

July 2015 Newsletter

Abbeyfield
Making time for older people

'KEEPING YOU CONNECTED'

Message from Jackie

The past month has been a very exciting one here at Abbeyfield as we celebrated Abbeyfield across our houses and homes.

Abbeyfield Week is an annual celebration of making time for our residents, inviting friends and families into our homes and enabling people to connect with the local community.

I would like to thank all of the hard work that everyone put in to create

such fantastic open days, that many people enjoyed. From coffee mornings, with delicious home made cakes to BBQ's, entertainment and games.

I think we can all agree that we had some fantastic days celebrating, filled with lots of laughter and glorious sunshine!

With Summer now well and truly here, it will also soon be time for our annual Strawberry Fair, here at Grove House- Thursday 6th August. Planning is already

underway to make it another unforgettable celebration.

We always appreciate hearing your feedback so if there are any activities you would like to see more of or any day trips that you think others would also enjoy please let us know.



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New Starters & Leavers

Starters

Amanda Hall- Bathing/ Day Care Assistant

Vivienne Clarke- House Manager- Holme Lea

Leavers

Louise Wright- Kitchen Assistant

Nicola Craven- Domiciliary Care Assistant



Long Reigning Resident



Abbeyfield Grove House will soon be celebrating its 12th year of providing housing, support and care for people at different stages in later life.

When doors first opened in 2003, Gerry Hall was the very first resident to move in. Around Christmas 2003 Gerry recalls having sandwiches with Moi (our longest reigning member of staff!) before any other residents had even moved in!

I went to visit Gerry to learn more about why he chose to come and live at Abbeyfield and in the process learnt about the fabulously fascinating life he has lead thus far.

After a long varied career, starting in the Merchant Navy and ending it on top by owning

his own successful garden centre & wholesale company, Gerry decided to settle, with his dear wife, back in his home town, Ilkley.

When they heard about Abbeyfield being built he put his and his wife's names down straight away for a flat.

Unfortunately Gerry's wife passed away before they moved into their new flat however Gerry is a testament to Abbeyfield and shows how people can thrive here.

Gerry compares the entire team of staff to guardian angels and believes Abbeyfield is 'As good as it gets.'



Grove House Open Day

From 9th- 14th June Abbeyfield homes across the country opened their doors for a week of fun. An estimated 10,000 people joined in the variety of celebrations that were organised by volunteers, residents and staff.

Here at Abbeyfield Grove House Zoe McKenzie organised a fantastic day and even the sun came out to play! Residents enjoyed entertainment, including Birds of Prey, Clarinet Players, our resident choir, stalls selling paintings by our very own art group, books and crafts as well as a raffle.

Gill and the kitchen staff BBQed up a storm on our front lawn, hot dogs and burgers were enjoyed by all and for those who had room left there was a chocolate fountain complete with strawberry's and marshmallows to dip in.

All together Abbeyfield Grove House' Open Day managed to raise a grand total of £590.26!

Thank you so much for your support and if you would like to see more pictures from the day, please see the notice board in the Coffee Bar.



Holme Lea- Ilkley

Holme Lea hosted an open coffee morning for residents, family and friends. John Cunliffe (author of Postman Pat) came along to show his support as well as enjoy the beautiful homemade cakes and buns. Visitors also had the chance to enter a raffle, with some fabulous prizes such as a drinks hamper, gardening tools and a pamper kit.



Wells House- Harrogate

The residents at Wells House also hosted a coffee morning- filled with delicious homemade cakes, teas and coffees everyone had a thoroughly enjoyable time.



The Beeches- Menston

The residents and staff at The Beeches linked their weekly coffee morning with Abbeyfield Open Week.

Cakes, teas and coffees were enjoyed by all who attended as well as a much enjoyed catch up with friends and family.

Creative Craft Club

The Knitting and Craft Class could be one of Grove Houses best kept secrets, as I discovered, when I went and spent a Thursday morning with this fantastic group.

Whether they are knitting gifts for grandchildren, creating homemade cards or simply just enjoying each others company over a drink and biscuits a good time is always had.

As I discovered, you not need to be a whiz with the knitting needles to join this group, it is open to anyone and everyone and it is so welcoming. So if you would like to come along and see if this group is for you, it is held in the Conservatory at Grove House every Thursday morning 10.30- 12.00.



Donations

We are looking for donations for Tombola & Raffle stalls at both our Strawberry Fair on 6th August and our Christmas Fair which will be held on November 28th.

Any donations would be greatly appreciated and all money raised goes towards the Abbeyfield Residents Amenities Fund.

If you would like to make a donation please see either Reception or Zoe McKenzie on 01943 886005.



Dates for your Diary

Grove House

- Sunday 19th- 17.30- Ilkley Baptist Church
- Monday 21st- 14.00- 16.00- Library Group
- Wednesday 29th- 14.00- Local Pianist Olga Sutcliffe-Lee: Conservatory



The Beeches

- Every Wednesday- 14.45- Singing Club
- Every Friday- 14.00- Art & Craft Group
- Wednesday 29th- 10.30 onwards- Coffee Morning
- *Keep your eyes peeled or ask for further information on the Bingo Nights held at The Beeches*



Weekly Activities at Grove House

Monday	Art Class 14.00- 16.00 Activity Room		
Tuesday	Singing for Pleasure Choir 11- 12.00 Activity Room	Exercise with Zabine 12- 13.00 Conservatory	Library Group 14- 16.00 Conservatory (7th & 21st)
Wednesday			
Thursday	Knitting & Craft Group 10.30- 12.00 Conservatory		
Friday			
Saturday			
Sunday	Church Services (5th & 19th) 17.30- Activity Room		

Our groups need you!

Our Groups and Classes are looking for new members and are always welcoming, so if you would like to try something new, whether it be stretching your vocal chords or stretching your legs, please feel free to drop into a class.

If you have any suggestions for classes or entertainment that you would like to see more of please contact Zoe McKenzie with your ideas: 01943 886005.

