



Mariners' Park News Spring 2016

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A few words from Mick Howarth

Dear Resident

Welcome to the Spring Newsletter.

The year has got off to a busy start with the completion of the new larger Estate Workshop and the two new bungalows in Cunard Avenue. I hope you took advantage of the "Open Days" at each so you can see for yourself the work we are doing. We always appreciate your feedback and comments on our new resident accommodation so we know we are on the right track, and we can incorporate improvements into our other properties.

You can, of course, see that work has commenced on Phase 2 of Trinity House Hub, starting with the demolition of the old semi detached houses. Thank you for your patience whilst the car park is utilised by the builders, Tyson. It will take a year to finish the work on Hub 2 but we will have 22 new apartments upon completion.

Can I thank you in advance for returning the new revised contract for your property, which now includes some new considerations required to meet the Selective Licencing Standards. Can you please return your signed contract by Friday 1st April, and this isn't an April Fool!

Over the winter the gardeners have been busy with more tree pruning and a major clearance of the shrubs along Egremont Promenade. This has given a much improved view of the promenade and, of course, walkers can also now get a better view of Mariners' Park, so a real benefit all round.

I would like use the Spring Newsletter to acknowledge a very generous bequest from Mr John Tunstall, a resident in the Care Home, who passed away last year. This will enable us to provide new glass balconies at the Care Home to improve the views across the river, and has also contributed greatly to the cost of the new bungalows in Cunard Avenue. The bungalows are to be named in his honour "Fulani" and "Aureol", the names of Mr Tunstall's favourite ships he sailed on.

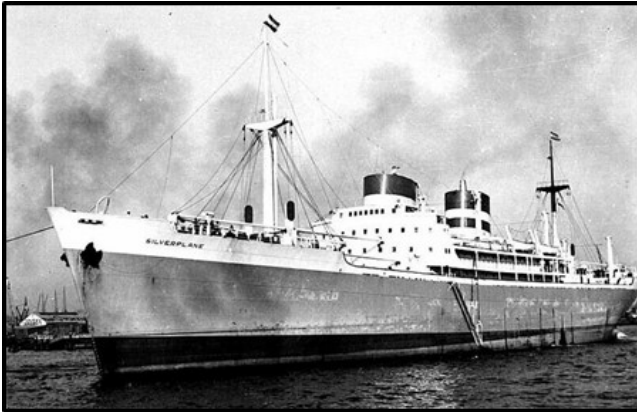
We were pleased to welcome the Lord Mayor and Mayoress of Liverpool to Mariners' Park on the 9th March for lunch. Inside you can read about the visit and his links with Mariners' Park

My best wishes to you all.

Mick Howarth
Welfare Services Manager



Feature—SS Silver Plane



It was 1945 and I was sixteen years old. The war was dragging to a close and I needed to decide on an occupation. I had always fancied the Air Force but never got round to doing something about it. Then one day in a chance conversation with a friend, he said "I'm becoming a Sea Cadet", and without thinking I replied "I will too!"

Although I didn't know it at the time I later discovered that I had been preceded by six generations of seafarers and looking back I realise they must have been looking over my shoulder and my fate was sealed.

Almost immediately I got a post as a cadet and was booked to sail in one of the last Atlantic conveyances for five weeks, or so they said, as during the voyage the war ended and we were re-routed all around the coast of America and I eventually docked in fifteen months later!

It felt good to be going back home to my family in Sunderland but as I walked over the Wearmouth bridge I saw her, it was an instantaneous 'Love at first sight'.

The S.S. Silver Plane, lay at berth gleaming in the sunlight, was a wonderful sight, fitted out and almost ready to sail, made me say to myself "I want to sail on her".

Time moved on and memories fade in the busy life of youth as I studied for my 2nd mate's ticket and having forgotten all about The Silver Plane I applied to Silver Line for a job. They accepted me and shipped me out to New York on the old Q.E. (built in 1939) and to my delight I joined the Silver Plane.

For twenty two months I sailed all over the world on her and eventually signed off in San Francisco. Air travel wasn't prevalent in those days so I had to return via a three day train journey to New York where I joined the Cunard Britannic as a passenger. After a few years I achieved my masters certificate and joined the Cunard Line, who gave me a berth on the Q.E again with a "Hurry Up" message to join the S.S. Alsatia, in Glasgow.

When I arrived I couldn't believe it, it was my old flame The Silver Plane. She had been bought by Cunard in 1951 and repainted in Cunard Colours.

Charles Walker

New Knitting Project



The Neonatal Unit in Liverpool is looking for 10” by 10” blankets for the babies in the neonatal unit.

If knitting a large blanket is too much please could you knit 4 inch squares no thicker than double wool any colour, and together we will sew the squares together, we will make the delivery to the unit at the end of May.

For more information see Audrey Stocker.

Cunard Avenue Bungalow Open Day



Feature — Lessons from Casualties

The following article, kindly submitted by Captain Alan Whyte, is taken from the Marine Safety Council of the United States of America. Submitted, perhaps somewhat tongue in cheek; it was nevertheless printed as a letter to the Editor under the heading, "Lessons from Casualties".

The author of the article, who appears to be British, is unknown, and we are thus unable to give him full credit.

His letter follows:-

It is with regret and haste that I write to you, that a small mis-understanding could lead to the following circumstances, and haste in order that you will get the report before your own preconceived opinions are formed from reports in the world press, for I am sure that they will tend to overdramatize the affair.

We had just picked up the pilot, and the Apprentice had just returned to the Bridge after changing the "G" flag for the "H" flag. It being his first trip, he was having difficulty in rolling up the "S" flag. I therefore proceeded to show him how. Coming to the last part of the fold, I told him "let go". The lad although willing was not too bright, necessitating my having to repeat the order in a sharper tone.

At this moment, the Chief Officer appeared from the Chart Room, having been plotting the vessels progress, and, thinking that it was the Anchors that were being referred to, repeated the order "Let Go" to the Third Officer on the Forecastle. The Port Anchor having been cleared away but not walked back was promptly let go. The effect of dropping the anchor from the "pipe" while the vessel was proceeding at Full Harbour Speed was too much for the Windlass Brake. The entire length of Port Cable was pulled out "By the

Roots".

I fear that the damage to the Chain Locker maybe extensive.

The braking effect of the Port Anchor naturally caused the vessel to sheer in towards the Swing Bridge that spans a tributary to the river up which we were proceeding.

The Swing Bridge operator showed great presence of mind by opening the Bridge for my vessel. Unfortunately, he did not think to stop the vehicular traffic, the result being that the Bridge partly opened deposited a Volkswagen, two cyclists, and a cattle truck onto the Foredeck.

Ships personnel are at present rounding up the contents of the latter, which from the noise I would say were Pigs. In his efforts to stop the progress of the vessel, The Third Officer dropped the Starboard Anchor, too late to be of practical use, for it fell onto the Swing Bridge Operators control cabin.

After the Port Anchor was let go and the vessel started to sheer, I gave a Double ring Full Astern on the Engine Room Telegraph and personally telephoned the Engine Room to order maximum revolutions astern. Only to be informed that the Sea Water Temperature was 53 degrees and then asked if there was a film tonight.

My reply to the Engine Room would not add constructively to this report. Up to now I have confined my report to the forward head of the vessel. Down aft they were having their own problems.

Feature — Lessons from Casualties

At the moment the Port Anchor was let go the Second Officer was supervising the making fast of the After Tug, lowering the Ships Towing Spring down onto the Tug.

The sudden braking effect on the Port Anchor caused the Tug to "run under" the stern of my vessel just at that moment when the Propeller was answering my "Double Ring Astern". The prompt action of the Second Officer in securing the inboard end of the towing spring delayed the sinking of the tug by some minutes thereby allowing the safe abandonment of that vessel.

It is strange, but at the very moment of letting go the port anchor, there was a power cut ashore. The fact that we were passing over a "Cable Area" at that time might suggest that we may have touched something on the river bed" It is perhaps lucky that the High Tension Cables brought down by the Foremast were not alive, possibly being replaced by the underwater cable, but owing to the shore blackout it is impossible to say where the pylon fell.

It never fails to amaze me, the actions of Foreigners during moments of minor crisis. The Pilot for instance, is at this moment huddled in the corner of my Dayroom alternately crooning to himself and crying after consuming a bottle of Gin in a time that is worthy of inclusion in the Guinness Book of Records.

The Tug Captain on the other hand reacted violently and had to be forcibly restrained by the Chief Steward, who had him handcuffed in the Ships Hospital, where he is telling

me to do impossible things with my ship and my person.

Enclosed are the names and addresses of the drivers of the vehicles presently lying on the Foredeck also the names of their Insurance companies which the Third Officer collected after his somewhat hurried evacuation of the Foredeck.

These particulars will enable you to claim for the damage that they did to the railing near No. 1 Cargo hold.

In submitting this preliminary report, I am finding it difficult to concentrate with the sounds of Police, six Fire Brigade sirens and their flashing lights. It is indeed sad to think that had the Apprentice realized that there was no need to fly flags after dark, none of this would have happened.

For weekly Accountability Report I will assign the following casualty numbers, T/750101 to T/50199 inclusive.

Yours truly...

Feature — The Trinity House Hub

Hair and Beauty room

Blades Hair Design is run from within our Hair and Beauty room. The owner of Blades is Laura Dickinson who has a shop based in Mill Lane. They have a wide range of hair services for both men and women to offer, some of these services range from shaving or scissors cuts, a cut and blow to technical services such as full head of foils or semi permanent colour. They are happy to help with your needs and feel free to pop into the Hub to meet a member of the team on a Monday and Friday between 9am and 3pm or contact a staff member on 0151 346 8847 and book an appointment.

Communal Laundry

Within our laundry room there are two washing machines and a dryer. Everybody living at Mariners' Park is able to use these facilities. The machines are operated by a token which can be purchased from the Hub reception, which is open from 9am-5pm Monday to Friday. Each token will cost £1 for a washing machine or the dryer. All you need to do is bring your own soap powder/tablet and softener. If you need assistance how to operate these machines please feel free to see a Personal Support Assistant who will be working in the Hub or an administrator working on reception and they will be able to help you.

Lounge

In our Lounge we have rooms where you can watch TV or attend a film day put on by a resident or staff member advertised in the activities list. There is also free WIFI access for you so feel free to bring down your laptops or iPADS and have fun browsing the web.

Assisted Bathroom

Are you longing for a soak in the bath and you are currently unable to because you have a shower or wet room at home? Then feel free to come to the Hub and have your troubles soaked away for you. This room is on the ground floor and access is disabled friendly. As this room is proving to be very popular, you will need to book. You will also need help from a member of staff to operate the electric bath seat as no climbing into the bath is needed. For further assistance to use this bathroom and to book it, please contact the Care Manager, Amy Johnson on 0151 346 8840.

Health Suite (Gym)

If you would like to use the equipment in the Health Suite, it is important you are first shown how to use it safely. Georgina Dewar, our Physiotherapist, will be able to provide you with an induction session before you go it alone. You can book an appointment to have your induction with Georgina by emailing her on info@physio-works.co.uk or if you require assistance with this you can contact Amy Johnson on 0151 346 8840 and she can liaise with Georgina on your behalf.

Can Cook Café

There is a café in the Hub run by Can Cook. It is open every Wednesday through to Sunday between 10.00am to 3.30pm and the staff are John the Chef and Alison his assistant. You can purchase a three course lunch for £5.50 and this will consist of soup, main, dessert and a drink. Or a 2 course lunch option will always be available (soup and main course or main and dessert) for £4.50, which also includes tea or coffee.

Feature – The Trinity House Hub

You can also benefit from having a loyalty card, for every 10 meals you purchase you will get the next one free of charge. Can Cook offers hot specials on a daily basis with a choice of two different main meals and every Friday one of these specials will be Fish and Chips. On a Saturday it will be All Day Breakfast and on a Sunday they offer you a Roast Dinner with all the trimmings. You could also choose from a selection of salads or sandwiches and also cakes and hot desserts e.g. crumbles, fruit pies, hot sponges, all for you to enjoy with a nice cup of tea or coffee with family or friends.

Hobbies Room

The Activities Co-ordinator based within the Hub is Audrey and she plans regular weekly activities that can be based in the Hobbies Room or other communal rooms in the Hub. The activities are:

Coffee Mornings - every Monday morning in the Care Home and the Hub from 10:30am until 12 noon.

Sit Fit - every Tuesday morning in the Function Room from 10am until 11am - everyone welcome.

Bridge Club - every Tuesday afternoon in the Hobbies Room from 2pm until 4pm - everyone welcome.

Craft Club - every Thursday in the Function Room from 10am until 12 noon.

Other activities also include day trips out, run by either Co-ordinator and this will be advertised for you via our notice boards and you will also be sent the information via the post. Other events that we celebrate and in the calendar for Audrey and Roger are listed over:

Monthly/Annual Events

Summer fayre
 Christmas fayre
 Burn's night
 Chinese New Year
 Queen's birthday/St Georges Day
 St Patrick's Day
 Two Annual RNLI coffee mornings
 Halloween tea
 Bonfire night
 Merchant Navy Day
 Remembrance Day
 Christmas switch on
 Children in need

Other Events

Bingo twice a month
 BBQ afternoon
 Trips out
 Themed afternoons/nights
 Sing - along afternoons
 Quiz nights
 Bowling afternoon
 New project with Weatherhead School
 Monthly residents meetings

For any further information on activities please contact Audrey on 0151 346 8840 or for the Men in Sheds project you can contact Roger on 0151 639 8454. All events are subject to change.

Scooter store

If you can only walk short distances and use a scooter to get from your home to the Hub to attend various activities, events or to report a maintenance issue you can charge your scooter up whilst you are there. For a fob to access this room or to have this room added on to your additional fob for the Hub please feel free to visit Sharon or Annette on the Hub reception and they will be able to help you.

Mariners' Park Care Home

In the care home we love an excuse to dress up!!



Angela and Emma were superheroes for Children In Need

Pat and Vi donned their hats and scarves for our Country and Western day! We enjoyed a John Wayne film, Sandra Currie came and sang Country and Western Songs to us and we enjoyed jacket potatoes with chilli beans for tea



School Days



Christmas Day



Mariners' Park Care Home



Since the New Year we enjoy happy hour every Friday in the care home! We do something different every week. So far we've tried dominoes, scrabble, blind crisp tasting, The Divas coming to sing, Valentine's activities, lots of chatting and reminiscing and a tippie or two!



Mariners' Park Care Home



Our haggis, neeps and tatties were addressed in the correct manner, thank you Jim and Andy the piper.



New Workshop Open Day



The Nautilus Welfare Fund Committee met the Estate Team to view the new workshop



Good to see the boss washing up!

Social Zone

WEEKLY EVENTS

Monday

Coffee morning
10.30am
Jubilee Lounge, Care Home

Tuesday

Sit Fit
10.00am
Function Room, Hub

Art Class
2.00pm
Function Room, Hub

Bridge Club
2.00pm,
Hobbies Room, Hub

Thursday

Craft Club
10.00am
Hobbies Room, Hub

Friday

Craft/Art Club
10.00am
Hobbies Room, Hub

Home Visits
From 2.00pm
Audrey will call you directly to make an appointment

Social Zone

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 9th April

Grand National Afternoon

Care Home

starting at 2.30pm

Main race is at 5.15pm



Monday 18th April

Afternoon tea with tea, cake and one glass of wine

Function Room, Hub

starting at 2.30pm



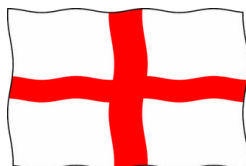
Friday 22nd April

St George's Day

starting at 7.30pm

Function Room, Hub

bring and share



More information will be sent out in the post.

Would you like to host an event or do you have ideas for an event,
activity or trip out?

Please contact Audrey Stocker, Activities Co-ordinator
at the Hub on 0151 346 8840

Activities and Functions—A Look Back



Race Night



Sit Fit



Christmas Party Wallasey Town Hall

Activities and Functions—A Look Back



Quiz Night



Christmas at Leasowe Castle



Lord Mayor and Mayoress of Liverpool



We were delighted to welcome the Lord Mayor and Mayoress of Liverpool to Mariners' Park on Wednesday 9 March for an excellent lunch at the Can Cook Café. They took the opportunity to chat with residents at the café before visiting the Care Home and finally viewing the new bungalow at 8 Cunard Avenue on the 'Open Day'. It was their first visit to the Park and they were both impressed with the range of facilities available and the standard of accommodation provided.

The Lord Mayor, Tony Concepcion, is a Liverpool lad, born and raised in the city and remembers the docks from the 1950s and 1960s. He has family links with the sea with his father and uncle both being merchant mariners. Sadly both died young, his uncle in World War II and his father, when Tony was only 9 years old. It is only recently that the Lord Mayor has started to delve into his father's sea career, and brought with him a list of ships he sailed on. One of them was the Factor, and he was delighted to learn the bell of the Factor is here at Mariners' Park, located by the bowling green. He could not resist going to see it, and meeting Mrs Nicholson whose husband also sailed on board, and who asked that the bell be put on display. They say it's a small world, and this visit just proved that old adage. Of course, the Lord Mayor couldn't resist giving the bell a good ring!

The Big Easter Knit for Claire House

Mariners' Park residents and friends have been very busy knitting over 300 mini hats to fit on mini eggs. The hats will go on 300 Crème Eggs that have also been donated from residents, the Nautilus Welfare Fund, friends, Tesco Express in Moreton and Tesco Express in Eastham.

We have also had over 60 Easter eggs donated and also £50 in cash.

Claire House collected the eggs and hats for the children in Claire House.

Claire House has over 150 children receiving treatment. Some of the children have brothers and sisters that visit or go and spend time with them at Claire House.

So why are we doing this? Well, some of the residents thought it would be good idea to surprise the children and their families by knitting and donating a hat and egg for each child.

All the children that will be spending Easter in Claire House will also be receiving an Easter egg.

This idea went out to residents in the middle of January and by the middle of February all 300 hats were knitted and decorated. I was amazed how many hats were completed in so little time, I would personally like to thank everyone who helped.
Audrey.



Men's Activities - Stena Ship Visit

Mariners' Park Visit to Stena Lagan 14 March 2016

Visit kindly arranged by Sarah Simpson of Northern Marine Manning Services Limited and Derek Byrne Industrial Organiser Nautilus International. Images by Rob Keith and John McDavitt.



Waiting to go aboard



Personnel Director Sarah introduces Captain Tulio to our residents

Men's Activities - Stena Ship Visit



Loch Rannoch from the bridge



Christine meets the Captain

Men's Activities - Stena Ship Visit



Gary takes command



Gary greets the new Stena recruits

Men's Activities - Stena Ship Visit



Charles Walker asking Tulio are there any vacancies



"Listen carefully"

Men's Activities - Stena Ship Visit



“Who’s taking her to New Brighton?”



“Just seen Danny on the radar he’s coming out in a canoe”

Men's Activities - Stena Ship Visit



Three wise men?



Two Ferry Captains together

Office Closed

The Office and Hub Reception will
be closed on:

Good Friday 25 March
Easter Monday 28 March



Welcome

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

Mr & Mrs Jones
Mr B Hughes
Captain Evans
Mrs Hill



Blossom Time

