

**Housman Court's
Monthly News Letter August 2019**

Dear Residents, Relatives and Friends

Welcome to our latest newsletter, which we hope you enjoy.

We would welcome resident, relative, team members and friends involvement and input into the monthly newsletter. Any stories you would like to share, quizzes, crosswords or poetry would be welcome. This is your Newsletter!

Amica Care Trust

Please follow the link below to view the website <https://www.amicacare.co.uk/>

Goodbyes:

Sue – Cook at Housman Court left us to start a new journey following a job offer in Devon after being with us for the last year. Sue has wanted to move to the coast for a long time so this is an opportunity not to be missed. We wish her well in her new role.



Welcome:

Wendy has joined the Senior Care team and Ange has taken over as Head Cook after joining us recently. She will also be joined by Sarah as cook, you will get to meet the new team members very soon.

We welcome them and hope they enjoy working with us here at Housman Court.

FUNDRAISING

The money raised from the Football competition has been well spent by sprucing up the garden, which was much needed.

Once again, thank you to Lisa for organizing this event and everyone who supported this and with the improvements in the garden.

Residents' & Team Members Birthdays:

All residents' birthdays are celebrated with a card and a gift from all the staff here at Housman Court. Families are welcome to stay for lunch or have a room made available for family to hold a get together. The kitchen also prepare a birthday cake for each resident.

Forthcoming Resident Birthdays in

August:

Mary M – 6th August

Meda - 18th August

Please remember, if you are struggling to know what to buy we still have the sponsor a plant for the garden.

Forthcoming Team Birthdays in August:

Clive – 2nd August, Louise C – 19th August,

Amie H – 22nd August

Planned events for the coming month

(please see our notice board for the most up-to-date activities taking within the home).

Regular Planned Events:

- First Monday of the Month Bowling at Rubery – always very popular
- Church service Reverend Richard (in house)
- Methodist church every other Sunday
- Coffee morning last Thursday of every month – all are welcome for a coffee and catch up, not to mention the cake!

Planned Events for August:

Please see notice board

Please see photos at the back of the Newsletter for all the fun things the residents got up to in May

Employee of the Month.

We had a good response to employee of the month with several nominations.

The winner of Employee of the Month for July 2019 was Debbie – Care Supervisor

Thank you for making a difference.

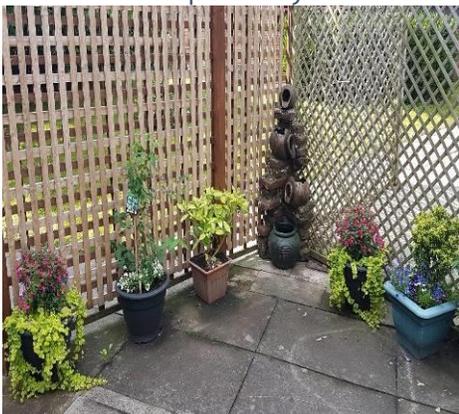


We welcome all Residents, staff and visitors to nominate staff for Employee of the Month when they observe their good practice within the home. We have a letterbox and nomination slips in the main corridor which we have decorated pink and yellow

Update on developments within the home:

- Decorating plan – we still continue to decorate bedrooms and we are slowly making our way around. There have also been some changes to the reception area which now looks more inviting. We plan to move into the dining room and complete the first floor corridor in the near future.
- Garden – As you know we hold an annual inter Trust garden competition and this year we have gone all out to try to win!
The ladies and gents have been very involved with the planning, planting and nurturing and the first step was to remove the boat raised bed to open this area up to make a better seating area. A huge thank you to Helen & Heather for all their hard work.
The next stage was to slab this area and to have the other raised bed moved to the back fence to allow a nice, open walk way. We now also have a giant games area and on the grass area we have a putting green.
Everyone has enjoyed being involved and it has made such a huge difference. We now have a lovely garden with areas to enjoy games or just to relax.

We hope that you all take the time to relax in the garden and enjoy!







The judging took place on Wednesday 24th July and unfortunately we did not win overall but the Trustees were so impressed with the improvements that we made a new category just for us 'The most Improved Garden'
There will be a presentation at a later date which we will let you know.

We still wish to develop the garden and front of the home. At the recent residents and relatives meeting a relative suggested that it may be nice for relatives and friends who struggle with things to buy individuals, that they may like to 'sponsor' a plant for the garden which will also help to keep the garden well stocked and looking nice. Anyone who may wish to do this please speak to a member of the team and your loved ones can see them grow and help to nurture them.

Keeping in contact & keeping you up to date:

As you are aware most people now are set up to communicate electronically such as e-mail, it would be lovely for us to be able to update you and keep you in the loop more frequently. The Activity team now have their own e-mail address and they can send items to you including this newsletter. We would be grateful, if you would like items shared with you, for you to contact the activity team to provide them with your e-mail address via Activities.HC@amicacare.co.uk

Upcoming Residents and relatives meetings:

We will meet every three months as a group but you are able to speak to myself or Lisa if you have any ideas or suggestions you would like to raise in between these meetings and also during reviews.

Our e-mails are: laura.wilkes@amicacare.co.uk & lisa.dews@amicacare.co.uk

- Thursday 9th May at 11.00hrs & 14.00hrs – we will be joined by Elaine who is a funeral celebrant to give a talk and give suggestions and ideas – **taken place, thank you to those who attended.**
 - Wednesday 7th August at 11.00hrs & 18.00hrs
 - Tuesday 12th November at 15.00hrs
- Meetings are subject to change, changes will be notified via the newsletter.

Please join us to share ideas and suggestions and discuss future plans

'Cuppa and Cake' meetings with the homes cook:

We would like to welcome residents, friends and families to join Sue for our 'Cuppa and Cake' meetings.

These have been scheduled and will commence in the next couple of months and will be held every two months. These are an opportunity for everyone to come along to talk about the menu's and try out new foods during the taster sessions. Or simply just enjoy a cuppa and cake made by the cook.

These will held:

- Tuesday 25th June – thank you to those who joined Ange the new cook for her first meeting – **Taken place**
- Tuesday 27th August
- Tuesday 29th October
- Tuesday 3rd December – Christmas menus

Compliments and Complaints:

Please if you have any compliments or complaints/suggestions, do let us know as we like to share this information with the team and we strive to make improvements that will benefit the residents, relatives and loved ones of Housman Court.

Carehomes.co.uk:

Also we would appreciate you sharing your experiences on the carehomes.co.uk site by logging on to www.carehomes.co.uk, searching for Housman Court and leaving a review. This allows others who are looking for a suitable home to read real experiences of those already involved with Housman Court. There will also be cards available in reception for you to complete if you prefer.

Photo Consent:

Following the rebrand, we will be sending out the Photo consent forms to update. Please can we ask that you complete and return them to us for our records.

We have had some lovely trips and entertainment over the last month which have brought a lot of fun and happiness for those who have taken part.





Bowling followed by lunch at Frankie & Benny's!



Keeping Fit with a bit of boxing.