

WISHING YOU ALL A BLESSED NEW YEAR 2021.



And so the Christmas Season comes to an end with Epiphany - decorations and cards being taken down. On the 6th January in many countries people give gifts to each other as a reminder of the gifts given to Jesus by the Wise Men.

At the start of this NEW YEAR 2021 we offer ourselves as living gifts to God. Take our gifts of time, talent, treasure O God, and use them for your glory.

So may we during this 'lockdown' use the time and space to enjoy each day; filling it with positive thoughts and activities - good programmes both on the television and radio, being lost in a good book, going for interesting walks (if able), observing early Spring emerging in the gardens with bulbs, appreciating wild life both bird and creature - God-given for us to enjoy, not to mention the unbelievable skies that we often observe.

Although we know that at present life is difficult, let us now look forward 'positively', for the vaccine has arrived to ease the suffering and bring greater HOPE to all.

God will see you through as you put your trust in him.

Have an encouraging new normal - NEW YEAR.

May you be richly blessed as you journey forward.

Daphne

Chaplain

If anybody would like to receive Neighbours by email please respond to Fran at: fveale@cortonhouse.co.uk

No 428


Corton House
Living Care and Support

JANUARY 2021



NEIGHBOURS

MONTHLY NEWS-SHEET FOR

CORTON HOUSE AND BRAKENDON CLOSE

“What day is it?” asked Pooh
“It’s today” squeaked Piglet
“My favourite day” said Pooh.
AA Milne



It has been almost a year since I became Chair of the Board and like many people I have looked back over the last year with mixed feelings. Sadly, the COVID 19 pandemic has dominated the year, restricting our movements and isolating many of us from family and friends. The negative consequences of the pandemic are well known, and I won't dwell on them further. Despite these difficulties Lisa, Lorraine, Tom and their teams have risen to the significant challenge, continuing to provide the care and service our residents and tenants expect. I and the rest of the Board are immensely proud of them and what they have achieved. I thank them all for their hard work and dedication without which we would not succeed.

2020 was a year of change for the Board. I'm pleased to say that we have been joined by five new board members: Dave Cole, Terry Cotton, Hannah Harvey, Jack Minns and Maria Pratt. All of whom bring important skills and experience that will help us address the challenges we will undoubtedly face over the coming years and drive the organisation forward in new and creative ways. I hope that over the coming months you will meet the board initially, via this newsletter, to learn a little more about each of them. After nearly ten years of service to Corton House, including many years as our Finance Director, David Daynes has retired. We will miss David's wealth of experience, his financial expertise and sound judgement and wish him well.

Looking forward to 2021, two COVID vaccines have been approved by the MHRA and should be rolled out in the coming weeks/months. I hope that this will allow us to take the first small steps towards some sort of semblance of normality. While it may still be many months away I hope to personally meet most, if not all, the residents, tenants and staff of Corton House and Brakendon Close in 2021, a goal I was unable to achieve last year.

In the meantime, I shall endeavour to enjoy each day as it comes, I hope you do too. I wish you all a Happy New Year.

Marian George, January 2021

FROM THE CORTON HOUSE MANAGER

As we welcome in 2021, all in hope that it will be a smoother one than 2020, I think we all realise that it is going to be a tough start! Here in the care home we are still placing limitations on visitors and how these visits are conducted but we are getting through with each other as support. We would like to take this opportunity to also give a massive thanks to all those at Brakendon Close for your support during the toughest end of the year I think any of us have faced. Your treats and flowers bought us so much joy at a time where we felt in the darkest of places. Once again thank you xx

Lisa 😊

FROM THE SCHEME MANAGER

A somewhat quieter Christmas in 2020 was had by us all, but on a more positive note, all is well with our tenants.

The other good news is that quite a few of our tenants have already received their first dose, and some their second, of the vaccine!

This does give us hope for better things to come now that we have left 2020 behind. We can look forward to longer hours of daylight and warmer climates in the, not too, distant future!

Our new year message to all is stay safe, stay strong, look after one another and hopefully 2021 will get lighter and brighter!

Lorraine, Sue and Fran

BORN 1942

“And have you had your vaccine yet?”
Friends ask me with a smile.
They’re feeling somewhat happier than
They’ve felt for quite a while.

But I’m not in that happy band,
I’m rather sad to say.
Although their jabs have now been done,
Mine still seems far away.

I’m just too young to qualify.
I’m left out in the cold.
There’s one advantage after all
In getting to be old !

PML

The north wind doth blow
And we shall have snow
And what will the robin do then,
poor thing
He’ll sit in the barn to keep himself
warm
And hide his head under his wing,
poor thing!

.....
When father takes his
spade to dig
Then robin comes along
He sits upon a little twig
And sings a little song.
Or if the trees are rather far,
He does not stay alone
But comes up close to where we are
And bobs upon a stone.



Tenant contribution



FROM THE ACTIVITIES CO-ORDINATOR

At Christmas we managed to sing those familiar carols and were very grateful to some of the tenants from BC who braved the cold weather to stand outside and sing carols to us. We were so lucky to have Father Christmas visit us with three beautiful husky dogs. The residents enjoyed opening presents followed by a delicious lunch.

On New Year’s Eve afternoon we were able to share a glass of sherry and some nibbles (cheese straws included!). The residents chose songs, including of course Auld Lang Syne. It was a special, and if I am honest, an emotional afternoon to finally have residents and staff having an afternoon together dancing and singing.

We continue to find ways to enjoy things and even though Reverend Daphne Lloyd can not be present she very kindly gives us a written form of the Prayer Group and Service which is much appreciated. We managed to resume the Knitting Group thanks to Gail, one of our carers.

Melanie and I endeavour to try new things and keep the favourites which include Scrabble and ‘Play your cards right’. There is always much laughter when we play games and dare I say a healthy competitiveness! It has been well documented how important laughter is both physically and mentally so we intend to do lots of it in 2021.

Maria

Shop Trolley with Mel
Thursday January 21st 2021

