

QuebecNews

The Quebec Hall Christian Eventide Home Newsletter

Summer 2007

Hello friends



Welcome to a very busy newsletter, packed with news and interesting features.

I would draw your attention to the item, "The Inspector Calls."

The inspection, which is extremely thorough and misses very little is an inspection that takes place without notice. It's a real "stand by your beds" inspection with no time to "sweep the dust under the carpets" – only joking! It is to the credit of the management and staff that the inspector found that the majority of areas inspected was up to standard, without any "shortfalls."

Running a home for the elderly is becoming increasingly more difficult. The labyrinth of rules and regulations such a home is required to keep are legion; this is not necessarily a bad thing. However, I am sure you appreciate that seeking to keep all the regulations must be the aim for a home that seeks, in all that is done, to honour the person of the Lord Jesus Christ. It wouldn't be the first time for the local authorities to observe that the staff at Quebec Hall go the "extra mile" in the care for the residents.

Although the home is not a registered nursing home, all the elderly who enter the home can be assured that they will receive a high level of care such that those who are called home to be with the Lord do so in a room with which they are familiar and among carers whom they both know and love. We value your prayers for the future that we will be able to continue this high level of care, to the glory of God.

This newsletter features Mrs Olive Willis who has had a varied and exciting life and, how about the calf that was born in the field adjacent to the home?

Enjoy your read.

Stan Mash, Trustee and Editor

MEET THE RESIDENTS...

A caring career

That's the title of an article that recently appeared in 'Best of British – past and present' magazine. It concerns one of our residents Mrs Olive Willis.

Olive is in every sense a local - being born in Wendling, close to Dereham. However she didn't stay here for long! She excelled in her training as a nurse in Peterborough and followed this up with midwifery training in Queen Charlotte's in London. From that time on it seems that she was hardly ever back in the United Kingdom. Her first appointment was to take responsibility for a mission station hospital in the Belgian Congo. In spite of several bouts of malaria, she was there for four years.

She was then called up into the navy. She served on a hospital ship that collected hundreds of prisoners of war and took them home to Australia and New Zealand. Many were in a poor state of health but were glad to get back home.

On her return home herself, the ship was rerouted to take on board internees from Japanese camps and transfer them to Hong Kong. Her ward of 30 beds was filled with 112 patients!

But her travels did not finish with the end of the war. She joined the medical staff on the large cruise liners of the day



including the Queen Mary and the Queen Elizabeth, visiting New York and Canada. Her last trip involved taking emigrants to start a new life in Australia.

On her return, she married and settled in Kent before eventually coming back to her roots in Dereham.

Olive loves to relive those exciting days and copies of the article are available on request.

A warm welcome

One returning resident and one new arrival have moved into bungalows number 39 and 40. These bungalows have been completely refurbished.

Mrs Olive Allcroft, who was with us some six years ago, has moved into number 40. We welcome her back along with Mrs Lilian Hewitt, who takes residence in number 39. We trust that they all may know the Lord's blessing in their new homes.

The photograph shows Peter Bloomfield, one of our valued tradesmen, outside the newly refurbished bungalows.



Mrs Hilda Welham

In the last newsletter, we reported Mrs Hilda Welham's 103rd birthday. On 27th March 2007 she was called into the presence of her Lord. We give thanks for her life of faithful service and send our condolences to her family.

Christian fellowship

Easter reflection

Easter is always a special time in the Christian calendar. It combines the wonder of the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus on the cross for us, with the joy of His glorious resurrection.

With this in mind, Quebec Hall held an Easter Saturday Reflection Service led by Mr Edward Sheppard and Mr Martin Boyce. The Service was very well attended. The downstairs lounge was full with others in the outside hall.

The Service consisted of an opening address, hymn singing and prayer followed by a sermon and concluded with further hymns and prayer.

Refreshments, including hot cross buns, were served afterwards.

Come and have fellowship in prayer

A group of ladies have started a prayer meeting in the downstairs lounge.

It takes place on the 1st Thursday of each month. The first meeting was very well attended; more than 10 ladies joining together to pray for the needs of Quebec Hall. The management and trustees welcome this initiative and value the much needed prayer.

Is it a boy or a girl?

A happy event was witnessed by many bungalow residents when a calf was born in the adjoining field. Mother and baby are doing well!!



Activities...

The dining room was full one March evening with over 40 people enjoying a quiz evening.

With questions ranging from the local to national, history and sport, there was plenty of opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge. The winning team, suitably named Quebec Rangers,



News in brief...

An Inspector calls

All Care Homes are subjected to unannounced inspections by the Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI), and it was our turn on 10th April.

The inspection lasted most of the day and included discussions with residents and staff as well as a tour of the building and grounds.

We have now received the draft report and are pleased to say that the inspector considered all areas covered as 'good.' This is very pleasing as it indicates that we are achieving our aim in providing a high standard of care.

However, we will also carefully consider all the helpful suggestions that the inspector made in order to improve the quality still further.

Copies of the report will be available from the Manager as soon as the final version is received.

New equipment

We have recently been able to purchase a new hoist to help us to safely lift residents.

Staff have been trained in its use, and it is already proving to be of real benefit. This purchase has been made possible as a result of generous donations to the work of Quebec Hall and we are extremely grateful to all concerned.

Day Care

Quebec Hall has recently launched its Day Care scheme. Many elderly folk prefer to live independently in their own home for as long as they are able.

However, they often find that they need some additional support from time to time. The Day Care scheme offers them the opportunity to come to the Hall and enjoy the day with us. It includes lunch and tea with full personal care.

Optional supported baths are also available if required.

collected their prizes as we all enjoyed some delicious fish and chips.

Don't they always taste better straight from the paper!!

This proved to be a wonderful opportunity of fellowship together. As a result similar events are being planned for the future. They include a 'Cream Tea' in May, a 'Games Evening' in June and a Bar-B-Q in July. All are welcome.

STAFF NEWS

The Management and Trustees are very pleased to announce that staff members Claire Skipper and Tracey Wray have been promoted to supervisors. We wish them well in their new responsibilities.



Supervisor Claire



Supervisor & Fire Marshal, Tracey Wray

Also, two members of staff, Tracey Wray and Mark Byrne have successfully completed their Fire Marshal training.

The photographs show them with certificates. The Management and Trustees would like to thank them for this demonstration of their commitment.



Fire Marshal Mark Byrne



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)