

QuebecNews

The Quebec Hall Christian Eventide Home Newsletter

Winter 2007

Hello friends

With the many tasks that are associated with the successful administration of a home like Quebec Hall, I never cease to be amazed at the number of extramural activities which the staff of the home so readily organise. I am giving serious consideration to asking for a free transfer for my wife and me from Cheshunt to Dereham!

You will notice that there is a real bias towards the culinary delights; I do hope that all the rules on 'healthy eating' have been adhered to. Although, looking at all those wonderful cakes I wonder! And there is still Christmas to come.

It only seems a short time ago that Mark was welcomed to Quebec Hall as the new Manager. A glance at 'An eventful year' shows how well he has embedded himself. We thank God for so directing Mark's life and career which resulted in him taking up the mantle of manager.

When a company's influence goes international it is usually heralded with a media statement – look at the opening item. Quebec Hall has attracted the attention of a young Japanese student; she was impressed and who knows what effect the testimony of the management and staff will have, internationally.

Finally, I would draw your attention to the two Stop Press items. Firstly, please book July 12, 2008, as we would love to see you at the Open Day and secondly, to Mark and Sarah Bryne, a son. This latter announcement naturally draws our thoughts to the joy later on this year of celebrating the coming into the world of the babe at Bethlehem, the Lord Jesus Christ.

I am reminded of two carols written by Charles Wesley which include lines which, in my opinion, are among the greatest ever written. In the carol "Let heaven and earth combine" there is the line "Our God compacted to a span, incomprehensively made man" and in "Hark! The herald" those majestic lines "Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; Hail the incarnate Deity." So this Christmas time raise your voices in praise of the one who, in coming to earth, emptied heaven and, herald with the angels "Glory to the new born King."

May we at Quebec Hall be the first to wish you a Christ filled Christmas.

Enjoy your read.

Stan Mash, Managing Editor

Quebec Hall features in Japan

During the summer we were pleased to receive a visit from Mayumi Hayashi.

She is a Japanese postgraduate and is conducting a study in which she compares Residential Homes in England with those in Japan. She is based in Ogaki, a city in Japan of similar size to Norwich. Her objective was to see if there are any ways in which the different cultures can learn from each other.

Mayumi was overwhelmed by the 'homely nature' of Quebec Hall and couldn't believe that our residents live in such a 'wonderful stately home.'



Our photos are part of those featuring in Mayumi's report.

An eventful year...



Our manager, Mark Woodgett has now been in post at Quebec Hall for a full year. In one of his quieter moments he reflects upon what God has done during that year.

"It has been a great year. I have to pinch myself sometimes to remind myself that I'm here, working, enjoying what I do and with the bonus of getting paid for it. God is at the centre of all we do.

We have a great team of staff who are dedicated to ensuring that the Residents come first and that they are treated with loving care, dignity and respect.

So much seems to have happened in the past year and I do give all glory to God."

Here are just a few of those things:

- Refurbished 11 bungalows of which 10 have been repainted, 8 have had new kitchens and bathrooms and 2 have had major internal rebuilding.

- In the Hall, work has been carried out in 6 rooms – 4 have been repainted, 2 have been re-carpeted and 1 has had a new bathroom.
- New flooring has been laid in the main Bathroom in the Hall and the Laundrette and nearly half the carpets in the Hall have been industrially cleaned.
- 21 bungalow chimney stacks have been re-pointed and repairs have been completed to the steelwork of the Hall's fire escapes.
- Within the care team, we have welcomed 4 new members of staff to replace those that have left. Training courses have been held on such subjects as First Aid, Fire Safety, Lifting and Handling and Advanced Dementia.
- 10 'special events', including cream teas, quiz evenings etc., have been held and enjoyed by many residents.'

The trustees join you, Mark, in thanking God for His goodness to all at Quebec Hall during the past year.

OPEN DAY 2008

STOP PRESS

As part of the 'specials' programme for 2008, we are planning, God willing, to hold a Quebec Hall Open Day on Saturday July 12th 2008.

Please keep the date free and join us as we again celebrate God's goodness to us in the work here at Quebec Hall.



New equipment

Quebec Hall has recently purchased its first 'stand aid' to compliment the new hoist purchased in March.

This is a vital piece of equipment to help residents requiring assistance to be lifted from a chair to a wheelchair, or from a wheelchair into bed. It also eliminates the need for manual lifting by staff and so helps the health and safety aspects of lifting and handling.

Our photo shows Ann Stancombe, one of our supervisors, demonstrating the equipment.

Stan Mash retires

Since the publication of the previous newsletter, Mr Stan Mash has found it necessary to resign as a trustee of Quebec Hall.

In order to attend trustees meetings Stan had to travel from London – sometimes even staying overnight in Dereham. But when at Quebec Hall, he always injected humour into the meetings, along with sound common sense.

The other trustees wish to record their gratitude to Stan for the enormous contribution he has made over the years. His skill and advice in all things connected with the publicity of Quebec Hall has been particularly appreciated.

In many ways he has helped to put Quebec Hall on the map! We are pleased to say that he is prepared to carry on some of this work for us, including editing and publishing this newsletter – albeit at a distance.

We send our gratitude to Stan, along with our prayers for Grace, his wife, that they might know God's presence and blessing over these future days.

...and a Trustee resigns

It is with regret that we announce the resignation of Ian Walker from the trust at the end of October. His help and wide experience will be missed. We are grateful to Ian and wish him well as he continues his other avenues of Christian service.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT QUEBEC HALL...

Late summer barbecue – 25/8/07

It had been raining for nearly two weeks solid before the Saturday of the barbecue. However, a lot of prayer preceded the day and we are grateful that God blessed us with a wonderfully bright sunny day and evening.

Over 50 people came, including Hall and bungalow residents along with their family and friends. In addition many staff and family also joined in the fun. All enjoyed the atmosphere and a feast of barbecue food, salads and puddings.



Another quiz evening with a fish and chip supper

Following the success of the quiz evening held earlier in the year, Quebec Hall held another one on 12th October.

This was also well attended and the fish was just as delicious – but were the questions a little harder? We suspect that the winning team – Pomegranates – had had some private coaching since last time!

order! Tea and biscuits were provided afterwards.

The ladies knitting club now meets every Tuesday at 2.30pm. Anyone else, from the bungalow residents, wishing to join in is more than welcome. Come along and see what you can do!

Biggest ever coffee morning

The annual 'Biggest Ever Coffee Morning' in aid of the Macmillan Cancer Care Support was held on the 29th September. As a result £314.08 was raised to help them in their work. A very BIG thank you to all who took part and provided cakes for the morning.

Our photo shows just some of the delicious cakes that were enjoyed!



Ladies start a knitting/craft club

Tuesday 25th September saw the start of a ladies knitting and craft club in the downstairs lounge. There was much laughter amid the sound of knitting needles as the ladies started knitting from patterns brought in by Wendy Nash, one of our bungalow residents.

The ladies are also planning to knit some blankets to go out to Albania as well as items for the shoe box appeal.

Mark, our manager, was asked if he wanted to join in with the knitting but he had to admit that he couldn't knit. Perhaps a rapid training course is in

CSCI report (Commission for Social Care Inspection)

Our latest report was encouraging and a copy, as well as those from previous years, can be found on the internet at www.csci.org.uk and searching for 'Quebec Hall'.

A BABE IS BORN

STOP PRESS

Our congratulations go to Mark and Sarah Byrne on the safe arrival of their son Matthew James, on 21st November. Matthew is a brother to Louise, Jack and Peter and weighed 10lb 4oz. Mark is a carer at the Hall. We wish them much joy and God's richest blessing on the family.

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)