

Halcyon Days Newsletter

June 2011

Hi everyone,

The sun is shining spring is here and summer is on its way. Let's keep our fingers crossed that we get a good dose of daily sunshine.

Environment

The hallway on Nightingale unit is now due for getting re painted. I am open to suggestions as to what colour to paint it. Please let me know if you have any ideas.



The French doors in the small lounge have been repaired; I think you'll agree they look lovely. Also, the carpet has replaced the flooring and it now has a very homely feel.

Activities

Liz is our activities organiser on Nightingale and Carol on Kingfisher. You are more than welcome to attend activities on either unit. Please speak to the staff and they will be able to let you know what activities are going on and arrange for you to attend if you need assistance.

The visit to the Baldock street fair was thoroughly enjoyed. Plenty of tea and scones to go around, there are pictures to prove it.

A few of you went with carol last week to the first session of "singing for the brain" hosted by the Alzheimer's society. I know you all sang your hearts out and probably put the rest of those attending to shame. ☺ We hope this will be a regular thing.

Jim the entertainer comes to get us all singing twice a month.

Our summer fete is being held on 11th June and this year will include "Halcyons Strongest Person" where all the staff will compete to help raise money for

Ashling's trek up Mount Kilimanjaro which is to support the Alzheimer's society. Please come along and tell all your friends and family.

The shop is still being opened by Betty & Liz on Mondays; I believe it is now at every other Monday, in the small lounge. However, we may be turning it into a mobile shop for everyone's convenience.



Suggestions for outings are welcomed, if there is anything you fancy doing please let us know. If any relatives or visitors would like to come along please let me know or volunteer to help out then please see me or Ashling. We will need to do a CRB check which we will organise.



Please remember to pass on any ideas for the activities programme to Liz or Carol. We keep a detailed record of activities and who participates or refuses. As relatives if you would like to know a bit more about your loved ones involvement with activities please see a staff member and they will be able to check for you.

Residents committee

The committee meeting was held 2nd June. Notes are available. A reminder that committee members are invited to participate in the interview and recruitment process of new staff. The date of the next committee meeting will be posted on the board when arranged so keep your eye out should you wish to attend or wish to have an item added to the agenda. Liz is arranging this so please see her if you want to join the committee, take part in the meeting or have something you wish to be discussed at the meeting.

Birthdays

I would like to wish a belated happy Birthday to Ivy, Phyllis, Alan, Jennifer & Dorothy who celebrated in May, Margaret and Olive who celebrate this month, and to Jean, Alice and Margaret B who celebrate in July. Many happy returns! As some of you will have experienced we are offering a birthday party for you and your family & friends when it's your birthday. Someone will arrange it with you, enjoy!



Inspections

We are due a contracts monitoring visit shortly from the local council so I will let you know the outcome of that.

A copy of our last CQC (Care Quality Commission) inspection is available in the reception as always should you wish to have a read. Alternatively it can be downloaded from the CQC website.

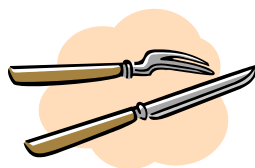
Fire safety

Just another reminder, please do not prop open your bedroom doors with slippers, tables, bins. Due to current legislation and the safety and welfare of our residents, doors must be kept closed unless you have a door guard fitted. A door guard allows a door to be kept open as it automatically closes if the fire alarm sounds. Anyone who wishes to have a door guard fitted, please see me. Many thanks for your co-operation.

Dining

As always, family members or visitors are able to join you for a meal. Please let the cooks or senior know if you would like to do this.

We appreciate your input so any suggestions for the menu let me know. Or see either one of our cooks, Sharon, Claire or Karen. Please remember if anyone fancies another drink or anything to eat, day or night, please ask. Snacks are always available in between meals and evenings so please ask if you fancy something and staff will be happy to get you something. Alternatively please help yourself to snacks that are out around the house. A cooked breakfast is also available. There is plenty of soup and hot drinks available so please enjoy these as the weather is so cold now.



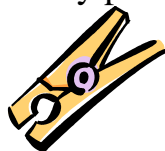
Visiting

Visitors are always welcome and we are happy to provide you with refreshments if you wish. There is tea/coffee making facilities available for you to make yourself a drink should you wish. They are situated in the dining room in Nightingale unit. Please ensure you always sign in when you arrive and out when you leave for health and safety reasons. Many thanks. Visitors are welcome to join you for a meal with prior arrangement.

Laundry

Please ensure that all clothes continue to be labelled. If anyone needs a hand please let us know and we are happy to help but will need to charge an hourly rate to sew in labels.

Please let me know if you experience any problems.



Care

Care plans continue to be reviewed each month and in between if needed. They are designed and written in such detail that they promote a person centred approach. By this I mean all personal wishes, choices and requests are being respected and adhered to. Relatives may only read a residents care plan with the residents permission so many residents have now signed a consent form if they wish for their relative to be involved. We value relative input so key workers approach the residents named relative at the time of review. Your comments are important to life history and continued care. If you wish to make comments or be involved with a care plan review, we will ask you to sign the review too. If you haven't been approached, please mention it when you come in or telephone. Alternatively you can contact me via email.

managerhalcyon@goldcarehomes.com

The unit managers are available to help resolve any concerns you have in addition to me and Ashling. Karen Bottazzi is heading up Nightingale Unit and Laura Aylott is heading up Kingfisher unit. Annual review meetings are currently being arranged for those of you who have been at Halcyon Days more than a year. I have sent letters out but will follow up with you next week if I haven't yet booked you in.

Final Thoughts

Residents meetings will continue to be held monthly, relatives meetings 3 monthly. Relatives' meeting was held for 26th May, notes are available.

A reminder that our up to date complaints policy and forms is in a folder on the front desk should you have any concerns, complaints are problems that you wish to address formally.

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me and I am sure I can help, my door is always open. If I'm not here when you normally visit, please give me a call or leave a message for me to call you and we can arrange a time

convenient to you. I hold a managers drop in session on a Tuesday afternoon so you can pop in without needing to make an appointment. If I'm not available due to annual leave or unavoidable absence for whatever reason, Ashling will step in.

Dawn Richmond-Turner
Registered Manager