



PAX HILL

Care home for the elderly

# Balmoral Quarterly Newsletter

## Summer 2015

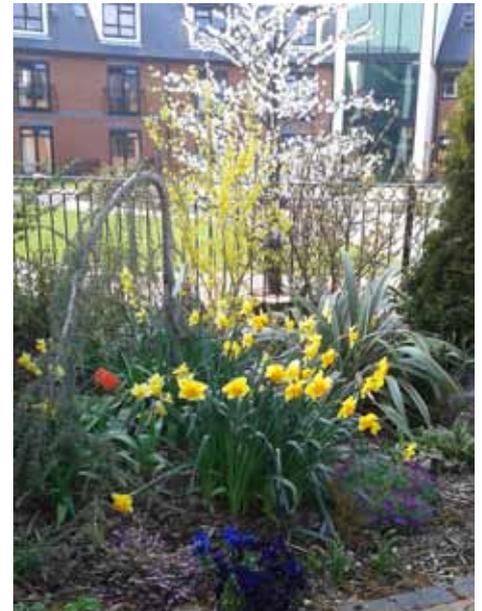
Hello again,

Welcome to our summer 2015 newsletter for Balmoral

It has been lovely to see the gardens at Paxhill come alive with colour and smells of the spring flowers. We have even managed to get outside to enjoy them up close in the last few weeks. On one occasion in April, it was too hot and we were fighting over the shade of the parasol. Here's hoping we have a long warm summer in front of us to enjoy.

The coming months are full of trips out, visits and parties to enjoy. The date is set for our summer fete (4th of July) and has a vintage theme so keep the date free and come and join in the fun.

The terrible earthquakes in Nepal have shaken everyone. Our lovely staff here, a lot of whom are Nepalese, have put together a fundraising culture day to raise funds for a village in the north of Nepal in desperate need of help. We will keep you up to date with their efforts and hope you enjoyed the hard work and hospitality delivered on the day by these caring people.



Balmoral Nursing Station

01420 525892 | [www.paxhill.co.uk](http://www.paxhill.co.uk)

Bentley, Farnham, Surrey GU10 5NG

## WHEN IRISH EYES ARE SMILING - IT MUST BE ST PATRICKS DAY!

Residents on Balmoral got together and helped design some shamrocks to decorate the upstairs lounge for St Patricks Day celebrations. Andy Martin had everyone singing along to the songs of the Irish and other well known tunes. A few of the gathering got to their feet at danced with their family and friends. Everyone had a lovely time and the afternoon passed too quickly.



## MOTHERS DAY

Daffodils adorned our lounge to celebrate Mothering Sunday. Residents on our unit helped fill all the vases we could find with the lovely yellow blooms. It really cheered everyone up.

## SOLAR ECLIPSE

Friday 20th March saw a much anticipated solar eclipse, able to be viewed from the UK. We made viewing boxes in advance of the event, but were really disappointed on the day as it was dull and overcast. Our viewing boxes were useless as we couldn't see a thing. We watched the live coverage on tv and were amazed by the view from different towns around Britain. It did get spookily darker here in Paxhills lounge, but not completely dark like other places in the country. It did start off lots of conversations about where we were when the last eclipse occurred.

## RICHARD 111 BURIAL

Fascinated by the history of the Kings remains being found under a carpark in Leicester last year, a group gathered in the lounge to watch the service for his reburial in the cathedral on the big screen on the 26th March. Silence was demanded by all and the poor carers who announced it was lunchtime were almost sent to the tower for interrupting the programme. The staff in the kitchen allowed everyone to watch the service to the end before serving lunch. Thank you.

## VICTORY IN EUROPE

Residents were able to watch tv programmes showing the celebrations relating to the end of the second world war in Europe 70 years ago. It was amazing listening to stories from our residents who lived through the dark and frightening times and the excitement and relief of VE day itself.



## EASTER FUN

Kate generously entertained us this Easter, with a talk on Easter traditions. Lots of questions asked by an eager audience for Kate to answer made it a lively afternoon. She even learned some new facts herself.



An Easter Service from the church was well attended in Balmoral lounge.

The Easter carer (Easter bunny was too busy) visited all the residents with her basket offering a sweet treat to bring a smile.



## PONY PALS

Looks of pure amazement, when a 30 inch high fallabella pony, trotted into the rooms of Paxhill this April. Mr Cheddar stood patiently while he was brushed, combed, cuddled and prodded en mass by our curious residents. His owner answered lots of questions in the lounge before trotting off to visit those who like to stay in their rooms. Faces lit up with amusement and confusion and amazement at the image of a pony no bigger than a dog in the doorway to their room, but everyone ended the visit with the biggest smile and a nuzzle from Mr Cheddar himself.





## SIP & KNIT

Our first "Sip & Knit" took place this April. 14 residents from all three floors met in Winsor unit lounge, armed with knitting needles and a purpose. Paxhill supplied the sherry, the residents supplied the chat. A lovely afternoon was spent knitting small sections of a knitted chain decoration and catching up with the gossip. Lots of laughter and dropped stitches makes it definitely worth coming along to the next meeting in two weeks. (check the board for exact dates). Any donations of wool or needles( especially the short length needles) would be much appreciated. Thank you.

## PAXHILL SUMMER VINTAGE FETE

Saturday 4th July is the day not to miss. Our annual summer fete is vintage again this year but will be different from last year with a 50s feel.

Stall holders, entertainment, food drink and fundraising will be as much if not more fun than last year but we really need you to come along and join us to make it memorable. See poster on boards around home.

If you are able we would really appreciate donations for our raffle and tombola stalls. All profits are being given to aid charity for the Nepalese earthquake relief .(Need name of charity)

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Mrs Jackson, Caroline Herridge and Eileen Wilson all celebrated birthdays in the spring season of the year.



## A SPECIAL HAPPY BIRTHDAY

has to go to Alfred Eade who celebrated his 102nd Birthday in April



## ST GEORGES DAY

An English quiz started the days' entertainment. With the English ladies trying to test my Scottish knowledge of England.

Flags at the ready we headed upstairs to the lounge for a sing a long with "the Duke". Even the Scottish, Welsh and Irish joined in the singing. The lovely staff in the Kitchen baked some delicious cakes decorated with the St Georges flag which went down easily with a nice cup of tea.



## REGULAR ACTIVITIES YOU MAY BE INTERESTED IN

**Our inter unit dominoes and bingo** are always good fun to take part in. Every two weeks in Montgomery unit activity room. All welcome check the weekly activity timetable for the next get together.

**Chair exercises** are proving popular. We meet in Balmoral activity room after morning coffee ( around 10 am) Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. Its relaxed and fun , not too strenuous but a good way to kick start the day. All welcome , even if its just for the music and chat.

**Sip & Knit** is a new get together to be held every two weeks on different floors each time to allow those less mobile to join in. If you enjoy knitting or sherry, both or neither, you are more than welcome to come along and meet new people. Check weekly activity timetables for next meet.

We are putting together a **sing a long afternoon** in the next month with a chance to have a good old warble. You don't need to be able to sing ( if you can that's a bonus) as long as you enjoy trying. We will supply the music and words. If it's a success we might look at a regular slot so come along and have a laugh. Check activity board and timetable for date.





## GETTING OUT AND ABOUT

Minibuses filled with Paxhill residents headed for Forest Lodge garden centre last month. We had a good look around , posed for photographs and made some purchases before reaching the café for a well needed cup of tea. A good time was had by all.

A trip to Country market last week was also a success as plants purchased, survived back to Balmoral for some care and attention.....but for how long. More tea and cake finished the day off perfectly.

## SCOUTS JAMBOREE

As you probably know, the old house at Paxhill belonged at one time to Lord Baden Powell. On July 25<sup>th</sup> this year 110 scouts will meet up at Paxhill before embarking on the world jamboree – this year in Japan. Please look for posters around the home for more details if you wish to come along and join in their send off.

Hope you have enjoyed reading about some of our antics. A great big Thank You everyone who helps out and joins in even in the smallest way. It wouldn't happen without you. Remember to hand in your email to either reception or to me – Heather, to receive photos , updates and a copy of this news letter. Enjoy the Summer .

*Speak soon,  
Heather x*



## DATES FOR THE DIARY

|                                   |                                        |                             |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Friday, 5th June - 11am           | Holy Communion Catholic                | Montgomery Activities Room  |
| Tuesday, 9th June - 1.30-3pm      | Sip and Knit                           | Windsor Lounge              |
| Wednesday 10th June 2.15pm        | Holy Communion C of E                  | Balmoral Lounge             |
| Thursday, 11th June - 2-3pm       | Inter Unit Dominoes                    | Montgomery Activities Room  |
| Tuesday, 16th June - 2.45pm       | Royal Ascot Starts Cream Tea           | All Units in Lounges        |
| Wednesday, 17th June - 1.30 - 3pm | Sing Along                             | Balmoral Lounge             |
| Thursday, 18th June               | Ladies Day at Ascot Hats and Pimms     | All Units in Lounges        |
| Sunday, 21st June                 | Fathers Day                            |                             |
| Tuesday, 23rd June - 1.30-3pm     | Sip and Knit                           | Balmoral Lounge             |
| Wednesday, 24th June - 2-3pm      | Speaker- Airtraffic Control - Paul Smy | Balmoral Lounge             |
| Thursday, 25th June - 2-3pm       | Mairon and her Tappers                 | Montogomery Activities room |
| Monday, 29th June                 | Wimbledon Starts                       |                             |
| Wednesday, 1st July               | Strawberries and Cream                 | All Units in Lounges        |
| Friday, 3rd July - 11am           | Holy Communion Catholic                | Montgomery Activities       |
| Saturday 4th July - 2pm           | Pax Hill Summer Fete                   |                             |

|                                               |                                        |                          |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Wednesday, 8th July -<br>2.15pm               | Holy Communion C of E                  | Balmoral Lounge          |
| Thursday, 9th July - 2-3pm                    | Inter Unit Dominoes                    | Montgomery Activities    |
| Tuesday, 14th July -<br>1.30-3pm              | Sip and Knit                           | Windsor Lounge           |
| Thursday, 16th July -<br>1.30-3pm             | Sing Along                             | Balmoral Lounge          |
| Wednesday, 22nd July -<br>1.30pm              | Windsor and Balmoral Residents Meeting | Each Units Lounge        |
| Thursday, 23rd July -<br>2-3pm                | Inter Unit Bingo                       | Montgomery Activities    |
| Saturday, 25th July                           | Scouts meet at Pax Hill                | Front lawn               |
| Wednesday, 29th July -<br>1.15pm Bus picks up | Visit Chawton House Library            |                          |
| Thursday, 30th July -<br>1.30-3pm             | Sip and Knit                           | Balmoral Lounge          |
| Thursday, 6th August -<br>2-3pm               | Inter Unit Dominoes                    | Montgomery Activities    |
| Friday, 7th August - 11am                     | Holy Communion Catholic                | Montgomery Activities    |
| Tuesday, 11th August -<br>11.30 onwards       | Summer Picnic and Entertainment        | Balmoral Lounge/ Terrace |
| Wednesday, 12th August -<br>2.15pm            | Holy Communion C of E                  | Balmoral Lounge          |
| Thursday, 13th August -<br>1.30-3pm           | Sip and Knit                           | Windsor Lounge           |
| Tuesday, 18th August -<br>1.30-3pm            | Sing Along                             | Montgomery Lounge        |
| Thursday, 20th August -<br>2-3pm              | Inter Unit Bingo                       | Montgomery Activities    |
| Tuesday, 25th August -<br>2-4pm               | Mill Cottage Farm to visit             | Court Yard               |
| Thursday, 27th August -<br>1.30-3pm           | Sip and Knit                           | Balmoral Lounge          |