



# Mariners' Park News Winter 2014

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**A few words from Mick Howarth**

Dear resident

Welcome to the Winter edition of our Newsletter.



As the year draws to a close there can be no doubt that 2014 has been a momentous year for Mariners' Park. The long history of improving accommodation and facilities for residents has continued at a pace with the opening of Trinity House Hub, with its 18 new apartments and communal facilities, the completion of the Care Home refurbishment, including the dementia garden, and the completion of the major repair to Gibson Terrace balcony. Rarely can there have been a year with so much development.

Whilst improvements in "bricks and mortar" are important, we are equally concerned to extend our services to residents. 2014 has seen a doubling of the size of the Home Care Service as we offer more support on the Park whilst offering 24/7 cover in the Hub. We have welcomed new friends with the opening of the Can Cook Café and Blades Hair Salon. Many residents have also used the new Health Suite and Hobby Room.

Keeping residents active with hobbies and trips outs has always been important at Mariners' Park. We now have our best ever offer with Nicola Burns, working 25 hours per week exclusively with the Care Home residents, Audrey and Roger developing activities for the men. Part of their developments have included the new computer scheme and the new "Bike Hub" facilities.



Continued over .....

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## A few words from Mick Howarth

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Our maritime links were not forgotten, amidst all the above development. The Princess Royal, as Master of Trinity House, opened the Hub in April. The lives of the 14,000 merchant mariners lost in the First World War were remembered at our Armistice Day Service. Three information banners were made to help raise awareness of the contribution of merchant seamen in the Great War. Over the Autumn the BBC recorded over 30 hours of conversation with residents at the park for the Radio 4 broadcast that went out on the 1st December.



Not all our work goes on here at Mariners' Park. Over £180,000 has been given out in grants to needy mariners across the country, and our three caseworkers, in Merseyside, Hull and Southampton, have helped over 300 retired mariners claim some £500,000 in benefits and grants, a fantastic achievement.

You may be glad to know that plans for 2015 at Mariners' Park are on a smaller scale after the completion of the Hub. Modernisation is, however, continuing with the building of two new bungalows in Cunard Avenue. You can read more about this development in the Newsletter.

The Welfare Committee have also given the go ahead to develop the 2nd phase of Trinity House Hub. In 2015 this will mean the demolition of some properties in Webster Avenue, and the securing of planning permission for the scheme. Building work for the extra 22 apartments will commence in 2016. 2015 will also see the demolition of Gibson House, hopefully in the Spring. Permission to demolish is currently being sought with Wirral Borough Council.

2015 will also see improvement to the parkland that is so well cared for by our team of gardeners. The 14 ceramic poppies ordered from the Tower of London will be used to create a memorial garden representing the 14,000 merchant mariners who lost their life in the First World War. The team have also planted over 5,000 daffodil bulbs this Autumn to give us an extra special Spring display.



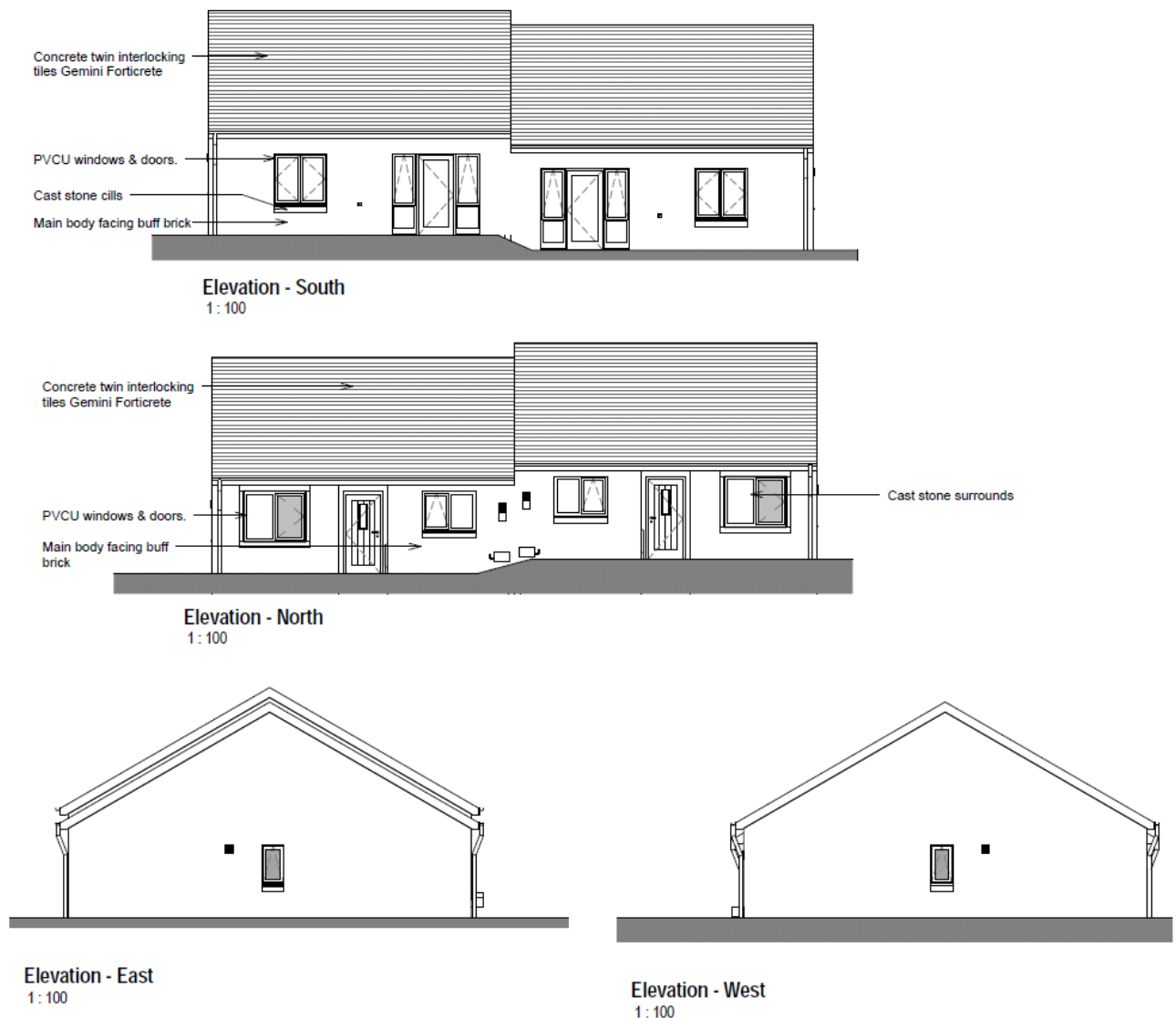
Wishing you a Happy Christmas  
**Mick Howarth,**  
**Welfare Services Manager**

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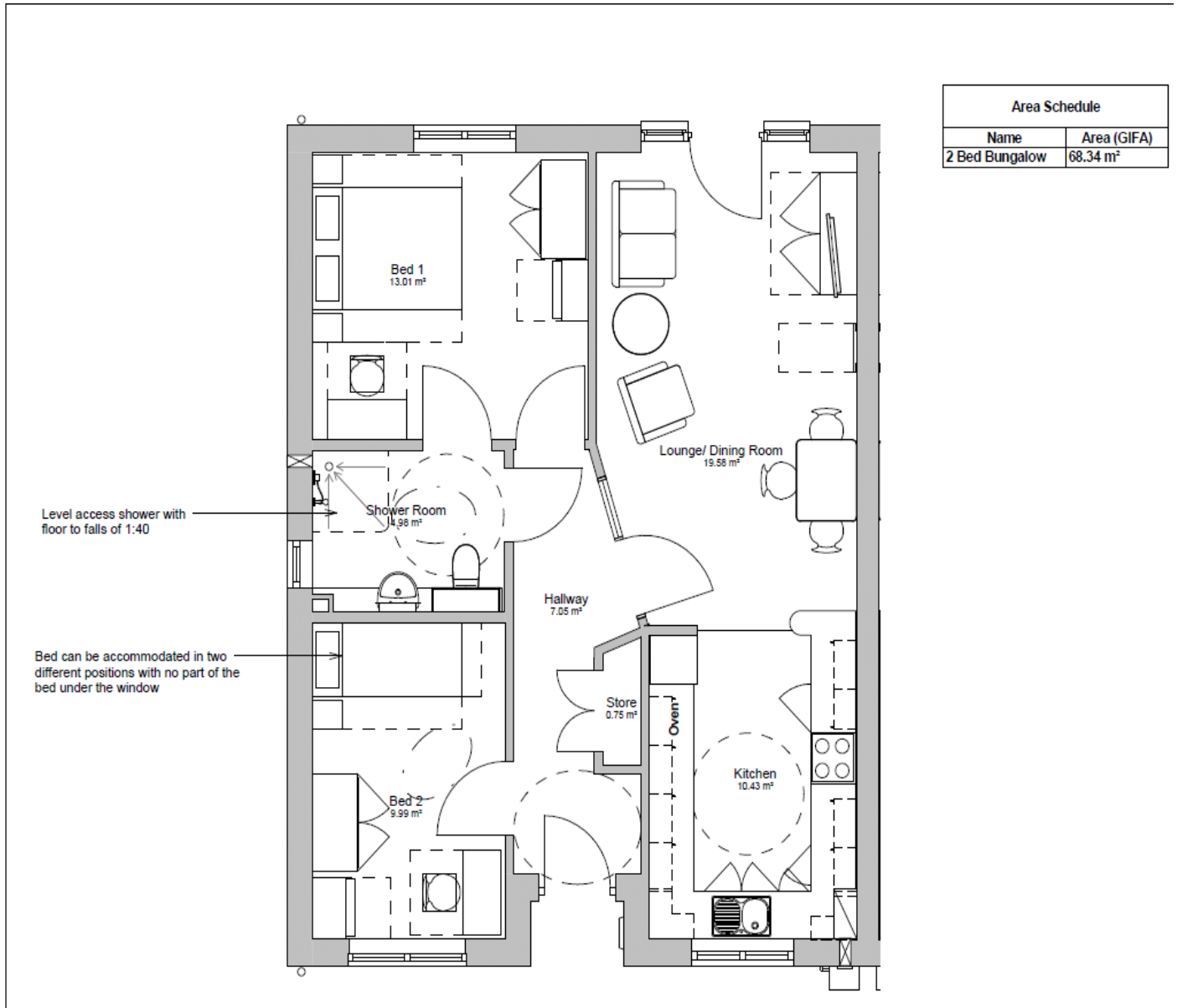
## Feature – Cunard Bungalows

It is planned that two new two bedroomed bungalows will replace the four one bedroomed apartments at 6 and 8 Cunard Avenue. These will be the first bungalows on the Park to have en-suite facilities. The building work will commence in the Spring, and be completed in November 2015. So you can see what the bungalows will be like. Below are details of the plans.

We will, of course, update you on the precise dates for starting on site as soon as these are agreed.



## Feature – Cunard Bungalows

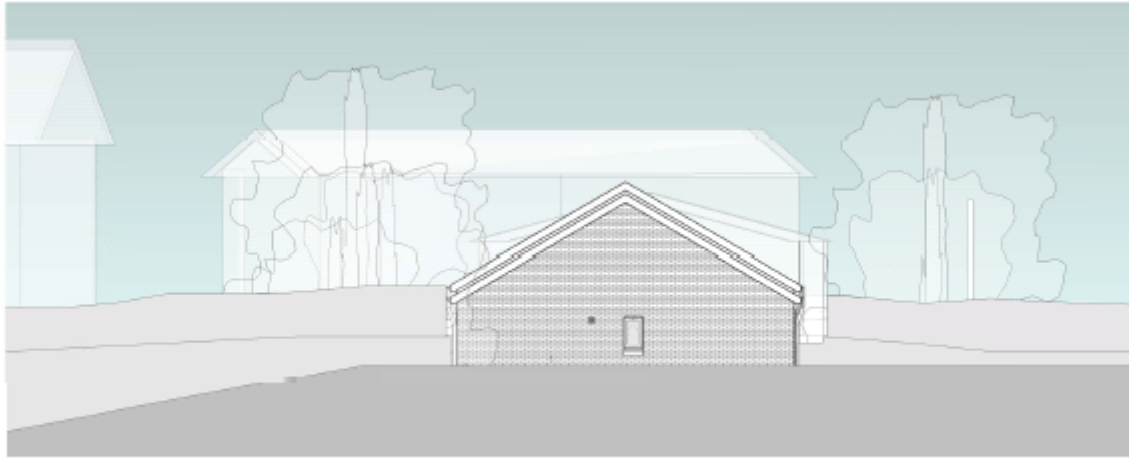


Area Schedule	
Name	Area (GIFA)
2 Bed Bungalow	68.34 m <sup>2</sup>



Elevation 1 - Facing Cunard Avenue  
1:100

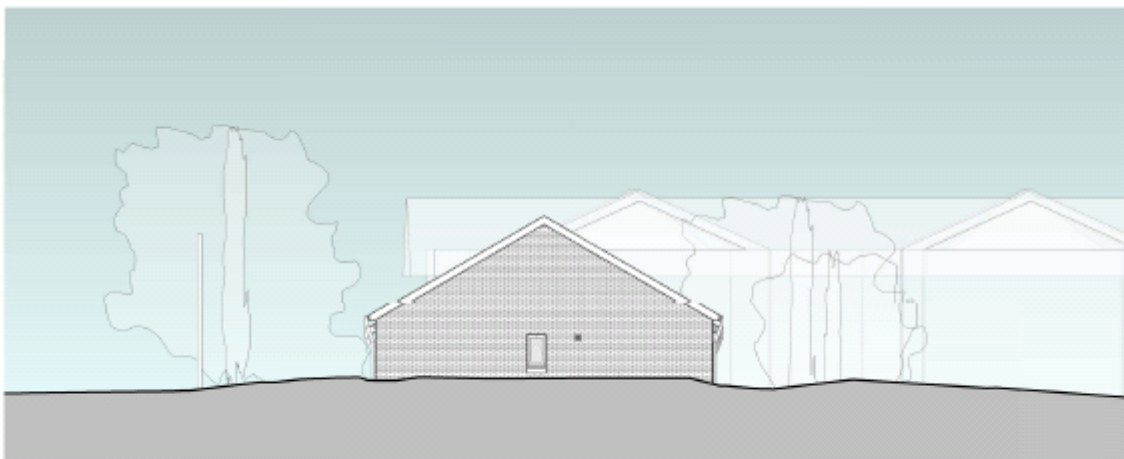
## Feature – Cunard Bungalows



Elevation 2 - Facing Gibson Terrace  
1:100

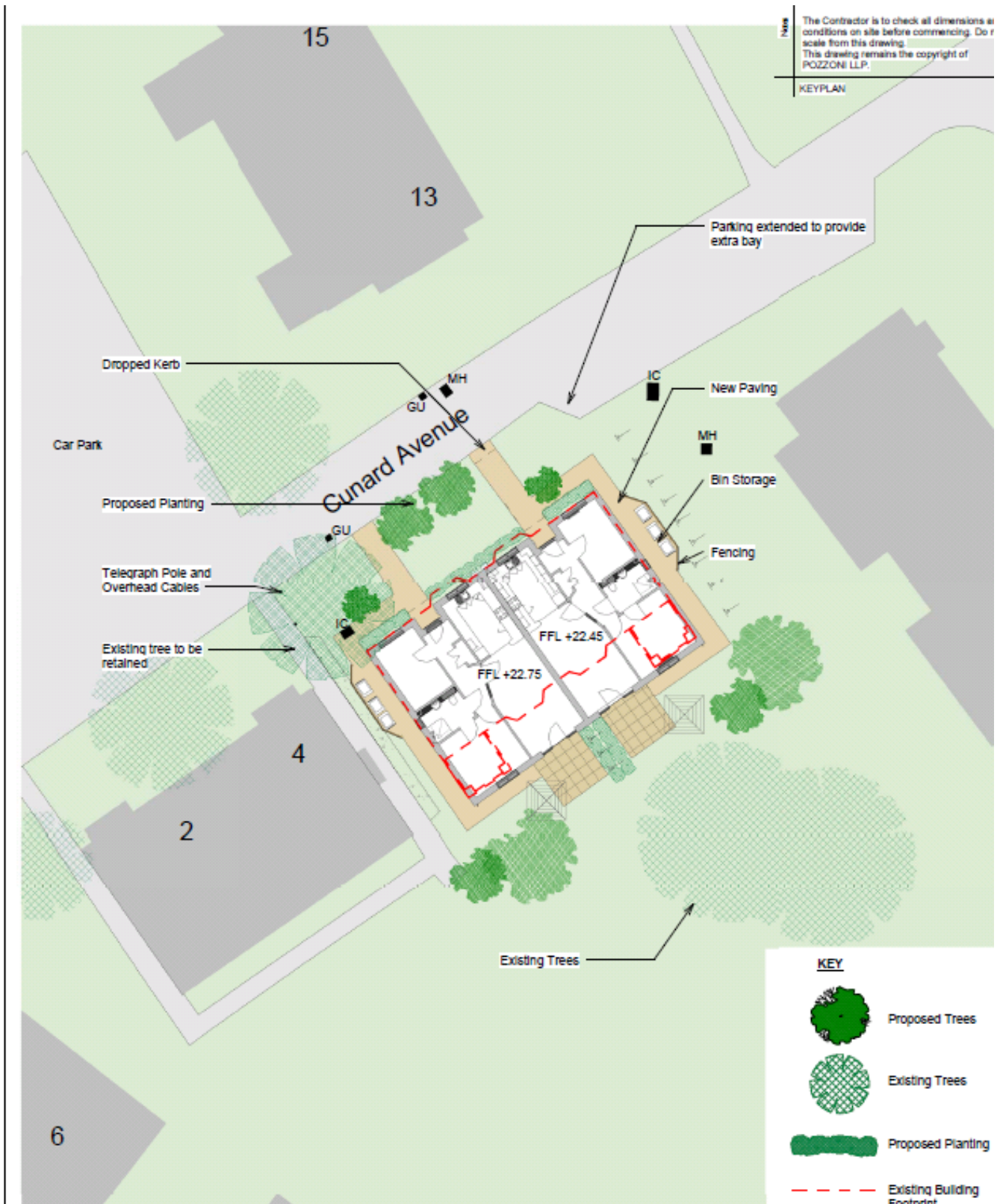


Elevation 3 - Facing Gardens  
1:100



Elevation 4 - Facing Neighbouring Property No. 4 Cunard Avenue  
1:100

# Feature — Cunard Bungalows



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## **Mersey Mariners Group - Carol Services**

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On Thursday, 18th December, at 6.00pm, a Carol Service in aid of the Liverpool Seafarers Centre will be held at Our Lady and St. Nicholas Church, Liverpool. Afterwards, mince pies and wine will be served.

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On Tuesday 23rd December, at 12.00noon, a Carol Service will be held at the Liverpool Seafarers Centre, 20 Crosby Road, South Liverpool. (L22 1RQ )  
Afterwards a Fork Lunch will be served.

It is important, that if you are attending the Centre, that you please notify the Centre on 0300 800 8080 for Catering purposes. Thank You.

Best Wishes  
Mike Feltham

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## **Guest Apartment**

If you wish to make any enquiries or bookings please contact Sharon at Hub reception or telephone 0151 346 8840. The charge is £15 per night. Please book early to avoid disappointment.



## Men's Activities Co-ordinator

### Memories of Men's Activities 2014

2014 was a year when we pushed out the boundaries. Mariners' Park residents enjoyed a variety of activities and visits; from playing golf, which led to us starting the Mariners Park Masters Tournament to be held on an annual basis, to visiting a sculptors studio to gain an understanding of how artists work creatively and hosting BBC's radio 4 to make a programme about the Park. Below are some of the highlights of our year.



Residents meeting Captain Suzanne aboard Fort Rosalie

Mariners with Master James and the Chief Engineer aboard the Sea Truck Progress



Joe Heslin meets a birdie, during the six free practice sessions provided by Age UK Wirral, at Leasowe Golf Course, which started our golf ambitions at Mariners' Park.

Out of the Blue ... a member of Everton's 96 cup squad, John Ebrell, visits the Park





## Men's Activities Co-ordinator



Captain Alan Whyte preparing the ground for our visit to H.M Brocklebank

John McDavitt wins the first ever Mariners Park Open Golf Tournament



Centenary Remembrance of the start of the First World War

Starting in January - What Lies Beneath?  
An exciting Time Team type event using metal detectors to try and uncover what lies beneath the ruins of the old Care Home... maybe just maybe it will be Davy Jones' treasure!



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## Social Zone

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### WEEKLY EVENTS

#### Monday

Coffee morning  
10.30am  
Jubilee Lounge, Care Home

#### Tuesday

Sit Fit  
10.00am  
Function Room, Hub

Computer Club drop in sessions  
2.00pm Function Room, Hub

Coffee and Reminiscence Afternoon  
2.00pm, Café Area, Hub  
Individual topics are picked each week

Bridge Club  
2.00pm, Hobbies Room, Hub

#### Thursday

Craft Club  
10.00am  
Hobbies Room, Hub

#### Friday

Home Visits  
From 9.30am  
Audrey will call you directly to make an appointment

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## Social Zone



### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



#### Monday 15 December

Ladies Pamper Afternoon  
Hobbies Room, Hub  
Starting at 2.30pm

#### Tuesday 16 December

Liscard Primary School  
Christmas Carol Concert  
with Afternoon Tea  
Function Room, Hub  
Starting at 2.00pm

#### Wednesday 17 December

Christmas Shopping in Liverpool  
Leaving at 11.30am using public transport

#### Thursday 18 December

Carol Service  
St Nicholas Church, Liverpool  
Starting at 6.00pm leaving at 5.30pm

#### Sunday 21 December

Christmas Bring and Share  
Entertainment by Linda Pelling  
Function Room, Hub  
Starting at 7.30pm



## Mariners' Park Care Home News

As the year draws to a close so does the major refurbishment of the Care Home. There are now four lounge/dining rooms for residents of each wing to use. Each dining room has a new kitchenette area and all rooms have new carpets, curtains, furniture and have been redecorated. Wi-Fi is now available throughout the Care Home and each lounge has a computer for residents to use.



The communal "Mersey View Room" has become a lounge/dining room and the larger Jubilee Lounge is now available for larger gatherings and Monday Morning Coffee Morning now takes place here.



Residents' individual rooms have also been redecorated and have new carpets, curtains and bed linen. The en-suite shower rooms have been refreshed with new tiling and non slip flooring. All rooms have received a new bedside cabinet and chest of drawers plus a new easy chair and a visitor's chair.



The work has been done "in house" with Phil completing the decorating and Steve doing the kitchenettes and bathrooms, both ably assisted by Paul over the last few months. All in all it's been a big task but now we have a completely modernised Care Home that will provide the highest standards of accommodation. If you have not been in to see the changes please do call in. You will be most welcome.

You will be pleased to know that the Activities Co-ordinator vacancy at the Care Home has been filled. Nicola Burns is the new post holder and started this month. She works 25 hours each week.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

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## Staff News...

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### Farewell to...

Goodbye to Hazel Kidds - has accepted a full time job and we all wish her well for the future.

Julie Plant, one of our long standing HCAs, - is leaving us this month to work at Arrowe Park Hospital - she will be missed.

Paul Clark, our seasonal gardener, who then went on to assist with the Care Home refurbishment. We hope he will return in the New Year.

### Welcome to ...

Jennifer Chapman - Bank HCA and PSA

Danielle Ralph - Bank PSA

Nicola Burns - Care Home Activities Co-ordinator

Laura Dunne - PSA in Hub

Karen Dunphy - temporary cleaner at Nautilus House

### Congratulations to ...

Alan Swindells, Head Chef at the Care Home, baby girl Summer April born on 2nd November weighing 8lb 9oz

Lydia Wylde (HCA) at the Care Home had her baby boy : Bradley Mark was born on 19th November weighing 8lb 7oz

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## Caseworker Service

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This is a free and confidential service and is available to you all, and Cathy will visit you in the privacy of your own home at a time to suit you. If you think you may be entitled to extra help or even if you would like Cathy just to check you are receiving everything you are due, please contact Cathy on 0151 346 8876 or leave a message at the Hub reception and Cathy will get in touch.



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## Gifts for Seafarers

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The residents and staff have collected over the last month, gifts for seafarers. On Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December myself and a number of residents from the Hub, Care Home and The Park got together to pack and wrap the boxes. Altogether, we packed 26 boxes. Thank you to everybody for their support.

The Christmas boxes will be given to working seafarers who will not be home for Christmas. The gifts are a mix of practical items such as toiletries, warm hats and gloves as well as Christmas treats such as chocolates

Audrey



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## Annual Quality Questionnaire

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Many thanks to everyone who has returned the Annual Questionnaire. The new shorter form has encouraged more replies and over 50 households have responded. We will analyse the results and give you the results in January 2015. Your feedback really does help us in delivering the services you want.



The lucky winner of the wine or chocolates is Mr R. Owens of 9B Webster Avenue

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## Can Cook Cafe



### Christmas Opening Times



Wednesday 24th December	Normal Service
Christmas Day 25th December	Traditional Christmas Roast
Boxing Day 26th December	CLOSED
Saturday 27th December	Normal Service
Sunday 28th December	Normal Service
Monday 29th December	CLOSED
Tuesday 30th December	CLOSED
New Years' Eve Wednesday 31st December	CLOSED
New Years' Day Thursday 1st January	Special Festive Roast
Friday 2nd January	Normal Service
Saturday 3rd January	Normal Service
Sunday 4th January	Normal Service

There are still places available for the special meals on Christmas Day and New Years' Day. If you would like to come please book with Annette or Sharon in the Hub, telephone 346 8840. The cost is £10 per person



## Care and Support Services

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I would like to say a very huge thank you to all the Personal Support Assistants of the Nautilus Care Support Team. This year has been an extremely busy year for us. The team has grown from 5 carers to 13 carers and this is due to our new Extra Care Housing, The Trinity House Hub. The team and I moved across from the Care Home into the Hub on the 7th April 2014 along with the new residents. By the end of the first week we had managed to move 8 resident's into their new apartments followed by 6 the following week, and by the end of April we had 17 out of the 18 apartments filled. The Home Care service continues to grow and grow and all the carers have been willing to work above and beyond their contracted hours to help me to provide all the help and support that the resident's need to be able to live independently in their own homes.

They have also continued to support me with the new task of managing the Hub and waiting list for the Hub and estate and along with my regular tasks of the day to day running of the Domiciliary Care Services, the Housing Support Service and Mariners' Park guest flat. I would like to say big well done for you all working as a team and getting through the stresses that we faced at times.

Merry Christmas to the whole team and a even bigger and better New Year for 2015!

If you are struggling with your mobility, getting in and out of bed or washing and dressing? Do you find yourself struggling to do your weekly shopping? Or would simply like a little help with laundry or cleaning. If so Nautilus Care is a service that can offer you help so that you can live independently for longer and this service is available to all resident's of Mariners' Park Estate.

Our Personal Support Assistants would be glad to help you with anything that you need and we offer support that is personalised to you throughout the daytime or evening. If you would like more information on the service available or how to access it and the fees; you can contact the Care Manager Amy Watts on 0151 346 8840.





## Gardening News

It is the end of another productive year here on Mariners' Park Estate.

Neil, John, Paul and myself have all worked hard to improve the appearance of the grounds with the Hub landscape and the addition to the park of a boat planter outside the Hub named "Rosa Webster" courtesy of Mr Sumner. This is currently planted up with primroses to give some bright colour to our entrance to the Hub.



We have also had the kind donation of 5,000 Dutch Master daffodil bulbs to plant around the estate and bring some bright yellow colour to our surrounding areas of the park. I hope you all get time to have a look at the daffodils in the spring around the grassed areas. My particular thanks goes to John and Neil for their hard work planting all of these bulbs as the ground had plenty of roots and surprises underneath. Thanks guys!

Neil has completed an advanced first aid course with St John Ambulance. Hopefully he doesn't need to practice his resuscitation skills on any of us!!!! Well done Neil. I have just completed my NVQ 3 in Management qualification with Knowsley college, it was tough with computer skills, English and Maths tests but thankfully I have passed the course.

As you may have noticed over the summer we have been starting earlier than usual. This is a new idea of annualised hours and has helped us complete more work during the summer and keep our grounds well maintained.

Any requests for gardening work please ask one of the gardening team or telephone Sharon at the Hub reception on 346 8840

All of the gardening team hope you have a lovely Christmas and a happy New Year.



Dave Crawford, Head Gardener

## Estate News

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Here we are, at the end of another year, in which lots have been done and there are still things to do before the close of 2014.

My grateful thanks go to all of my staff for the parts they have played in trying to keep all of you, the residents, happy and safe in your homes with the ability to enjoy your surroundings and everything that goes with it. To Phil and (assisted temporarily by Paul) for their 12 months of work in the refurbishment of the care home, which is now nearing completion. To Dave, John, Neil and Paul for their gardening work, landscaping of the hub, the new garden created at the care home, delivering of letters on a weekly basis and for all of the other extraordinary tasks that all of my staff are asked to carry out from time to time. Finally to Cliff and Mike who carried out the day to day repairs around the estate, care home and hub, whilst all of this work was going on elsewhere

From my perspective, I have had an extremely busy year. By the time you receive this, I anticipate that the extensive work on the landing area at Gibson Terrace will be nearly completed and I would like to thank everybody who lives here for their patience and co-operation during these works.

I was let down by British Gas's previous 'promise' that Mariners' Park Estate would benefit from external and internal insulation to the properties. Some of the residents had previously attended some of their road shows but unfortunately I only found out when a resident of MPE told me that they were closing the site in Trafalgar Road. I quickly went around and was told that the funding had been exhausted. Thankfully on 0th December a new scheme was launched although the funding is reduced to only 50%. Nautilus are having three properties surveyed with a view to having insulation work carried out. I will also pursue grants from elsewhere to fund the remaining 50%.

New windows and doors have been fitted onto some properties and a further lean to in King George Drive . I am hoping that the last pair of bungalows in King George Drive will have a new roof fitted and an empty bungalow in King George Drive will be refurbished early in the new year.



## Estate News

There was also the opening of the Hub, the landscaping around it and the snags within it. Unfortunately, some of these still need rectifying as I write this, but these are mainly small jobs, although there are still a few larger issues to close off. All of this has taken an extraordinary amount of my time, but I aim to make sure that everything ends up how it should have been on day 1.

Further underground drainage work will also take place in December. The care home refurbishment will be completed soon but next year will see the demolition of 13 to 19 Webster Avenue and also 6 and 8 Cunard Avenue. It is anticipated that Gibson House will also be demolished in 2015, so already, next year is going to be another busy year and in addition two new bungalows. In anticipation of the building of Hub2, we need to relocate the workshop as this is in the footprint of the new building.



With the opening of the Hub, this meant that some of the residents from previously demolished properties, then moved into here, this resulted in a number of further empty properties that needed preparation for new residents, in fact, by the end of 2014 there will have been a turnover of 32 properties, and whilst I appreciate some of those will be demolished, this is certainly in excess of the average of 4 or 5 that we normally have per annum.

On behalf of myself and my staff I would like to wish you all a lovely Christmas and a happy new year. Please don't hesitate to call us out of office hours if you have a genuine emergency but if your problem can wait until the next working day, please report it then. Staff are in work on 24<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> December and again on the 2<sup>nd</sup> January. Remember that if you are locked out and have forgotten your keys, keys are now held in the Trinity House Hub.

*Merry  
Christmas*



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## Office Closed

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The Office and Hub Reception will be closed on:

Wednesday 24 December  
Thursday 25 December  
Friday 26 December  
Thursday 1 January



*Merry  
Christmas*

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## Welcome

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We would like to welcome some new residents to Mariners' Park:

Mr Sefton  
Mr and Mrs Maxwell



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## Any news to share...

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If you have any news, a birthday celebration, anniversary, photographs or information you would like to share please contact Sharon at the Hub office on 346 8867. We would like the newsletters to be interesting and enjoyable to read. If you have any suggestions to improve the newsletter please contact Sharon.

