



Birchfield
Luxury Residential Care Home

Newsletter

*Issue Three
November 2011*

Welcome to our quarterly newsletter

Welcome to our third quarterly newsletter. We are delighted to share our experiences with you including our Summer Fair and Coffee Morning. We have also been visited by some very friendly pets recently and if you look at the back page, you will see we are already planning our Christmas events. We've also been extremely touched by the wonderful testimonial we received which is on page 3.

Mark and Kirsty Taylor

Summer Fair

Our Annual Summer Fair was held on the 20th August and was a great success raising £284 for the Resident's Fund. We had all the regular fair activities and some extra ones too—you can see Edna the tortoise here who very kindly allowed our visitors to guess her weight.



We had residents from past and present who all joined in with the fun and were also very pleased to see Poppy the PAT dog who is shown here with Vina Townley who has stayed at Birchfield in the past for respite care and always comes back to our events.

We were helped on the day by Catherine and Charlotte who are the daughters of our Senior Carer, Elise. They manned the tombola and did very well and only a few items were left at the end of the day.

A massive thank you to everyone who attended or helped, the day certainly wouldn't have been the same without you. A special thank you must also be given to Rachel Currie and Jackie Mason, two of our loyal staff, who came early in the day to help set up. This was a fabulous help.



Nellie Witherington



Nellie was married at 18 and has two sons. Her eldest son lives in Canada with his wife Darleen and grandson Glen. Nellie has visited Canada but mobility is a little tough now which is why she joined us here at Birchfield.

Nellie is a very sociable lady who likes to go out and interact with others, especially her friend Lisa who she sees daily. They often go for meals out and chat about “times gone by”.

McMillan Coffee Morning

This was held on 30th September and we managed to raise £63 for the charity. Jackie, our cook, baked some cakes and we also had some donated by Sandra Loxham, our resident Nora’s daughter. The money was raised through the sale of the cakes and donations. We put up balloons in the garden with a poster and even had a few people pop in who were just passing, so it was nice that the community came in to support as well.



A Poorly Parrot

Jackie, our cook, has a parrot called Basil who recently fell down the stairs whilst chasing the dog. Unfortunately, he broke his leg and had to have an operation which left him with pins in his leg and feeling very sorry for himself! Jackie brought him to work so that we could care for him and make sure that he was drinking and eating properly. Over the last couple of days, he has perked up a little bit and has been drinking coffee and water and also eaten some baby food, mashed potatoes and crisps—along with custard creams and some bird food!



Basil hasn’t chatted much in the office but knows who his mum is and asks for a kiss as soon as she comes in. It has been an absolute pleasure having him here. We would like to thank Anne Padbury (Rachel’s mum) for donating £100 to Jackie to help pay the big bill for the operation. Anne runs a dog school and all proceeds go to help animals in need.

Grace Collister



Grace is our Acting Deputy Manager and works with Rachel Padbury in the office. Grace has worked at Birchfield for 6 years starting as a Carer and was promoted to Senior Carer last year. She took up her new post in September and is doing a fabulous job.

Grace lives with her family in Garden Village, Darwen. She likes to socialise, shop, read and spend time with her family.

A New Puppy



Walter is a 3 month old puppy who came with Elise, our Senior Carer (his mum) to visit us recently. He is very good natured and loves a cuddle. Our residents have fallen in love with him already.

Testimonial

Our mum liked words. She had a lovely reading voice and subscribed to the monthly Readers Digest booklet that contained a list of new and interesting words.

I'd like to share the meaning of a word that is special to me and my family but can't be found in the booklet or indeed, any dictionary.

*At our wits end we searched high and low
For a place to which our mum she could go
It had to be special and feel just right
Or no sleep we would get in our beds at night
How many we rejected, I just could not say
But we came out of them all saying "no way!"
So over coffee and cake we devised a new list
And came across one that we clearly had missed
An appointment we sought, perhaps the next day?
But to our delight they said "come right away!"
We arrived in 10 minutes with a sad, heavy heart
But just 5 minutes later we thought what a good start
People who listened—assessed mums needs and ours too
Quite a revelation—yes, something quite new
We could not believe our good fortune and luck
As I caught my sisters eye and gave her "The Look"
A family discussion did promptly ensue
And we all agreed—in our hearts we just new
Our mum would be safe in their special care
The people, you see, are so lovely—that's rare
Laughter was heard—jokes to tell
Christmas trimmings—didn't we do well?!
A warm welcome to families old and new
Raffles, prizes—what a to do!
What followed was difficult and tears they did flow
But throughout it all we really did know
We were not on our own—the support always there
Kelly and Rachel—my God what a pair!
Improvements and changes, yes all can be made
But on solid foundations they will surely be laid
Mum's in our hearts and one day we'll be healed
In our memories forever—our friend—BIRCHFIELD
From Hillary Groves and Family*

Upcoming Events

Remember to keep an eye on the notice board for events that are currently being organised. In the meantime, here is a list of planned events at Birchfield:

31st October

Halloween Party

9th November

Victorian Entertainers

Residents are invited to join the singers—complete with Victorian Regalia, in singing songs from the past.

22nd November

The Clothes Show

A chance to update your wardrobe—we will have displays of tops, dresses, trousers, slippers etc for you to choose from.

6th December

Botany Bay visit for Christmas Lunch

10th December

Christmas Fayre—10am to 12.30pm

22nd December

Christmas Party

Respite Care

We currently have availability in our ***dedicated respite room*** during the winter holiday season so please call us on **01254 266020** with your respite enquiries—we will be pleased to help in any way that we can.

Feedback

We welcome all sorts of feedback. If you have any suggestions for improvements to the Home or the service we provide, do let us know. Also, please feel free to send in any articles, memoirs or photo's for inclusion in our newsletter.

Birchfield Luxury Residential Care Home

9a—11 Gorse Road, Blackburn, Lancashire, BB2 6LY

Tel: 01254 266020 Fax: 01254 266021

Email: info@birchfieldcarehome.co.uk Web: www.birchfieldcarehome.co.uk