

# Howard Lodge Newsletter

March 2013

Issue 1



## Read all about it... Howard Lodge Newsletter

A warm welcome to the first Howard Lodge newsletter! Our ambition is to put together a newsletter every 3 months to share experiences and news concerning Howard Lodge & the company St Michaels Homes.

With so many positive things happening in our home & company it is important that we, at times, take stock of what we have done and reflect on our achievements and ambitions.

Hopefully you feel we have shared some of that with you through this newsletter.

With Easter fast approaching we are now setting ourselves for spring and the exciting times ahead.

We hope you enjoy this first addition newsletter & if there is anything we have missed or you would like us to cover please contact the editor (Wendy) on 01277 372095 ext.3. Hope you enjoy.

## We would like to welcome Congratulations to....

Since the New Year we would like to welcome the following residents to Howard Lodge;

- Elaine Hollyoake
- Brian Wignall
- Brian Gledhill (respite)
- Joan Jones

Along with new residents we would also like to welcome new members of staff to the team and they are;

- Wendy Boulwood (Admin/Accounts)

Congratulations to Carolina Santiago for her promotion from Senior Carer on nights to Night Care Manager.

Happy birthday to Doris Woods 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2013.

Other upcoming birthdays:-

March: Joan Chapman, Mary Speller, John King, Joan Fleetwood,

April: Margaret McCathy

May: Margaret Scott

June: Bill Fisher, Joan Lucas, Catherine Summers, June Wilson & Nora Bridges

## Special events coming up

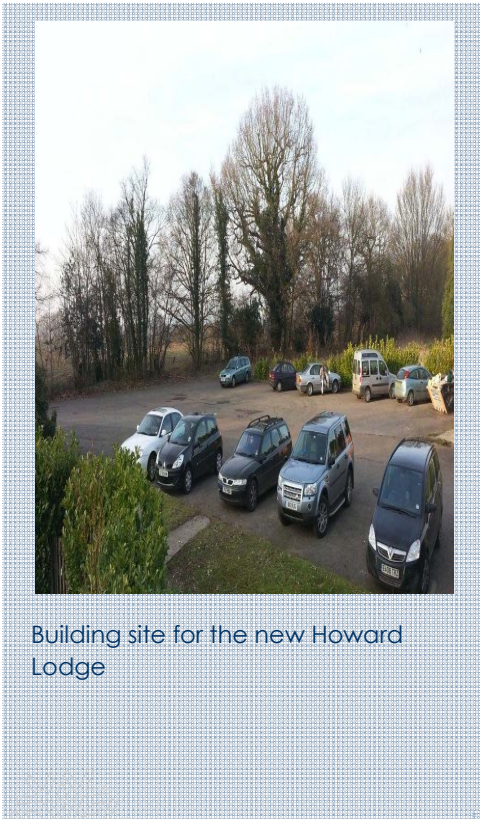
- *Music Moves Us with Francis*
- *What friends are four*
- *The good Old Days Show with Brian Shaw*
- *St Patrick's Day celebrations*
- *St Georges Day celebrations*

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Howard Lodge Front Entrance



Building site for the new Howard Lodge

## UPDATE: New build Howard Lodge

Firstly, I would like to say a big thanks to all the relatives & residents who attended our relatives open meeting in Howard Lodge on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February. For all those who were unable to make the meeting I hope this newsletter helps give you some more information on what's going to happen with the new build development, however, if you need any further information please don't hesitate to contact Sean on 01277 372095 ext. 6.

St Michaels Homes have now awarded the design & build contract for the new Howard Lodge to Baxter & King Construction Ltd (B&K). B&K specialize in the development

of health care construction on a national basis. B&K have over 20 years experience in construction in the health care industry and that's why we believe they have all the qualities to deliver our new & improved Howard Lodge.

Currently we are working together on detailed design aspects of the build. Actual works are planned to start on site mid April 2013. We have suffered some delays with the planned start due to some planning conditions.

Works are planned to take 64 weeks from commencement, and the grand opening of the new home is planned for mid June 2014 (approx).

## What happens next?.....

From late March 2013 we will be planning to close the main carpark to the rear of Howard Lodge (off Beacon Hill Rd) this will then become the construction entrance & site for the new Howard Lodge.

The front entrance off Howard Lodge Road will then become our main entrance during the construction phase for friends & relatives.

We have already constructed a new temporary access road to the front of Howard Lodge (see photo to the right), which will help provide our home with all the services we need to continue as normal. With this new road there will be additional overspill parking bays for friends & relatives to use if the existing front carpark is full.

We will keep everyone informed weeks before we plan to close the Beacon Hill carpark. Should you have any concerns or questions relating to the new building works or the ongoing operation of Howard Lodge please contact Sean. Copy of building plans attached to this newsletter if not contact Sean



Photo of new temp access road & parking area to the front of Howard Lodge

The photo above shows the temp access road which will provide more parking spaces for relatives, we do ask for relatives to use the front carpark in first instances and only use the temp rd as an overspill carpark. Staff must use this area along with parking near the new garages next to pond.

## Members of our team

- **Sheila Watson**  
(Managing Director)
- **Claire Tyler**  
(Company Secretary)
- **Sean Watson**  
(Facilities Manager)
- **Peter Watson**  
(Director)
- **Pat Ryland**  
(General Manager)
- **Barbara Lane**  
(Deputy Manager)
- **Carolina Santiago**  
(Night Care Manger)
- **Carol Hambleton**  
(Team leader – Medication)
- **Angie Walsh**  
(Senior Carer – Diet & Nutrition)
- **Shammy Dube**  
(Activities & Dementia Champion)
- **Kaskia Karpinska**  
(Senior Carer – Continence)

### Other Senior Carer's:

- **Bernadette Pineda**
- **Isabelita Oandasan**
- **Ruben Makamba**
- **Seibatu Stevens**
- **Bien Katigbak**
- **Kayleigh Jolley**
- **Pacita Santos**  
*All Carers, Domestic, Kitchen & Handperson profiles next newsletter*

## Long Service Award Dinner

St Michaels Homes has been very fortunate with its entire 110 staff members. Some of our staff in Howard Lodge have been with us since we opened our doors in Nov 1991. In recognition & appreciation to those staff that have been with us for 10+ years we would like to invite them to an evening meal & drinks at Ashwells Sports & Country Club on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2013 to show our appreciation. In total we have 28 staff members who have been us for 10+ years.

From all the directors & managers thanks again to all our staff for the great job they do and continue to do for us & most importantly our residents.

## Upcoming events...

- 6<sup>th</sup> March at 2:30pm – Music Moves Us with Francis
- 10<sup>th</sup> March – Mothers day – Celebrating with "What friends are four"
- 17<sup>th</sup> March – St Patrick's Day – Jolly old knees up, cheese, wine & a drink of Guinness to toast St Patrick. Guest appearance from St Patrick himself.
- 28<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm – The good old days show for Easter with Brain Shaw
- 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 2:30pm – Music Moves Us with Francis
- 23<sup>rd</sup> April – St George's Day – Celebrating all that's English, with cockney songs/dancing galore.
- 28<sup>th</sup> April Catholic Spring Party
- 1<sup>st</sup> May at 2:30pm – Music Moves Us with Francis
- 5<sup>th</sup> June at 2:30pm – Music Moves Us with Francis
- 21<sup>st</sup> June – National Care Home Open Day
- 29<sup>th</sup> June at 3pm – Armed forces day & Howard Lodge Summer Fete with "What friends are four"

## Upcoming activates...

- Have you got a sweet tooth well come along to our chocolate fountain every fortnight, messy but everyone enjoys it.
- Get creative with our weekly biscuit decorating workshop.
- Easter is round the corner and we are holding an Easter raffle, tickets will be on sale from mid March.
- Howard Lodge is now a member of the Brentwood Library – we can arrange visits to browse around.

As always we would like to say a special thanks to our volunteers that come into the home, Sarah with her special trained dog Ben (see photo to right). Also thanks to St Nicholas Church of England & St Helens of Ongar for their spiritual visits to our residents.

If you feel you can offer your time to be a volunteer with transport for outings or if you or family member can play an instrument or craft demonstration etc anything you can do or offer it would be greatly appreciated by us and the residents.



Carol Hambleton (Team Leader)  
longest serving member of staff



Ben our four legged friend comes in once a week. Ben the pat dog is becoming a hit with our residents.

## No horsing around with our food....

With all the bad press at the moment concerning horse DNA in the human food chain it is without surprise that we are going to ask the question on our food producers.

Below is an open letter to all from *apetito* UK's Chief Executive, on the integrity of his food products.

"Dear Customer



apetito and Wiltshire Farm Foods are 100% committed to producing high quality, nutritious, safe and correctly labelled food in which our customers and end consumers have confidence.

Unlike some prepared meal suppliers we actually produce the vast majority of food we sell. For example, all our raw beef, lamb and pork is bought in as whole muscle from approved suppliers and then inspected, butchered (minced and diced) by *apetito*'s trained staff in our own onsite butchery. We then cook it in our kitchens to produce our wide range of prepared meal products.

However, recent events have rightly caused many people to ask questions of their suppliers and we know our customers want to be sure that they can buy from us with confidence. For this reason, we have put in place one of the most comprehensive DNA testing processes in our sector. To date, in total, we have undertaken 110 DNA tests across our product ranges and we are pleased to advise that no equine (horse) DNA has been found in any of our products.

In the weeks ahead, we plan to develop our testing programme further and we will provide updates on our website. It is important to say that it is possible that this testing programme may, at some stage, identify a problem - though given process and results so far we do not anticipate finding horse meat. However, the purpose of the programme is to identify any possible issue and then improve our systems and processes to eradicate it. We believe this is a responsible approach and you can rest assured that should we find a contamination problem, we will immediately withdraw any product affected.

Finally, as a team, we are passionate about our food and we are also really passionate about making a real difference to our consumers – many of whom are older, in hospital or care.

Thank you, Paul Freeston  
Chief Executive, *apetito* Ltd"

Should you wish to have any more information on this matter you can visit *apetito*'s website on <http://www.apetito.co.uk/> or call our admin office on 01277 372095 ext 6.

Again I hope you have enjoyed reading our 1<sup>st</sup> Newsletter, if you have a story that you would like us to cover please come back to us.

Thanks from all the directors of St Michaels Homes Ltd.