

# January/ February 2016 Newsletter

*'KEEPING YOU CONNECTED'*



Abbeyfield  
Making time for older people

## Message from Jackie

Welcome to the first 'bumper' edition of our Abbeyfield Newsletter 2016.

Although it now seems like a long time ago, I hope that everyone had a very Merry Christmas despite the miserable weather.

2016 is set to bring a few exciting changes. The Abbeyfield Ilkley Society will become Abbeyfield The Dales, on 1st April, meaning that we will manage an additional 9 properties.

I would like to take this opportunity to assure you, while this seems like a big change, nothing will be run any differently on a day to day basis at our current properties. The level of care will be just as high, activities will carry on as normal

and you will still see the same faces around! If you have any queries about the change over to The Dales please do not hesitate to contact myself or a member of the management team.

As always, during February, we have plenty of activities happening throughout Abbeyfield Ilkley Society. From film evenings, celebrating Chinese New Year to coffee and craft mornings.

Do you have any suggestions or requests as to new activities that you would like to see started in your home? Please contact Zoe McKenzie on ext. 248 or Jane Hesling on ext. 271, they would be delighted to help you and hear your ideas.

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## New Starters

Carolyn Clarke- Night Carer- The Beeches

Kate Robb- Webb- Finance Director

Rebecca Stokes- PA/ Admin Assistant

## Change of Roles

Jenifer Wright- Recruitment Assistant

Jane Hesling- Receptionist/ Events Assistant

Sharron Mann- Housekeeper

Janet Derry- Domestic Assistant

## The Railway Children

While these may not be the Railway Children from the classic Nesbit novel, it could be argued this nursery group were far sweeter!

These Railway Children are a pre-school/ nursery group, based near Menston Train Station.

The whole class came along and sang (over the Christmas Period) Christmas Carols and Songs at The Beeches. The nursery group then spent time having a chat with the residents...as best they could!

The afternoon was thoroughly enjoyed by all and hopefully we will have another visit from the Railway Children soon.

## British Heart Foundation

On Friday 5th February our Grove House Residential/ Respite Unit will be hosting a fundraising event for a fantastic cause, the British Heart Foundation.

With delicious cakes being sold on our Coffee Bar, a Red Themed Tombola and much more entertainment taking place on the Residential Unit, there is something for everyone.

If you would like to make any donations for our Red Tombola or if you are feeling creative and would like make (or buy!) a cake to be sold, please see either Allison or Cath.

Come and join us for a morning of laughs and lets see how much we can raise for a good cause!



## Summerhouse

For those who attended the Grove House Christmas Fair, you will have seen that we are well on the way to the Summerhouse being completed. Therefore this spring we are hoping it will be open for everyone's use, residents, families and friends. For those of you who love being outdoors and spending time in the garden, this will be the perfect club for you.

With plenty of seating inside the summerhouse and all of its original features still in tact, the summer house will be a fabulous place to spend those fresh Spring days.

With the support of Barbara Jordan you could be a member of our Abbeyfield Gardening Club. Potting plants, nurturing your flowers or simply enjoy the peaceful space. We may also need to think about forming a committee so the responsibility of watering the plants can be shared . We don't want any lost lobelia or dehydrated dahlias!

We would also like feedback as to what else you may like from the club apart from growing plants (to keep and sell)- would you like to see talks, trips out to other gardens or maybe a competition or plant show?

If you are interested in our Gardening Club please contact Zoe McKenzie on 01943 886005 and leave a message for Barbara.

## Coping at Christmas

Christmas 2015, like those previous, saw Abbeyfield's up and down the country open their doors for the Coping at Christmas Campaign.

Within the Abbeyfield Ilkley Society we invited anyone over the age of 55 to come and join us for a meal, companionship, entertainment and lots of laughter. After all, no one deserves to be alone at Christmas.

Some of our homes, including The Beeches and Grove House, welcomed guests with open arms.

Our Day Centre had 3 visitors over the Christmas period, who came and enjoyed a delicious Christmas meal as well as entertainment. Thank you to all who helped and supported this campaign.

## Residents Meetings

Here at Abbeyfield we are passionate about making time for you.

We always want your input, to hear your views and to ensure that you are always kept informed of any changes around your home.

Due to this we believe that your resident meeting with your unit manager are highly important. As well as giving you a setting in which to comfortably voice your opinions it gives us an insight into where we can improve and what else you would like to see around your home, in order to make you more comfortable.

Please see your unit manager for dates of your next meeting.

## Health & Safety

We recently had a visit from the Fire Officer who advised us that we must remove all mobility scooters and wheelchairs from communal areas. This will ensure we minimise the potential fire risk that the scooters and wheelchairs present in terms of access from the building and the potential electrical fire risk as they use a 'trickle charge'. Mark Glover would like to thank all residents for their cooperation with this request in storing their scooters/ wheelchairs in the scooter store and we now await a re-visit from the Fire Officer to check our compliance.

## Easter Coffee Morning

Easter seems to be making an appearance earlier than ever this year, due to it being at the end of March!

At Grove House, we are going to hold an Easter Coffee Morning on Thursday 24th March.

We would love it if yourselves, family and friends could join us as well! Come along to our Coffee Bar and have a drink, a slice of delicious cake, join in our Easter Bonnet Parade and other games and entertainment! It would be great to see you!



## Brian Whitaker's Retirement Party

On Friday 29th January, Grove House hosted a fabulous party to celebrate the career of Brian Whitaker.

Old friends, original Abbeyfield members, family, residents, volunteers and employees were all in attendance to say goodbye and thank you to the son of a founding member of the Abbeyfield Ilkley Society.



Brian was the Chairman of the Ilkley Society for over 30 years and with the help of many, I think you will agree, created a fantastic facility.

Over the years Brian has overseen the Society go from a small supported housing unit into our ever expanding cluster of homes.

A fantastic night was had by all. Thanks to Zoe McKenzie for organising the event and to Jill Grubisic and the Catering Team for laying on a fantastic feast.

Brian stated, 'It has been a privilege and we will treasure our memories and friendships, throughout what we hope will be a long and healthy retirement.'

## DIY Wood Photo Transfer Workshop

Both Grove House and The Beeches will be hosting a special craft workshop in coming weeks, as part of the Abbeyfield Celebration of Art 2016.

The DIY Wood Photo Transfer Workshop will give you the opportunity to make a special keepsake gift for either yourself or a loved one.

Bring along a photograph that means a lot to you and we can help you print it on to a log slice to make a beautiful custom gift.

We can also assure you that the photograph you choose to bring and use will not be damaged at all! For dates and times, please see the Dates for Diary on the back page.



# Puzzle Page

## Happy New Year

Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid.

The remaining letters spell the name of a popular location for celebrating New Years Eve.

S E I B A B N E W Y E A R S E V E Y  
G C H A M P A G N E T Y I M N S T T  
E N S S U E T H C D A N C E D R H R  
S Q I N F E T O O D M U A Y O E I A  
E F C G F I N A S L S U E R F K R P  
D H E F N F R R R R I A S E D A T S  
A I U S E I A S E B R D N I E M Y K  
R B B T T E S M T I E S A F C E F R  
A M T A Y I A N N O R L A Y E S I O  
P I S W L E V R O E F T E E M I R W  
N D E A R L E I N I H J V C B O S E  
D N E T R V O N T E T E A S E N T R  
A I S W I A A O R I N A S N R O H I  
Y G Y E O B I T N T E I R R U K C F  
O H W I N E I T S S K S I O H A T S  
N T Y L I M A F N O I S A C C O R T  
E T S A E F S N O I T U L O S E R Y  
S R E Z I T E P P A Y F R I E N D S

APPETIZERS	DECORATIONS	HATS	PARADES
BABIES	END OF DECEMBER	HOLIDAY	PARTY
BALLOONS	EVENTS	HORNS	PUNCH
BANNERS	FAMILY	KISS	RESOLUTIONS
BUFFET	FATHER TIME	MIDNIGHT	SINGING
CELEBRATE	FEAST	MUSIC	STREAMERS
CHAMPAGNE	FESTIVITIES	NEW YEARS DAY	THIRTY FIRST
CONFETTI	FIREWORKS	NEW YEARS EVE	TIARAS
DANCE	FIRST OF JANUARY	NOISEMAKERS	WINE
DAY ONE	FRIENDS	OCCASION	YEAR IN REVIEW

What are your favourite puzzles? If you would like to see them on this page, please let Claire Pickersgill know ext. 305

## Dates for your Diary- February



### Grove House

- **Thursday 4th- 10.30- Conservatory-** DIY Wood Photo Transfer Workshop (as part of Abbeyfield Celebration of Art 2016- come and make yourself a stunning photo transfer ornament and keepsake)
- **Friday 5th- 10.30- Respite Unit & Coffee Bar-** 'Wear It. Beat It. Red Day' Raising Monday for The British Heart Foundation
- **Monday 8th-** Celebrating Chinese New Year
- **Friday 12th- 18.30- Conservatory-** Valentines Movie Evening
- **Wednesday 24th- 11.00- Conservatory-** All New Craft Club
- **Tuesday 1st March- 18.30- Conservatory-** Oscar Themed Movie Night

### The Beeches

- **Thursday 18th- 13.30- Lounge/ Dining Area-** DIY Wood Photo Transfer Workshop (as part of Abbeyfield Celebration of Art 2016- come and make yourself a stunning photo transfer ornament and keepsake)
- **Every Tuesday- 14.00-** Exercise Class
- **Every Wednesday- 14.45-** Singing Club
- **Every Friday- 14.00-** Art & Craft Group

### 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 Sabine 12- 13.00 Activity Room	Library Group 14.00 Conservatory (2nd & 16th)
Wednesday			
Thursday	Knitting & Craft Group 10.00- 12.00		
Friday			
Saturday			
Sunday	Church Services (7th & 21st) 17.30- Activity Room		