



**Together  
We  
Care**

## Housman Court's Monthly News Letter April 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 Launch

As you are aware, we had our relaunch in January and have a new website with some fabulous photos of staff and residents. Please follow the link below to view the website  
<https://www.amicacare.co.uk/>

### Goodbyes:

As you are aware, Joann Bullingham – Home Manager has now left to take on new challenges closer to her home. I know you will join me in wishing Jo well in her new role.

Laura Wilkes (myself) is the homes interim manager at this time. I have met many of you during my time as support manager but please do feel free to come and speak to me personally or you can e-mail or telephone me if you prefer.

### Welcome:

We would like to welcome some new staff to our team: Denice – new Care Supervisor on days, Karen & Julie who join our night care team & Paul who is working as a job share on maintenance with Mick who is semi-retiring! We hope he enjoys his time and well deserved days off.

These new team members come with lots of experience, we welcome them and hope they enjoy working with us here at Housman Court.

### FUNDRAISING

We held our annual Spring Fayre here at Housman Court on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March to raise money for the residents welfare fund.

Thank you to everyone who donated items and supported us on the day to help us raise in the region of £200.

### Forth coming Fundraising event:

On Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June, Lisa is organizing the third annual Fundraising Football Tournament in conjunction with Gaz Evans who is the manager of Catshill under 9 football team. This event is a fantastic, fundraising event which will take place all day at South Bromsgrove High School using their pitches. There will be food and refreshments available and a raffle with some fantastic prizes which have kindly been donated.

If you would like to be involved, have your own team or support us on the day then please speak to Lisa or Laura for more information.

All profits will be shared between the resident welfare fund to help with trips and entertainment and Catshill under 9 football club.

### **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. Sue and Eileen also prepare a birthday cake for each resident.

During March we did not have any residents birthdays

### **Forthcoming Resident Birthdays in April:**

- Jean – 21<sup>st</sup> April
- Pam G – 24<sup>th</sup> April
- Norman – 24<sup>th</sup> April

### **Forthcoming Team Birthdays in April:**

- Molly – 4<sup>th</sup> April
- Jean – 9<sup>th</sup> April
- Heather – 15<sup>th</sup> April

### **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 April:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> April – April Fools Day
- 5<sup>th</sup> April – Holiday at Home
- 6<sup>th</sup> April – Grand National
- 16<sup>th</sup> April – Minibus Trip to Severn Valley Railway
- 17<sup>th</sup> April – Minibus trip to the Safari Park
- 19<sup>th</sup> April – Good Friday – Easter Bonnet parade & Hot cross buns
- 21<sup>st</sup> April – Easter Sunday – Easter eggs!!
- 22<sup>nd</sup> April – Easter Monday
- 23<sup>rd</sup> April – Entertainment – Bollywood

Annual Weston trip is being planned for 4<sup>th</sup> June 2019 – this is a fantastic day out and sometimes we actually get to see the sea!

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

### **Employee of the Month.**

We had an amazing response to employee of the month with several nominations.

The winner of Employee of the Month for March 2019 was Mick Whild – Thank you for making a difference.

We welcome all 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:**

- Choir in the Home – Heather is currently organizing a choir to visit both Housman Court & St John's Court. The first Choir is booked for St John's Court and everyone is invited to attend – please see posters for more details. We will be holding the choir here at Housman Court in the near future and invite our ladies and gentlemen, family members and team to join in the fun. We will update you to let you know when the first one will take place.
- Decorating plan – we have now had the call system installed and the new heating system on first floor and we are starting to decorate the bedrooms and landings. We hope you will soon start to see some changes too in the reception area and hallway.
- You will also see that we have put up wallpaper samples in the dining room for you to choose which you would like on the wall. The paper with the most votes will be used, so please have a look and choose – it is your home.
- Garden – changes ahead. As you know we hold an annual inter Trust garden competition and this year we are going all out to win. Residents are being 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 is to slab this area and to have the other raised bed moved to the back fence to allow a nice, open walk way. We hope to have a giant games area here and the grass area we are making into a putting green. It will be all fun in the sun (hopefully the sun will be out again this summer)!

Any Percy Throwers out there who would love to help us develop the garden to make it an attractive, relaxing area and help us win the competition please let Laura, Lisa, Helen or Heather know.

### **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](mailto:laura.wilkes@amicacare.co.uk) & [lisa.dews@amicacare.co.uk](mailto:lisa.dews@amicacare.co.uk)

- Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May at 11.00hrs & 14.00hrs
- Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> August at 11.00hrs & 18.00hrs
- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> 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 home 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 25<sup>th</sup> June
- Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> August
- Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October
- Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://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.





Everyone enjoyed being entertained by Ruby Red and having the afternoon tea for Joann's leaving get together when she left as Home Manager of Housman Court. We all wish Joann well in her new role and hope she will be happy working closer to home.