

News and Views from

AROUND THE HOUSES

As you will see from the opposite column Annett House will be holding another of their very successful bring and buy sales this month. These are an ideal opportunity to come along and see the house informally as well as to have a chat with some of the current residents and house committee. As always if you would like to come and need directions please do not hesitate to contact me using the details on the back page.

Annett House will shortly be having some major staff changes as the current housekeeper, Cherry, will be leaving in order to move nearer to her family. Just as with Sibley's Orchard recently we will be changing the way that the house is staffed and there will no longer be a live in housekeeper. There will still be overnight staff but these will be different to the day staff - look out for further details of the new staff in the next newsletter at the beginning of August.



**Coffee Morning and
Bring and Buy Sale**

Annett House

Wednesday 6th June

10.30am

All Welcome



June/July 2007

Abbeyfield
Where older people find care in housing

Berkhamsted and Hemel Hempstead

St. Mary's House have been particularly busy over the last couple of months with very many events.

Just before Easter they were pleased to welcome a chocolate maker to their Wednesday coffee morning who gave them a talk about chocolate making as well as samples to taste. After the talk there was an opportunity to buy a range of chocolates.



There were some excellent cards produced, a few of which are shown below. All of the residents who attended enjoyed the morning and it was agreed that they would hold another one in the near future.



It is the tradition at St. Mary's House that residents birthdays are celebrated with a special tea and most recently it was Walter's turn to be the guest of honour.

The residents also had a lesson in card making with the house manager Helen and a previous resident from the flats, Anne.



As well as the residents of the house and the flats members of the committee come along to enjoy these special occasions.

St. Mary's are not the only ones to celebrate resident's birthdays and Sibley's have also had two such celebrations recently.

Firstly a special tea was arranged for Elsie's 93rd birthday. For Jean's birthday a lunch party was held with specially invited guests joining the residents and as Jean's favourite dessert is green jelly, this was used to make a birthday cake - unfortunately nobody was able to take any pictures on this occasion.

Two of our houses have held outings since the last newsletter.

St. Mary's took their residents to see the bluebells in full bloom followed by afternoon tea.



As you will see from the pictures they had beautiful weather for their walk. The trip was organised by the social committee some of whom accompanied the residents to offer a helping hand where necessary. The next outing will be another canal trip so look out for photos of this in the next issue.



Meanwhile Sibley's Orchard residents have had two indoor outings.

The local Lions club invited them to an elderly persons party hosted by Rory the Lion and held in the nearby Leverstock Green village hall.



The house manager, Julia, also arranged for them to attend a matinee performance of Nanny McPhee at the local cinema complete with choc ices and popcorn.

Sibley's Orchard are now fully staffed and residents have had a chance to get to know all of the new members of staff.

Thanks must go to Julia the house manager who has worked extremely hard during the changeover period to ensure that the residents were disrupted as little as possible during this unsettling time. We are very grateful to her.

As you can see the new gardener, Caroline, is doing an excellent job.



Welcome to

Moya at Sibley's Orchard
Kiyoko at Sibley's Orchard

Goodbye to

No-one this month

Happy Birthday to

Irene from St. Mary's
Barbara from St. Mary's
Kath from Annett House
Sylvia from Sibley's Orchard
Kiyoko from Sibley's Orchard
Julia from Sibley's Orchard
John from the Executive committee

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.

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.