

SOMERSET HOUSE NEWSLETTER



SUMMER 2018 | ISSUE 15

Frank, Sammy and Dean Show

SG Productions, our regular visiting show company, did us proud with their latest production performed by Simon (with a guest appearance by Sue!).

The Rat Pack Vegas Show celebrated the songs of Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and Sammy Davis. It also included tributes to Judy Garland, Matt Monroe, Nancy Sinatra, Marilyn Monroe and many others.



Cider and Cheese Tasting Night

We had planned to have a charity tea party in aid of Guide Dogs for the Blind but have postponed this until the autumn. We decided to invite Angela, from Cork and Fork in Yatton, to put on a cider and cheese tasting evening instead, as these evenings have proved very popular in the past. Although this is a family and friends social event rather than a charity event we did have an opportunity for people to make a donation to the local branch of

Guide Dogs should they wish and £30 was raised.

*"We had a most enjoyable evening. There were plenty of cheeses, ciders and fruit juices to sample which were really enjoyable. We will be visiting the shop to purchase some of the delights. It was a nice evening to share with Mum and friends at Somerset House."
Mary, June and George*

Welcome to our new resident!

A little baby hedgehog has moved into the garden at Somerset House!



Entertainment

We have been pleased to welcome 2 new entertainers to Somerset House this year, Amanda "Singing Angel" and music and singing duo City Limits. Both have now performed twice for us and have been greatly enjoyed, offering a different selection of music as well as some of the old sing-along favourites.

Amanda "Singing Angel" is a professionally trained singer who specialises in entertaining at residential and nursing homes. Her repertoire includes war memory songs through to different decades and styles including musicals, jazz and classical. For those of you using social media look for her on facebook: Amanda Singing Angel where you will also find links to video clips of her performing.



City Limits are a keyboard-based vocal and instrumental duo playing most styles of music from Rock n Roll right through to modern chart songs. They have played in many different venues including cruise ships and hotel groups.

They join our popular regular entertainers: Busker Dave, our accordion playing musician/singer; Tony, our karaoke singer; Dave, who plays recorded music; the Lochrian string trio, who have sadly been suffering injuries of late so we wish them a speedy recovery and the ladies of the 9 – 5 choir.

We aim to have a varied programme of music entertainers to suit all tastes. We are hoping that the church choir will be able to sing for us soon and we will also be welcoming the Year 5 and 6 Junior School Choir.

Activities

Our very popular mini bus trips have resumed on Mondays, thanks to the Yeo Valley Lions and their wonderful band of volunteer drivers. We try to vary our route each week, dependant too on the traffic conditions and have about a dozen different destinations which we rotate during the season. The trips, weather permitting, continue until the clocks change in October excluding the bank holiday Mondays. Our trips are very popular so if we have more people than we have space for some weeks we will ensure that places are allocated fairly. If anyone misses out one week we will ensure that they are top of the list the next.

An important part of every trip is the ice creams or, occasionally, a drink in the pub!

Craft



Our regular craft sessions continue to cover a wide variety of crafts including seasonal projects such as Easter cards and decorations for an Easter tree, proudly displayed and much admired in the dining room over the Easter period. We also did fresh flower table arrangements for Easter and the May Day holiday weekends. By request we have had a couple of knit and natter sessions which were very popular.



Our thanks go to Shelagh, who comes in to assist and give us the benefit of her great crafting expertise, which is always greatly appreciated by all. If you have any craft ideas you would like to make or have any expertise you would like to share with us we would love to hear from you, just let Sue know.

Other activities featuring regularly in our programme include bingo, skittles, bowls, poetry corner, reading group, quiz and word game afternoons, what's in the news, board and tabletop games, visits from the local nursery children and morning flexercise.



Survey Responses and Outcomes

Many thanks to all residents and relatives for completing the survey questionnaires sent out earlier this year. Getting your response to how we provide and manage our service to you is a very important exercise and I thank you for responses and comments. With your feedback we are able to improve and modify our service for the benefit of all.

Overall the survey responses were very encouraging with 95% of responses either “tending to agree” or “strongly agreeing” with the questions or statements we asked. These included questions such as “the home is clean and tidy” “the food served is of good quality” “the level of care and support is good” “the frequency and range of activities is good”.

We have prepared an analysis of the responses and comments/actions on how we will improve those issues that have been raised. A copy of the report is posted on the main notice board and on the reception desk or you can ask a member of staff for a copy of the report if you would like one.

Building Works

We have recently replaced our assisted bath as after 10 or so years it ran out of puff. The new bath is hopefully as comfortable, and even has a jacuzzi style “air spa” system which will provide soothing bubble massage if one likes. The bath also raises and lowers so staff will find it easier to assist if necessary. We hope you all enjoy it.



Redecoration is ongoing in various parts of the Home, and we have also ordered some new chairs for the Garden Room.

Data Protection

As you will all no doubt know by now the UK has recently adopted EU laws on data protection, called General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). We have introduced new policies and privacy notices to ensure any data held is safe and secure, held for a legitimate purpose, and consents are obtained and that you are informed of your rights to amend or access information we hold. Should you have any queries please let Julie, Giles or Suzi know.