

QuebecNews

The Quebec Hall Christian Eventide Home Newsletter

Winter 2006

Hello friends



"A week," it is said, "is a long time in politics." Who, at the beginning of 2006 could have foreseen the events of the year that followed?

At the beginning of the year we welcomed a new manager, Andrew Jessop, and we bid farewell to Peter and Margaret Tuckwell. Twelve months later we bid farewell to Andrew and welcome our new manager Mark Woodgett. Also, after the retirement of the chairman David Mash, we are indebted to Phil Davey for agreeing to take up this responsibility.

The new manager Mark Woodgett was prompted to seek employment with us in quite a miraculous way. His wife Clare indicated to him that the Lord had, in prayer, brought to her the thought that she should encourage Mark to look to becoming manager at Quebec Hall. All this before there was a vacancy! The rest is history, although it did take us, the trustees, a while to recognise the Lord's will in the matter. What a faithful God we have!

The trustees would like to convey our thanks to all who so generously responded to the letter from our recently retired chairman. The gifts given will be used for the care of the residents and for the maintenance of the Home.

Finally, the Trustees have decided that the Open Day will not take place this year. We expect, in God's will, to have the next Open Day in early July 2008.

May God's blessing be yours in this New Year and His "peace that passeth all understanding" be yours, in Christ.

Stan Mash, Trustee and Editor

COMINGS AND GOINGS...

New General Manager appointed

Mark joined the staff on November 13 and we are sure that he will be a major addition to the 'front row' of the team.

Mark was born 44 years ago in Dereham and, when he was 18, moved to work in London. He returned to Dereham, with his family, in 1990. This return home was definitely of the Lord because, to quote his wife Clare "In 2000 God 'zapped' him." He was, quote, "dramatically converted!"

Mark has spent almost all his working life in retail starting off as a paper boy progressing to serving behind the counter. He then became a trainee manager at Bonds of Norwich and on to Sainsbury's where he had various posts in the management team at stores in London and Essex. Joining Homebase (formally Texas Homecare) he worked for them for 22 years, 11 years as store manager.

The Lord called him out of Homebase into Breckland Council as a 'Street Scene Coordinator' and from there to Quebec Hall.



Picture of Mark, Karen & Lynn

Mark is married to Clare and they have two children Rosie and David. All are committed followers of the Lord Jesus Christ and, to quote Mark, "We never cease to be amazed at how God guides us in every detail of our lives. We worship an awesome God!"

I asked Mark for his hobbies. He has numerous, but unfortunately little time to follow them as he would like. As a member of Dereham Baptist Church, where he is a deacon, Mark and his wife have a Youth Group which meets in their home, hold an adult cell group meeting weekly and help organise men's events for gospel outreach. (Stan Mash, Trustee & Editor)

Retirement of Eric Charman



Eric was the first Trustee appointed after David Mash became Chairman some ten years ago. Since that time he has worked tirelessly on behalf of the Trust and his total support for the work will be greatly missed.

It is true to say that of all the Trustees, Eric has visited the Home more than any other. Many of these visits have been to take or assist in the various services that are held in the Hall.

This included the very popular "Sankeys Evenings" when with his dear wife Ruth at the piano he led the residents in singing their favourite hymn. He frequently visited residents both in the bungalows and the

Home to give help and encouragement when and wherever it was needed. His wise and ready counsel in the Trustees Meetings will long be remembered and it was he who generally took charge of proceedings if the Chairman was absent. He would also bring a scripture before the meeting, which suited the need of the moment.

To wish Eric a "Happy Retirement" would not be appropriate, as he has been retired from secular work for a number of years. However, although our brother may move on from his work at Quebec Hall, he will never retire from the Lord's work and so we would wish both him and Ruth many more years of happy and fruitful service for the Master.

Staff and residents presented Eric with a watch and Ruth a bouquet at the Carol Service in appreciation.

(Stephen Read, Trustee)

See over for more staff news...



Farewell to Andrew

Since our last edition we have had to bid farewell to our Manager, Andrew Jessop. Although Andrew had only been with us for a short time, he had played a significant part in the planning required to meet the needs both present and future of Quebec Hall.

The Trustees wish him well as he leaves us and pray that he will know the blessing and guidance of the Lord in all that he does for the Saviour. (David Mash, Chairman – Retired)

The end of an era!

July 20th marked the end of an era in the life and work of Quebec Hall. David Mash has been a trustee for more than a decade, mostly as their chairman.



However he now feels that the time is right for him to relinquish this position, so that he can continue with other spheres of the Lord's service nearer his Peterborough home.

It is difficult to adequately express the enormous contribution that David has made to Quebec Hall over these years. His commitment to the care of the residents in both home and bungalows has been greatly appreciated by all. Most weeks would see him, visiting the site, having a chat with residents, while at the same time, offering counsel and support, as appropriate.

Trustee meetings were always a pleasure. We enjoyed the fellowship together, marvelling at the Lord's continued faithfulness to us. Under

David's chairmanship, we were able to deal with issues in a professional way, yet always with humour. David's gifts of wisdom and discernment together with his ability to assess any situation and suggest courses of action has proved invaluable as we faced the many challenges that time and regulations have forced upon us. In addition to his duties as chairman, David dealt with the financial accounting side of the work. We appreciate his efforts in this key role – the analyses he provided enabled us to make more informed decisions than would otherwise have been possible.

Much has been achieved during these past years, but David would be the first to quote the anthem "To God be the glory." Whilst this is undoubtedly true, we are indebted to David for his untiring service to Quebec Hall during this period. He will be greatly missed by residents, staff, and of course, the remaining trustees.

David was presented with fishing equipment as a token of the residents' and staff's appreciation for all he has done. We are grateful to Evelyn, his wife, for 'releasing' him to us, and we trust that, together, they will know much of the Lord's blessing in their continued, but different service for Him.

(Phil Davey, Chairman & Trustee)

News in brief...

Well done in the kitchen

Quebec Hall has recently been awarded a 'Good Food Hygiene Award,' by the local District Council. This is a tribute to the diligence and professionalism of all who provide such good food to our residents. Congratulations to all who made this award possible.



The picture shows our cooks, Christine and Lisa with the award

Mrs Welham's 103rd birthday

Mrs Hilda Welham celebrated her 103rd birthday on 21st January. We send her our congratulations, and praise God for His goodness to her over so many years.

STAFF NEWS...

At the end of the January, we shall be saying goodbye to Hannah Tuck, who will be leaving us to start a Nursing Course at Cambridge University.

She has been with us for the past 4½ years and will be greatly missed by all. We send her our thanks and best wishes for her future career.

NEW TRUSTEE

We are pleased to announce that Ian Walker from Yarmouth has joined the board of trustees.

Ian has considerable experience in health related topics and will be of great help in the work of the trust.

Activities...

Residents take part in the "World's Biggest Coffee Morning"

Taking part in the Macmillan Cancer Support, World's Biggest Coffee Morning, the residents of the Home raised £147.70 for the charity.

The World's Biggest Coffee Morning is Macmillan's largest fundraising event. This year – thanks to events similar to those held at the Home, Macmillan hopes to raise £7 million for people living with cancer.

Fish & Chip Supper

A very successful fish & chip supper was held on Friday 8th December in the dining room. Over 40 residents from the Hall and bungalows attended what was said to be 'a great time of getting to know one another.'

Salvation Army visit Quebec Hall

On 11th December the Salvation Army Youth Band visited Quebec Hall. Under conductor Frank Holmes, a bungalow

resident, they played carols to a packed audience in the downstairs lounge. How they got so many young people plus instruments in the bay window area, we do not know!

Carol Service

'What a fantastic time we had at this year's Carol Service,' was one quote from a happy visitor on 21st December. It was a time of sharing together, as we celebrated and gave thanks for our Lord Jesus Christ. There were nearly cracks in the ceiling as all attendees, singing their hearts out, tried to lift the roof off the lounge and hall. John Fox reminded us of the meaning of Christmas and a lovely evening was rounded off as we enjoyed tea, coffee, mince-pies and sausage rolls together.

Christmas Dinner at Quebec Hall

A great team of staff and helpers put together a marvellous Christmas lunch for more than 40 people.

The food was great and the atmosphere, during the whole day, was one of peace and joy.



TRUSTEES:

Phil Davey (Chairman)
Stephen Read · Stan Mash
Colin Wooden · Ian Walker

SENIOR MANAGEMENT:

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