

Our New Lift

The final chapter has been written in a 16-month construction saga to update an 18th century castle with a 21st century facility for today's retirement home residents.



The mayor of Dereham, Hilary Bushell, was joined by her deputy Thomas Monument and Breckland District councillor and Cabinet member Alison Webb, to cut a ribbon marking the opening of a new £180,000 lift at the town's Quebec Hall complex.

Before taking a ceremonial ride in the lift Miss Bushell, acknowledged that progress

of the project had been fraught with "ups and downs" due to the technical difficulties of marrying a modern lift tower to a listed building.

Quebec Hall, or Quebec Castle as it was once known, is a landmark country house constructed in 1759 by a wealthy brewing family. It was established as a home for Christians living in retirement in 1960 and now has 21 residents, plus an associated complex of 43 retirement bungalows.

Welcoming civic guests, residents, staff, architect Kevin Garnham and representatives of Icenii Lifts, Colin Wooden, chairman of the trustees, said there were times when he wondered whether the project would ever be completed. Reading a Psalm of praise he thanked God that the plans had come to fruition – and the necessary finance had been found.

Gifts from a few Christian charities, churches, and individual well-wishers,



had been added to a variety of initiatives by staff and residents to meet the cost – including photographic calendars, a book of poetry, and sales of paintings produced by the home's own art group.

A cream tea concluded the day during which Colin Wooden was presented with a framed photograph of the hall and gardening vouchers to mark his retirement from the Board of Trustees after 13 years' service – a retirement he had delayed to see the lift project through to its conclusion. The presentation was made by Colin's successor as chairman, Martin Boyce.

Dear friends

*My soul finds rest in God alone;
my salvation comes from Him.*

Psalm 62 v1

As the days shorten and evenings darken people of the world around us are preparing for the 'Festive Season'. We however will celebrate the birth of a Saviour who came as the light of the world.

At Quebec Hall life is never dull and as you will see our residents have been involved and entertained with numerous events including a most enjoyable fireworks evening. As always we extend our thanks to staff and others who have worked hard to make all this possible.

We welcome new residents and hope that you will find good Christian fellowship and friendship with us at Quebec Hall.

Stephen Read, Trustee



Open Day 2018

Quebec Hall Open Day will be held on Saturday, 21st July 2018, at 3.00pm.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING...

Autumn Bar-B-Q

An amazing time was had by all even though it meant using the dining room due to the weather being wet and cold.

Over 40 folk had close fellowship as they ate hotdogs, chicken drumsticks, and kebabs with all the condiments. This was closely followed by gateaux for those not too full! Special thanks to our chef John and bungalow resident Peter Clay for the Bar-B-Q.



A Wonderful Afternoon

Three's Company consisting of Penny, her husband and a friend, entertained many with popular music hall songs and soloist pieces. A lovely relaxing Saturday afternoon.



Biggest Ever Coffee Morning

Once again we supported Macmillan Cancer Care when around 40 folk enjoyed fellowship with coffee and a bit of cake – or two or three!

An amazing £299.20 including gift aid was given to this worthy cause. Thanks to all who made cakes and helped with the event.



Film Club

Our very own film club commenced on 30th October in the top lounge with 14 folk watching a screening of *Oliver*.

A projector with eight speakers was used. Intended as a winter pastime and instigated by bungalow resident, Graham Lewis, all enjoyed the screening. Graham, with the help of others, hopes to screen a film once a month. Next film night is on Monday 27th November at 6.30pm.

Great British Pie Night

Top chef, John Kelly, took us on a journey of tastes through the delights of sampling seven different homemade pies one Friday evening in October.

Each guest was served with a small portion of each pie with condiments to match. Most guests tasted all seven and concluded with coffee and chocolates.



More photos on our website

Quiz & Chips

Our dining room was packed with 45 folk that formed 8 teams all vying for the accolade of top team!

Never had so many attended a quiz evening before. The winning team was "Hopefuls", who each received a prize. The team that came last, the "Eggheads", also received prizes. Clare Woodgett, Mark's wife, was a member of the "Eggheads" and so received a prize. Karen, Head of Care at the Hall, was also on that team!



More photos on our website

Kay Bidewell's Special Day

Miss Kay Bidewell celebrated her 100th birthday on 8th September 2017, with a card from the Queen, an amazing 100th birthday cake and lots of cards and flowers...what an inspiration she is to all!



Website

We have added a new link to our website that you may find interesting as it gives a more in-depth history of our building.

Please visit our website at www.quebechall.co.uk and look at About, History and then scroll down to the link about The Rash Family in blue type.

STAFF NEWS...

New Supervisor

We are pleased to announce that staff member Lynda Watkinson has been promoted to part time supervisor.

May she know God's blessing in this new role. Kate Bush, a current supervisor, is leaving for pastures new. We understand her desire to follow a new career path and wish her well for the future.

Colin's Retirement

Colin Wooden joined the Board of Trustees here on 19th November 2004.

He became chairman on 2nd July 2012 with the departure of Phil Davey, who along with his wife Liz, left the area to be closer to family. We are thankful to the Lord for Colin, and for Elizabeth his wife, for involvement over many years and take the opportunity to send them our very best wishes and Christian love for their retirement. Following Colin's retirement Martin Boyce takes on the role of chair of Trustees.

Quebec Hall Umbrellas

Our own umbrellas, complete with the Quebec Hall logo, are available to anyone. A great form of advertising!



Cost £10 each with proceeds going towards meeting the cost of the lift.

New Poem books

Our second Book of Poems is for sale, featuring poems by Kay Bidewell resident of Quebec Hall, Richard Lee bungalow resident, and David Harley, Trustee, are available for £5.

Our first edition contributed over £1700 towards our new lift. There are a few still remaining should you wish for one.

FUTURE EVENTS...

DECEMBER

Friday 1st at 2.30pm: Victorian Carols
Please dress up Victorian style

Thursday 7th at 2.30pm:
Salvation Army Band

Monday 11th at 7pm: Cub Pack visit
Thursday 14th at 6pm: Carol Service

Quebec Hall

TRUSTEES:

Martin Boyce (Chairman) · Andrew Bash
Stephen Read · David Harley
Philip Parfitt · Sam Leinster

SENIOR MANAGEMENT:

Mark Woodgett (General Manager)
Karen Vertigan (Head of Care and Registered Manager)
Lynn Kelly (Deputy Head of Care)