



Abbeyfield Ilkley

December 2014



MAKING TIME FOR OLDER PEOPLE

IN THIS ISSUE

MESSAGE FROM JACKIE

Coming to the end of another year and indeed my first year as General Manager of The Abbeyfield Ilkley Society Ltd. It has been a very busy year with many great times and challenges. Thank you all for making me so welcome and supporting me throughout 2014.

Welcome to new residents, their families, staff and volunteers. I hope you will all enjoy being a part of the Abbeyfield family as I have over the last year and hopefully for many years to come.

Of course, with hellos and welcomes you always have to say some goodbyes. As I have said we have had some changes; residents, staff and volunteers have all moved on

and I am sure you will support me in saying those people who we have lost will not be forgotten and we will all have our own treasured memories of them all.

I have no doubt that 2015 will be equally as busy as 2014 and again you will see alterations but hopefully you will agree that they will all be for the better. We are in the process of upgrading our residents alarm call system at Grove House and we have plans for further redecoration and refurbishment across all our Houses.

Zoe, our wonderful events coordinator has lots of plans for the New Year and after the success of the 2014 Strawberry and Christmas

Fairs, along with many other events she has organized, I can't wait to see what she has in store. If you have any suggestions of your own I know she would be delighted to hear from you.

On behalf of the residents as well as myself I would like to say a huge thank you to all the staff and band of fantastic volunteers for all your hard work and commitment during 2014 and I know you will continue this through 2015.

That just leaves me to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and best wishes for 2015.





Betty Luscombe - Resident

“Send my very best wishes to Shannon for a very happy retirement.”



Christine Maden - Volunteer

“I am so sorry I cannot be there – wish him all the best from me.”



Happy Retirement Shannon

by Brian Whitaker

BRIAN WHITAKER ON SHANNON

“to borrow an expression from the Queen, Shannon has been my rock – it is very reassuring to know he will always be at the end of my phone”

To try and compress into a few sentences our sincere thanks for all Shannon has given to Abbeyfield Ilkley is not easy. Shannon’s first contact with Abbeyfield was when he pressed me to think again about buying Grove House, back, I think, in 1997. This led to us entering an Abbeyfield competition for what Abbeyfield should be offering in the new Millennium. We won and then I had the task of creating a new Committee.

Without hesitation Shannon agreed to join. It was not long before he took the lead with first getting planning permission, then later, after we had raised the funding,



dealing with all aspects of delivering this building. This was a huge commitment not only by Shannon, but also by Susan who has supported him at all times. Everybody in Grove House has benefitted from his input into every detail in the building – those of us who know him well know that his recall of anything to do with the build is incredible.

Abbeyfield Court and Lodge were built with the same commitment and also benefitted by his ongoing interest in making sure everything was as it should be. I even heard that one resident thought he was the official maintenance man. Shannon’s commitment has continued in the design and planning of our two new homes in Bingley

and Cookridge which together will contain a total of 92 flats and 71 dementia / residential rooms with a planned opening in 2016. All good

things have to come to an end, Shannon very understandably made it clear 18 months ago he wished to retire but agreed he would continue to the signing of the building contracts of these two new homes. Fortunately, for the Abbeyfield movement, he will maintain an interest in the region.

I would like to express our sincere thanks to you Shannon for all you have done to create two and hopefully in 2016 a total of four modern homes for us all as we get older. I would like to finish by stressing my personal thanks for all the advice, guidance and support you have given to me during the last 15 years. To borrow an expression from our Queen, Shannon has been my rock – it is very reassuring to know he will always be at the end of my phone. Thank you Shannon, on behalf of your fellow Trustees, staff, volunteers, residents and families, for all the time you have given us over the years. You will be missed.

Annual Christmas Fair

Saturday 29th November saw the Annual Christmas Fair at Grove House.

There was plenty of festive treats for all, from lucky dips, tombola, Christmas gifts, bottles stalls, raffle to festive fare and mulled wine in the Dining Room with a special visit from Spot, Santa's special miniature pony.

Everyone got involved from the Resident's Choir, who sang wonderfully, as ever, to Jackie and Carol who gave out flyers dressed as Christmas trees in Ilkley on Saturday morning.

Staff and volunteers manned the stalls with help from families and friends and there was an enormous amount of footfall through our doors.

Special thanks must go to Zoe and her band of elves who meticulously planned and helped, in their own time to make this a fun and festive event.

Jill and her team made a sumptuous mountain of mince pies and cakes which were, as ever, well received.

A great team effort.



Your thoughts count!

If you have any thoughts, suggestions or opinions, then please do not hesitate to advise a staff member.

There are suggestion boxes in Grove House and comments books across our other houses, so please let us know!



TOTAL RAISED:
£1,175.00

CHRISTMAS EVENTS



Aladdin



Christmas Party 2013



Upcoming Events in December

Brownies Singing Christmas Carols

Wednesday 3rd December

18:00

Conservatory

Anyone Can Sing (U3A)

Thursday 4th December

14:00

Activity Room

Brownies Visit (Dilys)

Monday 8th December

18:00

Conservatory

Party Week – Day Centre

Monday 8th – 12th December

11:30

Dining Room / Activity Room

Christmas Party for Holme Lea and Wells House

Thursday 11th December

11:30

Dining Room / Activity Room

Residents Christmas Party

Saturday 13th December

13:00

Dining Room

Otley Bell Ringers

Thursday 16th December

14:00

Dining Room

Knitivity Christmas Production

Wednesday 17th December

10:30

Activity Room



Pantomime – Aladdin

Wednesday 17th December

18:00

Dining Room

Fashion Show

Tulchan Clothing

Thursday 18th December

14:00

Activity Room

Communion

“Christmas Special”

Monday 22nd December

10:30

Activity Room

