



PAX HILL

Care home for the elderly

Balmoral Quarterly Newsletter

Autumn 2017

WALKING CLUB

Started in the spring in response to residents' request, twice a week the 'Walking Club' meets in the Lounge to 'Walk, Talk, then Walk some more!' A very social activity, some participants chose the shortest route to the seating waiting for them to enjoy the views over Pax Hill's extensive grounds, others take a slightly more extended route but all enjoy the chance for fresh air and a jolly nice relaxed chat in pleasant company.

On this occasion we were enjoying a mini heat wave and the parasols came into play; earlier in the year the walk was more bracing but with the seating set up in a secluded suntrap just as enjoyable.



Balmoral Nursing Station

01420 525892 | www.paxhill.co.uk

Bentley, Farnham, Surrey GU10 5NG



STICKY FINGERS?

In the hopes that the weather will be so lovely, the temperatures so warm and that we will be so busy at the fete that people would struggle to see our craft stall through the crowds – we decided to make some ‘Advertising Bunting’ using buttons, ribbon and wool to spell out the legend ‘Crafts’ to hang above the stall.

A lot of fun and a few buttons rolling off into the sunset provided a good, and productive, afternoon’s work.

RESIDENTS’ MEETING

In spite of a major heat wave, we had a very good turn out to the July resident’s meeting – although the promise of chilled wine and/or iced water might have had something to do with that!

Generally positive, a number of issues were raised and have since either been dealt with or are in hand – copies of minutes distributed to all residents and available to relatives on request.



LITTLE BOXES

Not made of ticky tacky, and not looking all the same - you do have to be of a certain age to get the reference to the Pete Seeger/Malvina Reynolds! Anyway after a happily productive afternoon making origami boxes of various designs, a resident came up with the very clever idea of filling them with sweets for the summer fete! So we did and they were a very popular and attractive addition to the tombola table as well as a challenging project for both mind and fingers.

BUSY BAKERS

Whilst this may look like a particularly boozy activity we were actually having a very sober and hard working afternoon. However with four bakers and only two rolling pins, we improvised and found a couple of wine bottles made good substitutes! Complicated pin wheels and lattice pastries were filled with either apricot or mince meat and apple to make treats for the Macmillan Coffee Morning held the next day!



PIC-NIC TIME!

Well more of a rather posh indoor/outdoor buffet of fabulous finger foods produced by the kitchen – all washed down with the odd gallon or two of that summer time classic Pimms'. Everyone pitched in to enjoy the event attended by all floors of the main building and once the food was all dealt with we sat back to enjoy Paul Nichols, an entertainer with mellow voice and enjoyable repertoire of songs. A great time was had by all whether they were partying in the perfect weather on the patio (no wasps either), enjoying the lovely fresh flower arrangements or having an equally fun time chatting and enjoying the music from the sitting room.





HEIRLOOM IN THE MAKING

How many little girls will be able to boast of having a quilt made just for them by their great-grandmother? Well I know of one and here is her great-grandmother finishing off the last bits of stitching using a machine that has followed her round the world for at least 70 years and had to be reclaimed from a grand-daughter!



FAMILY AFTERNOON TEA

What a lovely turn out for this annual event. Whilst the tender sounds of John Corin's harp played, families enjoyed the tasty savoury nibbles and dainty little cakes provided by the kitchen. The room was filled with the crepe wrapped vases of daffodils and trimmed with the bunting made earlier in the year. A most pleasant afternoon.

EVERYTHING BUT THE SQUEAK!



Based on the traditional saying that 'with a pig you can use everything but the squeak', we had an interesting afternoon finding out facts both repulsive and fascinating about our piggy friends; don't ask about the 'Hog Bog'! Although the pig's contributions to both arts and science are generally under-appreciated, the pigs contribution to our culinary pleasure is not! Washed down by appropriate Apple Cider, we enjoyed a full range of piggy nibbles from pepperoni and pate to jelly babies and marshmallows

Macmillan 'Biggest Coffee Morning'
2017

Amazing!

We raised exactly

£235.50

(Our best total to date)



A big 'Thank You' to all those who
baked, made, drank, ate and bought!



MACMILLAN

Another enjoyable morning coffee event in a very good cause with goodies both from the kitchen and from Balmoral Bakers! A lively social atmosphere with lots of chat lubricated with plentiful beverages culminated in the traditional raffle. With the support of our visitors and residents, boosted by a particularly generous single donation we reached the amazing total of £235.50 plus a Cuban peso (well it did look remarkably like a 50p) – a mistake anyone could make. So thanks once again for your support for this worthwhile cause and enjoyable social event.

FETE!

Well I have done Pax Hill Fetes in minor tornadoes, torrential downpours and any mixture of the above but this year the sun shone, a gentle breeze stirred the air just enough to stop getting too hot – splendid weather for a splendid day. The ever popular Tombola was particularly well supported this year – many thanks to all those who donated and Theresa's family who took on the hectic first stint of the day. The crafts stall was also well supported – well done to those ladies who made tea-towels, stencilled peg bags, stencilled and sewed tote-bags as well as created a range of individual gift-cards. One of our residents even dug deep into her stash of beautiful needlework and donated pieces that were incorporated into cushion covers – seen here showing off her work to her appreciative family.

The Plant stall was hugely well supported, well done Lucy for all her hard work – my crafty group even got in here with their Dolly Peg Topped Plant sticks!

Thank you to for family donations to the home-baking and preserves stall, another perennial favourite for goodies to take home once people had recovered their appetites after feasting on the kitchen and Khushee's fabulous food or grabbing a bite from Wendy's busy BBQ.



THANK YOU

To all the Individuals and Companies that donated to this year's Summer Fete, Raffle and Tombola

Including:

Bentley Stores | Bird World | Charles Read and Daughter | Cheesemans Fruit and Veg | Forest Lodge Garden Centre | Grayshott Pottery | Highland Crown | Jane Austen's House Museum | Jenkyn Place Vineyard | P R Launderers Ltd | Squire's Garden Centres | Tilly the Avon Lady | True Story Photography



OUT AND ABOUT

Making the most of the summer weather we arrange a variety of trips – unfortunately due to a camera malfunction – no shots of the very enjoyable trip to Birdworld – however, as you can see, the trip to the Garden Centre was very much enjoyed!



OFF HER TROLLEY?

Actually more like off with her trolley! Modelling ourselves on the WRVS we launched our new shopping trolley. A rather jaunty wheeled tool chest, the top opens up to give extra display space in addition to the deep storage follow of sweet treats below. Two shallower drawers hold toiletries and stationary whilst the open area below houses a basket full of crisps and other savoury nibbles. Enjoying a chance to choose a few bits and pieces whilst having a social chit-chat it is lovely when the shopping can come to you!



FARM VISIT

That's right – the farm came to visit Pax Hill! Star of the show was the cute baby donkey but a lot of interest and reminiscing was provoked by the mixture of sheep, goats, poultry and pets who also came.

CHEERS!

In response to requests at a recent resident's meeting for the occasional evening activity, we held a cheese and wine party with relatives also invited. No entertainment needed as the lively chatting between people keen to introduce family to friends filled the room – no doubt aided by the nibbles and wine also laid on. Lashings and lashings of ginger beer for the more abstemious!





AND HERE'S SOME WE DID EARLIER.....

A good selection of the knitting circle collect around the table with their latest batch of hats and cannular mittens to be sent off to Basingstoke hospital – what a fabulous array of work!

REGULARS

Just to give a more rounded picture of what we get up to:

- ◆ Stretcher exercise, 3 times a week.
- ◆ Weekly Art Classes
- ◆ Weekly Yarn Crafts
- ◆ Weekly Bridge Group
- ◆ Walking Club – thrice weekly weather permitting
- ◆ Weekly Scrabble
- ◆ Weekly Board Games
- ◆ Weekly Brain Gym
- ◆ Plus occasional themed quizzes, bingo, illustrated talks, communion (both R.C and C of E), seasonal activities, social events, poetry readings, entertainers, crafts, charity events, trips out.....

HARVEST TIME

It has now become a tradition at Pax Hill for the residents to make a dough harvest sheaf for display at the Harvest Festival Service held every year. This year was no exception and the ladies had a very busy morning using baking skills learnt over the years to create a Harvest Sheaf – even bigger and better than last year!





DATES FOR THE DIARY

Friday 6th October - 11am	Holly Communion Catholic	Montgomery Activites Rm
Thursday 12th Oct - 2pm	David and his piano	Montgomery Lounge
14th November 4pm	Rock Choir Tuesday	Balmoral Terrace
Tuesday 17th Oct - 2pm onwards	Celebrating Diwali	Montgomery Lounge
Friday 20th Oct - 2.30pm	Harvest Festival Service C of E	Balmoral Lounge
Wednesday 25th Oct - 7pm	Evening Entertainment with Bredon	Balmoral Lounge
Monday 30th Oct - 2pm	Haloween Talk	Balmoral Lounge
Tuesday 31st Oct - AM	Pumpkin Carving	All Units
Tuesday 31st Oct - PM	Paul Nicholas Sings	Montgomery Lounge
Wednesday 1st Nov	Haloween Quiz	All Units
Friday 3rd Nov - 11am	Holy Communion Catholic	Montgomery Activities Rm
Friday 3rd Nov - 4.45pm	Fireworks on the Balmoral Terrace	All Units
Friday 10th Nov - 2pm	Armistice Talk by Kate	Balmoral Lounge
Sunday 12th Nov - 10am	Rememberance Sunday	On T.V All Units
Wednesday 15th Nov - 2-3.30pm	Big Knit Afternoon Tea	Balmoral Lounge
Friday 17th Nov - 2.30pm	Holy Communion C of E	Balmoral Lounge
Monday 20th November 2-3.30pm	Gemini Clothing	Balmoral Lounge
Wednesday 22nd Nov - 2pm	Entertainer to be arranged	Montgomery Lounge
Tuesday 28th November 2-3pm	Vick Cracknell	Montgomery Lounge
Thursday 30th Nov	All Things Scottish	All Units
Friday 1st Dec - 11am	Holy Communion Catholic	Montgomery Activities Rm
SATURDAY 2nd Dec - 2pm	Pax Hill CHRISTMAS BAZAAR	Marque in court yard

Saturday 2nd Dec Evening	Staff Awards Celebration	Marque in court yard
Thursday 7th Dec 11.15am Pick Up	Alton House Hotel for Christmas Lunch at 12noon	Alton House Hotel
Monday 11th December 6.30-7.30pm	The Rowledge Ringers	Balmoral Lounge
Wednesday 13th Dec - 2pm	Christmas Poetry Please	Balmoral Lounge
Thursday 14th Dec - 2pm	Marian and her Tappers	Montgomery Activities Rm
Friday 15th Dec - 2.30pm	Christmas Service and Communion C of E	Balmoral Lounge
Saturday 16th Dec - 2pm onwards	Montgomery Christmas Party	Montgomery Lounge
Sunday 17th Dec - 2pm onwards	Windsor and Balmoral Christmas Party	Balmoral Lounge
Tuesday 19h Dec 1pm Pick Up	To see the Christmas Decoration and Tea	Squires Garden Centre
Wednesday 20th Dec 1.30pm	Christmas Film	All Units
Thursday 21st Dec	Christmas Quiz	All Units
Friday 22nd Dec - 2pm	All Things Christmas Talk by Kate	Balmoral Lounge
	Bentley School Singers Date TBC	
	Treloars Students Festive Singing Date TBC	
	Gemini Clothing Date TBC	
	Rowledge Impromptu Ringers and Singers Dates TBC	
Tuesday 2rd Jan - 2pm	That was the year that was!	Balmoral Lounge

C of E Holy Communion and Harvest Festival dates are still to be confirmed.

Thrice weekly stretching, twice weekly walking club, weekly bridge, arts class, knit and natter and board games