

WILLOWMEAD

Issue 1 – December 2011



Welcome to your latest Newsletter and also a big hello from me. My name is Linda and I'll be taking care of your leisure activities and hopefully bring some fun and interest into your daily routine. By the time you read this I hope to have met each one of you individually to have a chat and perhaps also meet your relatives and friends for a chat with them too. I hope you find your new Newsletter interesting and welcome any suggestions or comments that you may have.

I have put a crossword puzzle together for you to do and I'm giving away a little prize to 1 winner from the best received. So get help from your visitors and friends and let me have it back before Thursday 22nd December so we can have a winner for Christmas.



And now a little bit about me.

I have 3 children, 11 grandchildren, 3 dogs, 1 three legged cat, 3 ponds with Koi, Goldfish and Newts, a tropical fish tank, and I love music. I show 2 of my dogs and they have both qualified for Crufts 2012.

I live in Braintree but originally come from Loughton.

We welcome some new care staff - Chris and Rochann; and also Peter who works in the kitchen. Hi

Forthcoming events :

Sunday 11th December

2pm Christmas Party with Peter King providing the entertainment.

There will be a fun raffle, dancing and a sing-along.

Wednesdays will be Country and Western and I have lined up some great films for you including :

- **Calamity Jane** starring *Doris Day and Howard Keel*;
- **Paint Your Wagon** starring *Lee Marvin & Clint Eastwood*

Plus Line Dancing.

More details overleaf.

- If anybody has anything they could donate for the raffle we would be grateful.
- Also if you have any spare Christmas decorations, jigsaw puzzles (not big) or children's games we would appreciate them for our activities.
- The Connect 4 game is missing the stand so if anyone sees it please let me know or maybe you have a spare one we could have?

JOKE : What do you call a person who is afraid of Santa Claus? *Claustrophobic*

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Your weekly activities will include bingo, stories, sing-alongs and some documentary films about wildlife, the wars, the Red Arrows, and some old TV series like Steptoe & Son, Dad's Army and Only Fools and Horses as well as lots of music – old time and classical.

FILMS we will be watching include “Lassie” with Elizabeth Taylor; and “From Here to Eternity” with Burt Lancaster, Frank Sinatra and Debora Kerr, “Zulu” with Michael Caine, “Battle of Britain” with an all star cast including Trevor Howard, Laurence Olivier and Susannah York; “The Longest Day” with John Wayne, Henry Fonda and Robert Mitchum. And some Christmas films during December.

DOCUMENTARY FILMS about animals include dolphins, bears, the salmon run, elephants and eagles; and also other topics such as “Mysteries of the Nile”, “Empires of India” and “Secrets of the Pharoahs”.

STORIES I have lined up for you include “Marley and Me” which is an international best selling book about the world’s worst dog written by John Grogan; and also Isabel George’s “Beyond the Call of Duty” which is a book of short stories about devoted dogs from around the world who have displayed incredible traits of courage and love as they accompanied man into battle. You will hear about Smoky, the Yorkshire Terrier who saved 250 American soldiers from being bombed in the Second World War. Treo, the British Army Arms and Explosives dog who was awarded the animal’s Victoria Cross for his life-saving actions in Afghanistan. And Antis, the German Shepherd that was rescued as a puppy in a French farmhouse.

ARTS & CRAFTS here we will be looking toward Christmas with creating some decorations and Christmas cards.

DON'T FOGET to check the Noticeboard for your weekly events and start times so you don't miss anything.



Merry Christmas from me and the Staff at Willowmead

Linda

Don't forget to buy some raffle tickets, all proceeds go on activities

Quotes for the month :

“Always remember that you are unique; just like everyone else” Anon

“You can fool all the people some of the time, and some of the people all the time, but you can't fool all the people all the time” Abraham Lincoln

to

WILLOWMEAD

CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD



Clues Across

- 1 Ginger's dance partner (4,7)
- 6 Opposite to bottom (3)
- 8 Dumbo was a baby one (8)
- 9 To take up an activity (6)
- 10 To speak (4)
- 11 Lots of these shown on TV, not new (7)
- 14 Groom's soon to be wife (5)
- 16 What flowers do in the summer (5)
- 17 Sorts carefully (5)
- 18 His birthday is on Christmas Day (5)
- 20 John was a Saint (7)
- 23 A Holy Man but apparently not one of the 12 apostles (4)
- 27 Beings from outer space maybe? (6)
- 28 Stinging, hurting (8)
- 29 Did it come before the chicken? (3)
- 30 Strictly ballroom, according to BBC1 (4,7)



Clues Down

- 1 To enjoy liberty (4)
- 2 Spotted or mottled (7)
- 3 Lots in the sky, maybe on the Christmas tree too (4)
- 4 John Mills was one (5)
- 5 Man's name, famous for premium bonds (5)
- 6 Grips firmly (9)
- 7 Christmas snacks filled with mince (4)
- 12 Eat too much and you could become this (5)
- 13 To occupy in a pleasing way (6)
- 15 Increasing air in a balloon for instance (9)
- 19 Springy, rebounding (7)
- 21 Drink with gin maybe (5)
- 22 Use your tongue to get the flavour (5)
- 24 Try to be first, maybe in sports (4)
- 25 Shortened term for father (4)
- 26 Eager and excited (4)



REMEMBER TO GET YOUR CROSSWORD BACK TO LINDA BY THURSDAY 22nd DECEMBER 2011 EVEN IF NOT FINISHED AND PLEASE WRITE YOUR NAME ON THE BACK. (PRIZE FOR THE BEST ONE OR BY DRAW IF A TIE)