

News and Views from

AROUND THE HOUSES

Welcome to our last edition before Christmas.

Firstly I would like to introduce and welcome Lillian Ross who has been appointed House



Manager at Sibley's Orchard. Lily, was brought up in the Western Highlands of Scotland before moving to London in

her twenties. She subsequently moved to New Mexico, USA before returning to Scotland to look after her father. After his death she returned to New Mexico before moving to Costa Rica to teach English and only returned to the UK in 2002. Lily says that she is very happy here and is hoping to meet the residents and staff at our other houses shortly.

The last two months have been

extremely busy for our three houses as you will see from the many pictures.

In September we had a stall at the Berkhamsted Lions



Community Fair.

Whilst not as well attended as previously we did meet some wonderful people and I am extremely grateful to Shirley Clarke from the Annett House committee for her help in setting up and manning the stall with me.

**November/
December 2005**

St. Mary's House have had a number of events of which the most prestigious was the celebration to mark the completion of the recent building works and the formal opening of the conservatory.



enjoying the day. Thanks must obviously go to all of the House management committee who worked very hard to make the event a success and also to the duty housekeeper on the day,

Over 70 guests were able to accept the invitation to lunch and as you will see from the pictures we were very lucky that the weather remained fine enabling guests to enjoy the front gardens. As well as existing staff and our residents and their sponsors it was lovely to see previous staff and members of the social committee and Society Executive committee



Lena, and the house manager and her husband (Helen and Jim) who also put in a lot of work.



Staff and residents barely had time to recover from this before the Autumn Fete which was due to be held the following weekend (agreed before the date of the party had been finalised). The social committee put in a great deal of effort to create a wonderful



morning for which we were again lucky that the weather remained fine. There was a good attendance with over £300 raised and this money will be used for outings and entertainments for the residents.

Earlier in the month Annett House had held a very successful coffee morning in aid of Breast Cancer.



As well as all of the usual stalls and raffle there was an additional raffle to win a cake, complete with pink icing, which had been made by Eve Mead (thank you) especially for the cause. The cake was won by a resident of the

house, Phyllis.

Residents from St. Mary's House were able to come along although unfortunately Sibley's Orchard were unable to make it on this occasion.



A total of £450 was raised and sent off by the House, a great total. Thanks must of course go to all of the House committee for their hard work setting up on Tuesday evening and then manning the stalls on the morning.

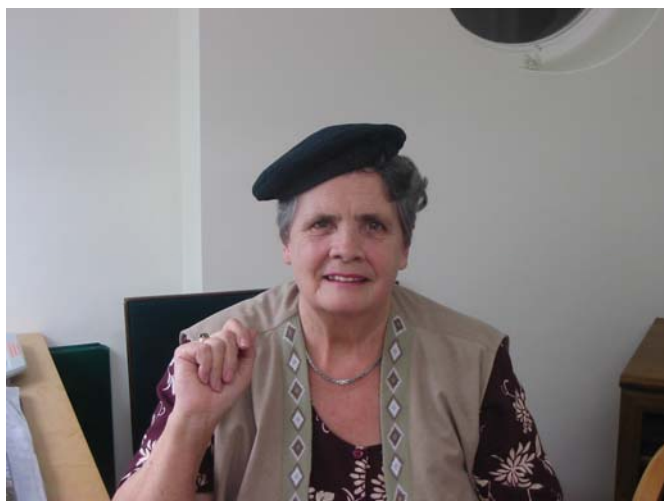
As part of their regular Wednesday morning coffee mornings St. Mary's House were recently



pleased to welcome Rosemary Wilson to talk about her experiences of being a WREN after the war.

Rosemary brought a number of items with her including a hat which had belonged to a colleague and this gave one of the residents, Irene Saunders a chance to fulfil a lifelong ambition.

Irene had applied to join up but had been declined on medical grounds and had always wanted to wear the uniform. Rosemary was delighted to be able to give her the opportunity to wear at least part of it and the result can be seen below.



They were also pleased to welcome the Rector Peter Cotton during October to give a talk on

the birds that they were most likely to see in the garden. His talk was illustrated by some excellent photographs that he had taken in the Rectory garden.

Welcome to

Lillian Ross the new House Manager at Sibley's Orchard

Leonard Miller who has now moved in to St. Mary's House

Goodbye to

Muriel Tompkins from St. Mary's House who sadly passed away a few days after the lunch party.

Happy Birthday to

Mollie from Annett House

Marjorie from Annett House

Eileen from Annett House

Marjorie from Sibley's Orchard

Lillian from Sibley's Orchard

Eileen from Sibley's Orchard

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