22nd 2018.

**Paul McHale** - Edmundson Electrical

**Tracey Ruston-Thorpe** - Keystone Communications

**Monika Gaubyte** - Keystone Communications

**Mark Dore** - Edmundson Electrical



### Ironman 70.3

CEF employees Clive Hawkins, Branch Manager and Joe Griffiths, Account Manager have set themselves a challenge against each other in the gruelling and physically demanding event that is Ironman. The two men who are also father/son in law have dedicated themselves the better part of a year to train and fundraise for the Electrical Industries Charity with half of the proceeds also going to Macmillan Cancer Support. The event will take place next year in Staffordshire on June 10th 2018, who will you cheer on?

Show them your support through their fundraising page

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/Team/BMvsAM>



# Our Donors

## Special thanks!

We would like to share our appreciation for Rexel in their efforts of raising **£18,290.63** in their recent cycle Challenge from Bordeaux to Paris. A team of 13 cyclists took part in the 400-mile task of conquering 100 miles a day from 12-15th September. What a truly outstanding effort!



We would also like to express our sincere thanks to the ECA South East Region for their generous support and donation from the Maidstone and East Kent dinner which occurred on the 4th November 2017. Our very own committee member and industry volunteer Kevin Rolfe was in attendance as a charity representative, a total of **£5,280** was raised in donations on the night which will be going directly to the EIC Challenge for a Cause - Caz Dickinson campaign. We would also like to acknowledge Phil Fagg, Regional Chairman and Nick Maybourne, Branch Chairman for making this possible- your support is greatly appreciated.



The regional Midlands offices of Edmundson Electrical put their heads together and collectively raised a generous donation of **£6,676** in total. A cheque was donated to Tessa Ogle during the EIC's Midlands Christmas Gala Ball. Words cannot express how much your ongoing support means to your industries charity and those who we are able to help because of yourself generous and continuing donations.



## Donations

Thank you to all donations made in the last financial quarter from the following individuals and companies: Edmundson Electrical-Mark Felber, LED Group Robus, ECA greater London region, Forbo Flooring UK, Bizzline, Scott Coppola, Weir & McQuinston (Scot), ECA Oxford Region, Edmundson Electrical London Region, Edmundson Electrical Kings Lynn, Mackay Corporate Insurance Brokers, Schneider Electric, Beama, Fegime, ECA Sevenoaks, ECA Bristol and Bath Region.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the above supporters who continuously and generously donate. The EIC is a national charity with an ongoing mission to look after our industry community. Thank you for doing your part in supporting your industry's charity!

# Power Lottery

The powerLottery is the EIC's number one fundraising stream, providing 30% of its annual income which is directly handed out in financial grants, therefore each time you play you will be supporting a great cause. The Lottery offers everyone in the industry a fun way to support the charity while having the chance to win one of 15 cash prizes up to the value of £1,000. You can choose to purchase between one and ten numbers each month to increase your chances of winning at the cost from only £1 each. For every £1 you pledge EIC will allocate a number unique to you for entry into a monthly prize draw.

Join the Electrical Industries Charity's powerLottery and be in with a chance to win big every month while supporting our industry community.

### OUR LUCKY WINNERS

#### AUGUST

1ST PRIZE £1,000 JR Pink  
2ND PRIZE £500 RM Bridges, IR Emmins  
3RD PRIZE £250 SN Brown, BW McQueen, MT Fellows  
4TH PRIZE £100 O D Rees, DM Bates, N Jones, WB Leary  
5TH PRIZE £50 D Schofield, C Tigwell, J Walsh,  
GH Muldowney, DL Latham

#### SEPTEMBER

1STPRIZE £1,000 G Wright  
2NDPRIZE £500 W Hughes, JC Iles  
3RD PRIZE £250 JH Sansom, NI Smith, B Dobbins  
4THPRIZE £100 J Plenderleith, M Downing,  
PM Mackie, JP Calder  
5THPRIZE £50 TF Brewin, R Brookes, M Musgrave,  
N Johnston, BR Kay

#### OCTOBER

1ST PRIZE £1,000 A Roberts  
2ND PRIZE £500 AE Crowley, WP Badman  
3RD PRIZE £250 KN McGreevy, PF Rugman, MJ Crane  
4TH PRIZE £100 I Lock, V Brown, MJ Gerard, J Bonnett  
5THPRIZE £50 PJ Turner, Dorothy McGirr, R Arthington,  
MG Peard, BD Smith

# PLAY TODAY

# UPCOMING CHARITY EVENTS



**Northern Ireland Electric Lunch** 2 February 2018

**London Valentine's Ball** 10 February 2018

**Arctic Adventure** 8-12 March 2018

**Virgin Money London Marathon** 22 April 2018

➔ For more information visit [electricalcharity.org/events](http://electricalcharity.org/events)

# UPCOMING INDUSTRY EVENTS



(RUN BY THE EIC TRADING COMPANY)

**Glasgow Valentine's Ball** 10 February 2018

**Southern Spring Ball** 21 April 2018

**Midlands Aston Wood Golf Day** 16 June 2018

**Wales White Summer Ball** 22 June 2018

**EIC Beach Volleyball** 28 June 2018

**National Golf Championship** 18 September 2018

**Yorkshire powerBall** 20 October 2018

**powerBall** 9 November 2018

➔ For more information visit [eictradingco.org](http://eictradingco.org)

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