

SOMERSET HOUSE NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2018 | ISSUE 16



Charity Tea Party in aid of Guide Dogs for the Blind

On Saturday the 15th September we were joined by our friends and family for a tea party in aid of Guide Dogs for the Blind. We had a lovely selection of home-made cakes to enjoy, many thanks to our cooks, and they proved very popular with many people buying extra cakes to take home in a goody bag.

Entertainment was provided by Bon Accord – accordion player Claire who was also joined later by Bob on the clarinet and saxophone. Well done too, to her excellent backing group “volunteered” from the audience! We were also very pleased to be joined by three representatives from the local branch of Guide Dogs, who brought 2 beautiful puppies in training with them. They also ran a raffle and a tombola to win a guide dog puppy – cuddly toy variety of course! Diane was very pleased to win one with the very first ticket sold.

A thoroughly enjoyable afternoon and, thanks to everyone’s generosity, **£254** was raised. If anyone would still like to donate, please let Sue know

and she will be happy to pass it on to the local branch.



Entertainment & Activities

Give My Regards to Broadway Show



We were pleased to welcome SG Productions back for a wonderful, nostalgic show packed with songs and dances from Broadway shows, old and new.

“Music in the garden room? No! A night of Musicals at a London Theatre with a charming soloist using appropriate costumes for special effect. A special treat enjoyed by all present.” Nancy

We are now looking forward to seeing their Christmas variety Show between Christmas and New Year.

Poetry & Reading Groups

We have regular reading group sessions including short readings on a particular subject, popular fairy stories, autobiographies and occasionally, over a series of sessions, a whole book. If you have read a book you think we might enjoy please let Sue know.

Our poetry sessions include a wide range of poetry readings and an opportunity, as a group, to write poems of our own. We are proud to say that we are now published poets in our own right! One of our poems has been published in the National Activity Providers Association magazine.

Recorded Music

We have regular, very popular, recorded music sessions playing a wide variety of music and taking requests. We have even been known to enjoy a dance or two and Sheila and Elsie took to the floor recently to dance a slow foxtrot.



Activities

Mini Bus Trips

Sadly our very popular mini bus trips ended when the clocks went back at the end of October but we have a very good season of trips to look back on, especially with the gloriously hot summer we enjoyed this year. Some of the highlights include feeding the ducks at Portishead, Chew Valley and Apex Wildlife Park; a tour round the sights of Bristol spotting the giant sculptures on the Wallace and Gromit Trail; Blaise Castle and seeing the Flying Scotsman pass through North Somerset, albeit a rather longer, patient wait than we had planned as it was 25 minutes late!



Nursery Children and Boogie Beat



We are always very pleased to welcome the local nursery children, who now join us for activities twice a month. Once a month we do varied activities such as craft, rhymes, singing or games together and once a month we are joined by Fran, who runs local Boogie Beat groups. The children look forward to coming to see us as much as we do seeing them.....I am sure that has nothing to do with the juice and biscuits enjoyed at the end! Our sunflower seeds that we planted with them earlier in the year finally came to fruition, albeit small but perfectly formed!

Craft

We have made a wide variety of crafts including cards, felt poppies and a recent fun activity making spiders webs and spiders..... this in the end was as much an exercise in facing your fears as the craft!





Julie Celebrates 30 Years at Somerset House



At the beginning of October, we celebrated Julie's 30th anniversary of working at Somerset House. Congratulations on a tremendous achievement. We are all very grateful for her devotion and commitment to making Somerset House what it is today. Here's to the next 30!



Mobility Scooter Store

We are in the process of finalising completion of a covered mobility scooter parking area, with 2 charging points, for the use of residents and their visitors. It is located behind the small building on the opposite side of the car park to the main reception entrance.

Activity News

As many of you will already have noticed Jeff is now assisting Sue and is providing activities on a regular basis, generally on a Friday afternoon, to free her to catch up on planning and preparation. He will also provide holiday cover. He is, of course, continuing in his role as handyman in the mornings.

Christmas is Coming ❄️ ❄️ ❄️ ❄️ ❄️ and so is our Christmas Party!

Somerset House Christmas Party will be on Wednesday 12th December 2018 6.30 – 9.00 p.m. Entertainment will be provided by the Filtonaires. Invitations are being sent out to friends and family with this newsletter.