

QuebecNews

The Quebec Hall Christian Eventide Home Newsletter

Spring 2008

Hello friends



Spring is upon us, the sap is rising in the trees, the daffodils are out and the earth is bursting with new life.

It also heralds the "Day of Resurrection" which is, in my opinion, the loveliest of the Christian celebrations and probably the least commercial. I attended recently the funeral of a very dear relation. At the Thanks Giving service, a celebration of a wonderful life, the church was full of spring flowers all from the deceased's garden. "Because I live" Jesus said "ye shall live also." Hallelujah! What a Saviour.

What a plethora of news we have for you in this newsletter. There's a picture of the new baby (announced in the last newsletter), and consider, with admiration the new "Gothic" windows.

You will notice that a new Day Care service is now available. This is going to be a real blessing to those needing a little extra help without actually living in a care home. It will also provide support to those who are carers for elderly relatives or friends.

Finally, make a note of the 2008 Open Day (mentioned below) and arrange to join the staff and residents on this occasion.

Enjoy your read.

Stan Mash, Managing Editor

EVENTS IN 2008...

A full programme of events has been organised for the coming months. These include, Cream teas, a Quiz evening with Fish & Chips and a Games evening.

Then on July 12th, we are holding our Annual Open Day at 3pm. Our guest speaker will be Mr Ken Totton from Stowmarket.

Day Care at the Hall

Here at Quebec Hall, in an attempt to extend our range of care and to make greater utilisation of our resources, we are now able to offer a Day care service.

This is available to bungalow residents who may wish to continue independent living but feel the need for a little extra help and companionship during the day.

Day Care is also open to Christians who are still living at home or with family in the Dereham area and would value a

day of Quebec Hall care. We provide full meals and it allows interaction with residents and participation in the various activities. We also hope that families caring for an elderly relative could find it useful to give them a respite day.

The scheme got off to a humble start with one regular user who timed her visits to coincide with Bible Study and Hymn Singing. She comments that "her days at Quebec Hall are something which she looks forward to".



New bungalow resident

Mrs Freda Bambridge moved into No. 39 in early January having lived locally in Dereham. Freda knows one of the Hall's residents Doreen Page very well and visits her every week.

She informs us that she is very pleased with her refurbished bungalow and has settled into her new home very well. Several other bungalow residents sent her cards to welcome her.

Five new wheelchairs

With the increasing frailty of our residents, wheelchairs are becoming more and more important to us. Consequently we have recently taken delivery of five new compact and lightweight wheelchairs.

Members of staff were keen to select

the type which were most beneficial to our residents. To help decide which of the numerous types available on the market, they decided to 'test drive' them.

Pictured (left to right) are Mark Byrne, Rebekah Knights, Ruth Shephard, Danielle Kelly and Lynne Kelly.

Our older wheelchairs will still have some further use and, following refurbishment, will be sent overseas via Medical Missionary News.



STAFF NEWS...



In the previous newsletter we were able to announce the safe arrival of Matthew Byrne. Our picture shows baby Matthew with proud Dad, Mark, a carer in the home. We rejoice with Mark, Sarah and the rest of the family.

Salvation Army Junior Band



Christmas seems a long time ago, but it was a joy to welcome members of the Salvation Army Junior Band under their conductor Mr Frank Holmes – one of our bungalow residents.

The young people entertained us with a series of orchestral solos, together with the opportunity to sing many of the well-loved Christmas carols. We are grateful to them for sparing the time to visit and bring us the wonder of the Christmas message once again.

Craft fellowship

Craft Fellowship started last September, bringing bungalow and Hall residents together for an afternoon of fellowship, fun and craft. We meet together on a Tuesday afternoon each week in the downstairs lounge of the Hall between 2.30 – 4pm.

The group has proved to be very popular. The room is abuzz with laughter, chat, active knitting and crochet needles and friendship. The tea trolley is heralded with a cheer at around 3.30 and our knitting needles, if not our voices, take a short and welcome break.



HOME IMPROVEMENTS...

New windows

We are proud to show you some pictures of two of our windows that have been replaced.

Since Quebec Hall is a listed building, any changes to its appearance require full planning permission – even a like for like replacement. Once all the authorisations had been received, the windows were supplied by Fox Joinery in Norwich and fitted by Shaun Perkins and Peter Bloomfield. The bay window also required new lead work on its roof. There is sufficient there to meet the needs of a fisherman for lead weights for a lifetime. As someone noted, “If a job is worth doing.....”

Let's see if these last another 250 years! Our thanks to all involved.



Running repairs

The lift gearbox has had to be repaired which meant that the lift was unfortunately out of action for almost two weeks. Some residents did however make good use of our Stannah stair lifts, as shown by our eldest resident Mrs Olive Morgan (aged 97).

...and roof repairs

Quebec Hall has seen its share of scaffolding over recent months! In addition to needing it for the work on the windows, it was in place for a full six weeks while repairs to the roof and skylight were completed. *It is good to see the Hall back to its former glory.*



RESIDENT PROFILE – Mr Albert Davis

Albert was born in London, 1912, one of five children. Having qualified as a teacher in 1930, he taught in various places before coming to the newly opened Morley Hall in Norfolk in 1948.

He was appointed as Headteacher and remained there until he retired 28 years later. Albert became a Christian in childhood and has been active in His Lord's service ever since.

As a young man he taught in the Sunday School and later became the Superintendent. He was a lay preacher for many years and few can match his achievement of being church organist for over 70 years.



Although Albert never married, his life was full. He served as a governor and volunteer at various schools. He taught calligraphy until just a few years ago, and was very involved in 'Help the Aged' in his local community.

Amongst his many interests, Albert was a keen gardener, gaining a diploma in horticulture from Reading University. He enjoys listening to light classical music and watching Songs of Praise – Albert also has a sweet tooth and loves chocolate!!

It is a joy to chat to Albert and hear how God has both blessed him and used him in His service.

Last week we sent off 20 blankets and 10 children's jumpers to a Christian organization called Smile, whose aim is to meet the needs of the world's poor. We will be told at a later date exactly where our gifts have been sent.

Some of our group are already knitting hats, scarves, gloves and soft toys for this year's Christmas shoe box appeal. Last Christmas we sent 17 boxes off with Operation Christmas Child and are hoping to send even more next time.

We would love you to join us. If you can't knit or crochet, but would like some company, please just join us for a chat and a cup of tea.

Quebec Hall

TRUSTEES:

Phil Davey (Chairman)
Stephen Read · Colin Wooden

SENIOR MANAGEMENT:

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