#### Greetings

'Grateful for Small Mercies'

'Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances. For this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.'

The good news is that God wishes you to be happy, to always be thankful for the many BLESSINGS in your life.

Each day we face many situations; God is bigger than all we will face—a new way of life, a bridge to cross, a health problem, a practical problem, rest assured that these and other situations will be overcome. We will cope with the new way of life, the bridge will not collapse, the health problem will be solved, the practical problem of the uneven path will be put right. I am sure you could add to this list.

So be 'grateful' for small mercies. May God bless you today and always. Daphne Chaplain

Thankful 继

Just a thought....

The recent Autumn gusty winds have done their 'striptease' and whisked all the leaves from the trees that succumb to this annual ritual. The green fronds of summer have mellowed into yellows, golds and bronzes. Now these myriads of leaves lie in squashy heaps and swirls of crunchiness lovely to scuffle through and kick about—if nobody is looking!

Their coniferous relatives still flaunt their cones and needles but still suffer the turbulent buffeting from the wind.

Ceasing scuffling, I pause to admire the skeleton branches, revealing the structure and shape of the denuded tress. Some are symmetrically elegant, others with arthritic-shaped joints. Many have proudly upright trunks, others have strayed hither and thither. All trunks stand firmly in the ground. I hug trees when feasible and see with joy and reassurance in these troubled times that tiny buds for next year's leafy exuberance already exist. I am aware also that, in common with us, the tree trunks have wrinkles too!

Anon



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



#### No 426

# November 2020

# FROM THE CARE MANAGER

As the nights are now closing in and the leaves falling from the trees I try and look at the positives of what is to come in the winter months: warm jumpers, woolly hats and cosy fires, but most of all Christmas is just around the corner. It has certainly been a different year to what we have been used to and I am sure the winter months will be as challenging, but I know I am grateful for the extended family we have here at Corton House and Brakendon Close to get us through! We at Corton House have been as busy as ever carving pumpkins and preparing for Remembrance. For now, stay safe, stay warm and keep smiling.

## FROM THE SCHEME MANAGER

Here we go again! Another lock down for the next four weeks.

Many of our tenants have expressed their dismay but have also become accustomed to living with restrictions. We have, however, enjoyed 16 weeks of coffee days (I know, because I have counted them!), which have turned into 'hot chocolate and marshmallow days' as the weather has become chillier. These days will return again, and we must all look forward to the fun times we'll have when we've conquered this 'thing'. And conquer? We undoubtably will! Lorraine





## FROM THE ACTIVITIES CO-ORDINATOR

We changed our venue to a smaller room to listen to Peter Piper via Zoom and it worked really well. His knowledge of music and radio programmes and his tales of growing up are really entertaining.

As this was so popular we have introduced a session where residents give us requests and we look them up on Youtube and play their favourite songs – music is such a powerful thing – provoking memories and encouraging us to experience the joy of singing together. It was so well received we will make this a regular activity and it gets us thinking of all those wonderful songs sung around a piano in many residents' homes with their families.

We have also been playing Boccia, a wonderful inclusive ball game, and created lots of competitiveness but more importantly laughter – I think it is up there with our favourite games we are regularly playing which are Scrabble topped with 'Play your cards right'. Carpet bowls has also proved popular too.

As Halloween approached we did some artwork and impressive pumpkin carving which was displayed around the home and on the day itself a Halloween and Bonfire Night Quiz was held. Maria