

## WELCOME TO NEW RESIDENTS

We have had four new residents who have come to live with us since the publication of our last newsletter in May. They are:

**Ann Croft**  
**Bridget Cumming**  
**Alice Darvill**  
**Nancy Shears**

We extend a very warm welcome to you all. We hope that you have settled into your new home and that you are getting to know some of our other residents. It is so nice to see new faces and to make new friends.

## BIRTHDAY CONGRATULATIONS

A very happy birthday to our residents who had a birthday in July, and August, they were; **Bridget Cummins** on the 10<sup>th</sup> and **Rowland Cornish** on the 11<sup>th</sup> July. In August we had two birthday girls and they were **Rita Chapman** on the 20<sup>th</sup> and **Hildegarde Neilson** on the 23<sup>rd</sup> August. In September we again had to celebrate; for **Florence Bannister** on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and **Edna Clare** 16<sup>th</sup>. We will be celebrating the following Birthdays for:



**October**  
Dorothy Shears                      23<sup>rd</sup>

We hope that you enjoy the cake made and will be making especially for you by Chef and the birthday flowers.

## SUMMER TRIPS

We had two outings for our residents:

Day trip to Hever Castle in Kent on the **29<sup>th</sup> August** to have a picnic and had a look at the castle and gardens. Half day trip to Hornimans Museum, Forest Hill on the **3<sup>rd</sup> September** to visit the gardens which are reputed to be very fine.

## SUMMER GARDEN PARTY

We are pleased that the Garden Party held on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> July was so successful. The sun shone for us as we had our picnic in the garden and the afternoon event was well attended. We were pleased to see so many happy faces including those of the family members of residents who are no longer with us. The entertainment was provided by Brian Short, who encouraged everyone to join in with the singing.



The raffle, tombola, bottle stall and name the doll raised a total of approximately £500.00. The lucky winners of the raffle were:

**FIRST PRIZE**                      £40.00 M&S Vouchers  
Lynda Flower

**SECOND PRIZE**                      Mini Television Winifred  
Fleming

### **THIRD PRIZE** Picnic Hamper Anthony Cummings

The full list of prize winners was displayed on the hall notice board. The name of the fairy doll was 'Aurora' and she was won by Sr. Ellen.

Thank you to everyone who bought a raffle ticket or 'gambled' on the tombola or bottle stall. All proceeds raised on the day go to the Residents' Amenity Fund to help pay for their entertainment or outings.

Thank you to Chef Paul and the kitchen staff for a very delicious buffet and for all our staff who helped make the afternoon so enjoyable for our residents and their families.

### **CSCI QUESTIONNAIRE**

The Commission for Social Care Inspection now give graded ratings and Acacia Lodge received an 'excellent' rating. In June we were sent the CSCI questionnaire for the next of kin to complete. Copies of 'Have Your Say' are on the hall table and we ask that family members complete the questionnaire and either handed it to Sr. Ellen or post it directly to CSCI in the envelope provided

Thank you to everyone who has already completed the questionnaire.

Thank you to family members who have completed the Customer Satisfaction Survey for Acacia Lodge. Copies of the form are on the hall table; please hand your completed form to Sr. Ellen. Your comments and suggestions are welcomed and any action necessary will be taken immediately. Individual matters can be discussed at any time with Sr. Ellen or Sr. Manon

### **PARK HILL PARK**

If any family member wishes to accompany their residents into Park Hill Park now that the better

weather is here, they can obtain the key to the back gate from the Sisters Office.

The back garden gate gives access directly into the park, which is very pleasant with pretty flower beds, trees and shrubs.

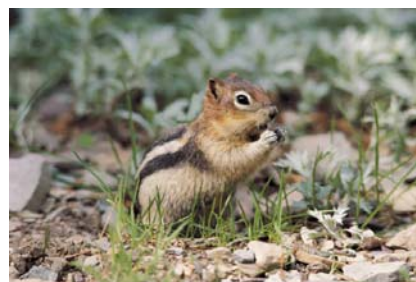
### **RECYCLING APPEAL FOR THE ROYAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND**

We have been sending our used printer cartridges to the RNIB, they have an arrangement with a company to recycle these and the RNIB receives a small amount of money for each one. If you have any used printer cartridges please save them and give them to Ann our Administrator. We are also collecting mobile phones that do not work any more. The RNIB cannot accept Epsom inkjet products, apparently these cannot be recycled.

There are around two million people in the UK with sight problems. RNIB helps some of these people to make the most of their leisure time and enjoy a better quality of life.

### **SQUIRRELS IN THE GARDEN**

Do you have grey squirrels in your garden? We have quite a few in the garden at Acacia Lodge, they are delightful to watch as they jump from tree to tree, but they can be a bit destructive. They can also be very bold if they think there is a chance of food, they have been seen getting into the window in the staff room, which is on the second floor of the nursing home!



The grey squirrel was introduced into Britain from North America during the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and has replaced the native red squirrel in most of the UK.

The most serious form of damage, bark stripping occurs on many trees, particularly young sycamore, beech and ash. They also bite off shoot tips and flower buds and eat fruits, nuts, corms, bulbs and the bird food put out by our residents for the birds.

The squirrels swing from the bird feeders trying to get at the nuts.

In the spring time squirrels feed on young shoots and flower buds of oak, horse chestnut etc. They seem to drop more than they actually eat. Bird food can be protected by placing it in a feeder with a robust outer wire cage. Squirrels are also fond of crocus corms and tulips bulbs and will raid tubs and other planters to find the bulbs you have planted for your spring display. If this happens in your garden, the tubs and containers can be covered with wire netting which must be fixed firmly to the tub to prevent the squirrels digging up the bulbs. When planting bulbs in open ground, it is advisable to firm the ground afterward to disguise the planting holes!

### PEAS

(Anon)

I always eat peas with honey,  
I've done it all my life,  
They do taste kind of funny,  
But it keeps them on the knife!

### Mature Thoughts

Understand – I'm not old – I'm merely mature  
But some things are changing temporarily, I'm sure.

The newspaper print gets smaller each day,  
And people speak softer – can't hear what they say.

My teeth are my own (I have the receipt)  
And my glasses identify people I meet.  
Oh, I've slowed down a bit – not a lot, I am sure,

You see, I'm not old..... I'm only mature.

My friends all get older ... much faster than me  
They seem much more wrinkled, from what I can see.

I've got 'character lines,' not wrinkles for sure,  
But don't call me old .... Just call me mature.

### LEISURE

By W.H. Davies

What is this life if, full of care,  
We have no time to stand and stare.

No time to stand beneath the boughs  
And stare as long as sheep or cows.

No time to see, when woods we pass,  
Where squirrels hide their nuts in grass.

No time to see, in broad daylight,  
Streams full of stars like skies at night.

No time to turn at Beauty's glance,  
And watch her feet, how they can dance.

No time to wait till her mouth can  
Enrich that smile her eyes began.

A poor life this if, full of care  
We have no time to stand and stare.





## WINNING POEM

I am a leaf. See how I sway.  
Here on my branch I am safe, for today.  
A part of the whole, waving about,  
I'd like to be noticed but never stand out.

Supple and springy I've summered up here,  
The weather my playmate, and misty or clear  
The view from my branch is a beautiful thing.  
Breezes are tunes and sometimes I sing;

It sounds like a whisper but listen, it's me,  
Adding my voice to the song of the tree.  
Golden as glory, I bud and I blaze  
Dancing like fire in mercurial ways.

I lived high above you. Did you notice at all?  
I am a leaf. See now I fall.



Ian G, 06/11/06

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