

HOLMWOOD RESIDENTIAL HOME

Friends & Relatives Newsletter, May 2015

HANDWASHING As always, may we gently remind everyone to please thoroughly wash hands with soap and water when arriving and leaving. ***Our housekeeper, Dee is our Infection Control Lead and will happily give advice on technique if required. This will help protect our residents, staff and visitors. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.***

THE CALL OF SPRING

Author unknown



When spring begins again to light,
our happy world with colours bright,
the robins all come back to see,
how beautiful the earth will be.
With crocus gold and daffodils
lighting meadows fields and hills,
with leaves of green and tulips gay;
and birds arriving every day.

WIDER COMMUNITY LINKS

Several of our residents have enjoyed sharing their memories of childhood toys. Pictures of the toys talked about and a summary of their memories have been sent back to Gillingham Primary School. We have received wonderful feedback from the school, advising that the children really enjoyed communicating with our residents.

A small group of ladies have been visiting the 'Knit and Natter' session at the Emmanuel Church on a Tuesday morning. All have been warmly welcomed by the volunteers who run this group, which provides alternative stimulation and valuable social time.



HOLMWOOD STAFF

STAFF SURVEY RESULTS We enjoyed a good response, with over half of staff choosing to complete and return a questionnaire. Results show that over 50% have worked at Holmwood in excess of five years and 71% stated that they are happy with their position, training and opportunity for progression. Equipment, cleanliness, entertainment, catering and training all scored highly.

RECENT & FORTHCOMING TRAINING All staff have recently completed their annual fire safety training. Our Manual Handling Co-Ordinator's Lynn and Pam have attended their yearly update and will provide all staff with their annual manual handling refresher training during June.

FUTURE NEWSLETTERS

Please let us know if there is a particular topic you would like to see featured, or have any news or idea's you would like to share with us.

RECENT ENTERTAINMENT

Our residents have enjoyed a wide range of entertainment recently, including an [EASTER CRAFT & EGG HUNT](#), [GROUP TRIP TO THE LOCAL PUB](#), another successful [POP UP SHOPPING EXPERIENCE](#) provided by [EDINBURGH WOOLLEN MILL](#) and a [VINTAGE SWEET & DRINK TASTING AFTERNOON](#). During February, [FOOLHARDY CIRCUS ARTS](#) presented a lovely nostalgic tribute show to Charlie Chaplin, which really captivated the residents. *Regular entertainment provided as always includes* [COMMUNION](#), [ART WITH MAUREEN](#), [ARMCHAIR EXERCISES WITH MAVIN](#), [VISITING LIBRARY LADIES](#) and local musicians and singers [ROGER ENO](#) and [KATH & DIANA](#)) [CRAFTS AND CROSSWORDS](#) and [MUSIC FOR HEALTH](#) to name but a few.

At the beginning of April, several residents enjoyed a wonderful boat trip on the [WAVENEY STARDUST](#), with a gourmet picnic packed by the Kitchen. We hope you will enjoy these pictures of the day.



We are currently planning future entertainment to include:

- **HOLMWOOD SUMMER FETE**, which we intend to hold on Sunday, July 12th – please pencil this in your diaries! Further details to be displayed on Holmwood Notice Board shortly. A **'SOUTH PACIFIC'** themed day, to include a showing of the classic 1958 film, staff fancy dress and a themed menu. An **'AFTERNOON TEA PARTY'**, to be held on **Thursday, 4th June 2015** – *if you would like to join us, please let us know in advance and we will ensure that you and your family member have a designated table reserved.*
- *We are looking to further develop the entertainment provided, with Emma's role being split between **ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT, DEMENTIA FOCUS GROUP & ENTERTAINMENT**. Emma is looking forward to this new challenge and will be working closely with our current Entertainments Co-Ordinator Kathy.*

We have recently been inspected by Environmental Health and are pleased to announce that we have retained our '5 star' rating.

OUTDOOR SPACES We are in the process of planning a new sensory garden, with inclusion and accessibility at the heart of the design. It is hoped that this will provide a rich and soothing experience for all our residents and visitors and will include seating areas for all to enjoy.



DEMENTIA FOCUS GROUP The meeting held in March was a success with a guest speaker from **ALZHEIMERS UK** joining us and providing heightened awareness and the chance to register for their 'Dementia Friends' campaign. Our next group will meet in June, with the date to be confirmed shortly.

Changes in legislation have dictated that we are required to ensure that any hot central heating & water pipes are boxed in, ensuring that vulnerable people are protected from becoming trapped and/or burnt. We have responded to this immediately and work is in progress, which we anticipate will be completed during May.

STAFF FOCUS

We are pleased to announce that Anna has transferred into Holmwood from our Home Care service. Anna has a wide range of skills and we are very excited that she will be joining our Management Team. **Welcome Anna!**