

SUMMER GARDEN PARTY

Our annual Strawberry Tea will be held on Sunday 20th July commencing at 3pm. Brian Short will provide the entertainment (back by popular demand) and we are planning to have the tombola stall and other attractions. There will also be the 'Strawberry Tea Raffle' and the raffle table will be set out in the hall in June. You will be able to purchase your tickets from Gay or any member of staff. Donations for the raffle prizes or tombola stall will be very welcome. As usual we will be serving our usual delicious buffet prepared by Chef Paul and his kitchen team. Family members of our residents are invited to join us for a wonderful afternoon.



AFTERNOON EVENTS IN THE LOUNGE

20 May	Steve Robbins to play the piano and sing
5 June	David Mac to sing
6 June	Steve Robbins to play the piano and sing
8 June	Clothes party in the afternoon commencing 2.30pm. There will be an opportunity to look at the summer clothes on offer and select your purchase. Everyone will be welcome.
13 June	Nostalgia comedy show presented by Tom
4 July	Steve Robbins to sing and play the piano
11 August	Comedy show presented by Emma

BIRTHDAY CONGRATULATIONS

We wish a very Happy Birthday to all our residents who had a birthday in April or will be having a birthday in May or June. They are:

April

Doreen Williams 15th
Raymond Cecil 15th

May

Patricia Holton 22nd
Doreen Whyte 25th

June

Elsie Jackman 3rd
Joan Henley 14th
Margaret Watson 17th
Evelyn Kinnard 29th
June Franklin 24th



Best wishes for a very happy birthday to you all. We hope you enjoyed the cake made especially for you by Chef and the birthday flowers.

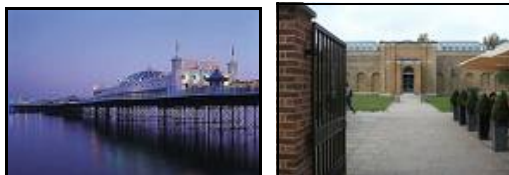
EASTER RAFFLE

We are pleased to report that the Easter Raffle raised £140.00 for the Residents Amenity Fund. The top prize of M&S Vouchers to the value of £40.00 was won by Grace Chilton (resident) The second prize of the large Bunny Rabbit was taken by Helen Carter (kitchen staff), the Large Easter Egg went to Brian (Mrs Miller – resident) and the 4th prize of an Easter egg went to Mrs Longhurst (resident). The full list of prize winners was displayed on the hall notice board. Thank you to everyone who bought a ticket.



TRIPS OUT IN THE MINIBUS

We are planning a seaside trip to Brighton and another visit to the Museum in Dulwich. The dates will depend on when we can book the minibus. Please watch the notice board for further information.



Here's some history fun for you

Next time you wash your hands and complain because the water temperature is not just how you like it, think about how things used to be. Here are some facts about the 1500s:

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May and still smelled pretty good by June. However, as time passed they would start to smell, so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odour.

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, followed by his sons and other men living under the same roof. Then came the women and finally the children. Last of all were the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it, hence the saying "Don't throw the baby out with the bath water."

The floor of the house was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt, hence the saying "dirt poor." The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on the floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they kept adding more thresh until when you opened the door it would all start slipping out. A piece of wood was placed in the entrance

way creating a "thresh hold".
Who said history was boring!

HAPPY VALLEY IN COULSDON

Over the next three months a 20 strong flock of Herdwick and Jacob sheep will be hard at work grazing on the northern slopes of Happy Valley in Coulsdon. The sheep will help to keep down scrubby vegetation and grasses which could otherwise shade out the wildflower-rich chalk grassland.

Wildflower meadows on the thin chalky soils of Happy Valley are one of the most diverse habitats for wildlife in Britain, supporting many rare plants and insects, including the greater yellow rattle, a plant found in only a few places in Britain. The slopes of the valley are also home to many types of butterfly. Grazing is the traditional way of managing these slopes. Since its introduction to Happy Valley five years ago, the grassland has shown a great improvement and the animals have proved popular with visitors.

There is a car park at the top of Happy Valley and a café for a nice cup of tea. Also wonderful walks and views of the surrounding countryside.

WORK THIS OUT!

This is a short story about four people named: Everybody, somebody, anybody and nobody.

There was an important job to be done and Everybody thought that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it but nobody did it. Then somebody got angry about that because it really was anybody's job. Everybody thought anybody could do it but nobody realised that everybody would not do it. It ended up that everybody blamed somebody when nobody did what anybody could have done!!

Keep Smiling

Smiling is infectious; you catch it like the 'flu.

When someone smiled at me to-day I started smiling too.

Someone saw my grin, when he smiled back at me

I realized I'd passed it on to him.

I thought about that smile, then realized its worth

A single smile just like mine could travel round the earth.

So if you feel a smile begin, don't leave it undetected

Let's start an epidemic and get the world infected.

Keep everyone smiling.



PET FACTS



Did you know that in ancient Egypt, people shaved their eyebrows to mourn the death of their cat?

Did you know that all tortoiseshell cats are female except for the occasional sterile male?

It is said that owning a cat is good for you. Tests have shown that stroking a cat actively lowers blood pressure and helps relaxation.

In medieval England, unethical pig sellers would try to trick buyers by putting large cats in bags instead of piglets. Canny shoppers would then ask to see the merchandise – the salesman's trick was discovered when the cat was *let out of the bag*.

The canine movie star Rin Tin Tin enjoyed all the perks of stardom, including a personal chef and his own chauffeur-driven limousine.

It was once against the law in parts of Iceland to have a pet dog.

FRIENDS OF ACACIA LODGE MEETING.

There will be a Friends meeting on Thursday 26th June commencing at 2.30pm. All family members and friends of our residents are welcome to attend.

Our meetings are very informal and we discuss any topic which can affect the lives of our residents. Please come and support us.





Summer

**Come we to the summer, to the summer we will come,
For the woods are full of bluebells and the hedges full of bloom,
And the crow is on the oak a-building of her nest,
And love is burning diamonds in my true lover's breast;
She sits beneath the whitethorn a-plaiting of her hair,
And I will to my true lover with a fond request repair;
I will look upon her face, I will in her beauty rest,
And lay my aching weariness upon her lovely breast.**

**The clock-a-clay is creeping on the open bloom of May,
The merry bee is trampling the pinky threads all day,
And the chaffinch it is brooding on its grey mossy nest
In the whitethorn bush where I will lean upon my lover's
breast;**

**I'll lean upon her breast and I'll whisper in her ear
That I cannot get a wink o'sleep for thinking of my dear;
I hunger at my meat and I daily fade away
Like the hedge rose that is broken in the heat of the day.**

by John Clare (1865)



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