

Home Manager Report November 2018

Environment, equipment & projects

Exterior works- the paintwork has now been completed outside, and the last remaining big piece of work this year is the refurbishment of some of the sash windows around the home- which will mean these are far easier to open. This should be completed in the next couple of weeks.

Carpet replacement- Main House – You may have noticed already that the stairwell now has its beautiful red carpet which looks wonderful with the Christmas garland which has now gone up.

Resident wish list- we have started talking to all of the residents about any activity/events/dreams they have that we may be able to help with. Our aim is to make as many of these possible as we can. So far we have collected a wide range of requests, some as easy as wine tasting and afternoon tea- to others being as challenging as touching a panda and abseiling!! Once we have finished collecting all of these we plan after Christmas to try and make as many of these true. Once completed, our intention is to make a small photo book of their experience that they can look back on and relive their experience with staff and family.

New crockery- In October we launched our new crockery service which included new linen too- this is part of the RMBI's initiative to elevate the meal time experience for our residents.

The new purchases have given the dining room a real lift and the residents on the first day described it as 'going first class' which was really lovely to hear.

Staffing

I am also saddened to inform you that Jacqui Hayden, our Dementia Lead has taken the decision to leave us due to changes in her personal circumstances, with her final day with us being the 4th December. Recruitment is currently underway for this key role in the home.

Julie Long- our new Catering Manager has decided this was not the right position for her, and we are currently recruiting for her replacement.

Occupancy

This week we welcomed a new resident who is joining us on a temporary basis, and our other remaining rooms are reserved and waiting for moving in dates. The home continues to have regular enquiries and viewings which are very positive.

Activities

In October the home hosted one of its popular Race Nights which was well enjoyed by the residents.

Recently the home has been working with a local mother and baby group called 'jo jingles' which is song and movement group- they have kindly agreed to do a session with our residents once a fortnight at the home which is going down a storm with the residents and provides untold benefits to our residents.

Last weekend we held our Christmas Bazaar which once again was a real success- with the home managing to raise just over £500.00- but more importantly it was a lovely opportunity to get together with the residents, families and our friends before Christmas. A special thanks to Nigel and Kay for their help once again manning the raffle which is quite a task!

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In a home's first- we had visiting ponies that came into both sides of the home to meet the residents- and although I was a little anxious about the whole event, the residents and our visiting families were delighted.

The home has been trying out some new entertainers including talks for the residents. One particular activity- Fred's Academy is a movement and music group who are really animated and interactive and manage to get even reluctant residents involved- I havnt heard so much noise and laughter in a long time. Fred's Academy return to us in December to do a pantomime just ahead of Christmas to get us all in the festive spirit.

The residents have been fortunate enough to be supported by our volunteers to continue to get out and about using the home's mini bus and have been to local garden centres, tip tree jam factory, shopping and Marks Hall gardens- all of which would not be possible without the support of our volunteers and the continued support from the Association of Friends.

Forthcoming events

The 9th December marks the annual Christmas Party from the Association of Friends, which once again I know the residents are looking forward to and will most certainly enjoy.

On the 6th December the Stisted Primary School visit the home to perform Christmas carols and present Christmas cards they have made to the residents.

On the 16th the choir is back by popular demand once again singing at the Golf Club.

On Christmas Eve we will once again be asking the staff to perform in the annual Christmas Show for our residents and families which we feel is a wonderful way to start off the festivities.

Then in January, we have our annual pantomime- organised and led by Ann May- which I am sure will be just as, if not more successful than the previous.

Lastly, on behalf of all of the residents and staff at Prince Edward Duke of Kent Court, I would like to thank you for your continued hard work & support that make so much possible