

News and Views from

AROUND THE HOUSES

Welcome to the Spring issue; as you will see from the photographs we have certainly had some wintry weather since the last edition.



Above - the gardens at St. Mary's

Left - Annett House and the arrival of a committee member.



Now that the better weather has arrived (at least at the time of writing) the houses are busy planning ahead.

Sibley's Orchard are pleased to have been able to appoint a new gardener and by the time you are reading this Caroline should have taken up her role. We hope that she will be very happy working for us.

April/May 2007

At St. Mary's House there have been changes to the social committee who now have a new chairman - Sue.



Sue is the daughter of one of our residents and we are very grateful to her for taking on this role as well as to the rest of the committee for all their hard work which helps to make life more enjoyable for the residents. The social committee is responsible for organising events within the house as well as occasional outings. By the time that you read this their first event, a special Mother's Day tea and quiz for the residents, will have taken place and in May they are planning an open coffee morning. This will be on Wednesday 16th May and will include a bring and buy sale and a cake stall. All are very

welcome to come along and meet some of our residents and volunteers and to see the house. Hopefully there will be fine weather and we will be able to make full use of the beautiful front garden.



If you would like to come but need directions please contact me using the details on the back page.

Annett House will not be having an open coffee morning in May this year as it has been postponed until June, full details will be in the next newsletter so look out for this.

St. Mary's House recently held their annual sponsors meeting at which the chairman discussed the past year as well as the future plans for the house and answered any questions that residents or their sponsors may have had. This year plans for the house include the installation of a hearing loop in part of the lounge and conservatory to help those of our residents who

wear hearing aids. As well as the serious part of the evening it is also an opportunity for the sponsors of our residents to socialise with each other and with the committee.

Two of our houses recently held clothes parties which gave our residents an opportunity to browse a wide range of clothing within the house and also to be able to take items back to their own rooms to try them on.



St. Mary's held theirs as part of their regular Wednesday coffee mornings but Annett House held



theirs as a special event and invited friends of the house to come and join them.



The event was organised by the housekeeper, Cherry who also provided excellent refreshments. Thanks to Cherry for her hard work.

Annett House are also about to undertake further work to the house as they will be having a new alarm call system installed which means that when there is no member of staff on duty the system can be switched over to a call centre. At present the alarm only sounds in the house and relies on another resident being able to call for help, it is felt that it is no longer fair to rely on the other residents in this way and that an outside call centre would be more appropriate. There are no plans, however, to reduce the level of staff cover which will continue as currently.

Welcome to

Caroline at Sibley's Orchard
Renee at Sibley's Orchard
Iris at Sibley's Orchard

Goodbye to

No-one this month

Happy Birthday to

Walter from St Mary's House
Derek from St. Mary's House
Christine from Annett House
Grahame from Annett House
Gladys from Annett House
Nancy from Sibley's Orchard
Elsie from Sibley's Orchard

As always if you are interested in one of our houses for yourself or a friend and would like to arrange a visit we would be only too happy to show you around by appointment. If you would like to visit more informally why not come along to one of our coffee mornings - you will be most welcome. I also remain available to give free talks about our Society to any group large or small. Please contact me using the details below.



Come and Join Us

On

Wednesday

16th

May

At

10.30am

For

Coffee Morning

&

Bring and Buy

At

St. Mary's House

9 George Street

If you would like to contact us you may e-mail us at susanpullen.abbeyfield@virgin.net , you may phone us on 01442 217578 or you can send items to Mrs Susan Pullen, St. Mary's House, 9 George Street, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, HP2 5HJ.

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