



Mariners' Park News Winter 2017

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A few words from Mick Howarth

Dear Resident

A very warm welcome to the Winter edition of our Mariners' Park Newsletter.

With the festive period fast approaching there are a wide variety of events and activities for you to enjoy. You will find a full list inside the newsletter, but the fun really starts on Monday December 4th with the Christmas Light Switch On. I hope I will see you there.

Once again, the Can Cook Café will be serving a special Christmas Day and New Year's Day lunch. Do book to reserve your place.

The 160th anniversary of the Charity has proved to be a year to remember. The completion of the Trinity House Hub in June, with the opening of the new SeafarersUK Centenary Wing, was a major landmark in extending the accommodation options at Mariners' Park. We have also been able to appoint our Admiral Nurse to support individuals with a diagnosis of dementia, helping to provide advice, guidance and support to them and their families. Outside of Mariners' Park we have been able to extend our Caseworker Service with the appointment of a fourth post, this time based in Glasgow.

2018 will be another busy year. We look forward to the completion of the two new bungalows in Webster Avenue around May time. The apartments in Ismay Drive have been somewhat delayed as we need to divert an electricity cable found in the footprint of the new building, but we do expect the apartments to be ready by the end of the year. We have already received an early Christmas present in respect of the apartments - a £600,000 grant towards the £1.8 million cost - from the ITF Seafarers Trust. We also plan to further extend the caseworker service with an appointment either in Belfast or Cardiff. On the estate we have plans to make good the road between the Hub and the Estate Workshop once the two new bungalows are complete. We also plan some new automatic opening doors for the Care Home entrance.

These are, of course, just the headlines for next year. We will have a full programme of Modernisation of the older estate properties, and, of course, we will be continuing our excellent activities programme with Nikki, Audrey and Roger. Do let them know if you have ideas for activities or events in 2018.

There is good news on our plans for Gibson House to report, and you will find a special article on this inside the Newsletter.

It just remains for me, on behalf of all the staff at Mariners' Park, to wish you a happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year.

Best wishes
Mick Howarth
Welfare Services Manager



Are you a Veteran Merchant Mariner

ARE YOU A VETERAN MERCHANT MARINER

OR

THE DEPENDANT OF A VETERAN MARINER

Dear Resident

We are trying to get an accurate picture of the number of residents who are either a veteran merchant mariner in their own right, or are the dependant of a veteran mariner.

Veteran merchant mariners are those who supported the armed forces in a conflict. Examples include World War II, the Suez crisis, Falklands, Iran, Iraq. Any Royal Fleet Auxiliary mariner is also seen as a veteran, as is, of course, any Royal Navy experience, or time in the armed forces or RAF. Women who were in the WRNS are also, of course, veterans. You may be the dependant of a mariner who was a veteran, if so you too can be counted as a veteran.

If you think you are a veteran or the dependant of a veteran can you please complete the short form below and return it to the Hub Reception.

.....

Yes, I am a veteran merchant mariner.

Name:

I served (name of conflict)

.....

.....

.....

Yes, I am a dependant of a veteran mariner

They served (name of conflict)

.....

.....

.....

PLEASE RETURN TO HUB RECEPTION BY 15TH DECEMBER

Christmas Switch On

Mariners' Park Annual Christmas Switch On



Monday 4th December
starting at 5.00pm
in the
Mersey View Room

Finger buffet, mulled wine, tea and coffee

We will also be holding a raffle, £1.00 per
strip,
All money raised will go to the Alzheimer's
Society

Remembrance Day Service

There was a good turnout at the annual Remembrance Day Service.

The Reverend Alan Leech lead the service. Former WRN Mrs Jamieson laid a wreath to mark the 100th anniversary of the Women's Royal Naval Service. Neil Robertson also lead a wreath on behalf of the Nautilus Welfare Fund and the residents of Mariners' Park. As is now a tradition at the service the names of residents who have passed in the last year were read out.

Ronald Pengelly
David Twidale
Elis Atherton
Violet Boyles
Peter Mooney
Miriam Greene
Michael Orchard
Monica Swift
Marjorie Leyland
Patricia Leach
Michael Davitt
Mrs Olive McCarthy
Mr Graham Hughes
Mr Charles Nevard
Mr Peter Mooney
Mr Donald Gowsell
Mr James Kelly
Mr David Finn
Mr Gordon Gibbons
Mr Joseph Heslin
Mrs Patricia Bibby
Captain Derek Penton
Mr Ken Joinson
Mrs Bernadette Howden
Mr Andrew Reid



Remembrance Day Service



Christmas Market Thank You



Thank you

to everyone that supported

our Annual Mariners' Park Christmas Market

This year we made an amazing

£359.16

M&S Visiting

YOUR M&S

Are visiting on

Thursday 7th December

From

10.00am till 2.00pm

Function Room, Hub



Can Cook Cafe



Christmas Opening Times



Wednesday 20th December	Normal Service
Thursday 21st December	Normal Service
Friday 22nd December	Normal Service
Saturday 23rd December	CLOSED
Sunday 24th December	Normal Service
Christmas Day 25th December	Traditional Christmas Roast
Boxing Day 26th December	Open 12 -2pm
Wednesday 27th December	CLOSED
Thursday 28th December	CLOSED
Friday 29th December	CLOSED
Saturday 30th December	CLOSED
Sunday 31st December	Normal Service
New Years' Day 1st January	Special Festive Roast
Tuesday 2nd January	CLOSED
Wednesday 3rd January	CLOSED
Thursday 4th January	Normal Service
Friday 5th 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 Hub Reception, telephone 346 8840. The cost is £15.00 per person



Christmas Tipple Afternoon—Hub

Would you like some help in wrapping up your Christmas presents for your loved ones or filling out your cards for your friends? If so, please come and join us on in the Hub on Thursday 7th December at 2.30pm for a mince pie and a Christmas tipple and we will help you with these things.

All's that we ask is for you to bring your presents, cards and wrapping paper and we will help you to kick start your Christmas festivities and have a merry time or just come for the free tipple.



Staff News

Welcome to

Elsbeth White new cleaner at Nautilus House
Carole Newlove RMN Days
Karen Edward Bank RGN

Keith George, Accounts Manager, based in Nautilus House, couldn't resist sending in this photograph of Amber, one of his three dogs!



New Residents

Welcome to new residents in the Care Home:

Joe Oliver
Marie Robertson
Peter Beckett

Ladies Only Pamper Afternoon



with Hayley from Bespoke Beauty

Wednesday 13th December

starting at 1.00pm

Hobbies Room, Hub

What's available

Foot and leg massage
with file and polish £10.00

or

CND Spa manicure
with file, polish, cuticles hand and arm
massage £15.00

Tea, coffee, glass of wine or two, plus
chocolate and other light refreshments
available

Gibson House Update



Some of you may have seen in the local press or the Nautilus Telegraph that contracts have been exchanged between the Nautilus Welfare Fund and Prospect Capital for the sale of the Gibson House site. The next step is for the developer, Prospect Capital, to submit a full planning application. Once this is approved the contract will be completed, and the development work will commence. This is likely to be the summer of 2018. This article will set out what is being planned.

The developer is going to refurbish Gibson House, bringing a well-loved local landmark back to life. In the existing grounds they will also build 4 townhouses and three detached homes. The apartments and houses will be for private sale.

Once this is completed the second phase of development will follow on. Wirral Borough Council have agreed to sell the land at the back of Gibson House to the developer, thus creating a larger, more viable site. On this extended site the developer will build two new apartment blocks. One will be for private sale, and the other will be for the use of Welfare Fund beneficiaries. These will be for rent at the same level of rent as Mariners' Park properties, and the residents will be able to access all the services of Mariners' Park. To improve access from Gibson House a new pedestrian entrance is proposed opposite our main entrance.

The architects are now working on the design of the new apartments. The specification of the new apartments is the same as those used in the Seafarers UK Centenary Wing and in the planned Ismay Drive development. This means mostly two bedroomed apartments with en-suite facilities, plus a balcony access. It is expected to be late 2020 when "our" apartment block is ready for occupation. It is hoped to create 26-28 apartments, taking the total number of properties at Mariners' Park up to 150. As soon as the plans are available I will arrange for a display in the Hub

Christmas and New Year's Day Meals



Christmas Day And New Year's Day Menu

£15.00 per person

To book a place please call 0151 346 8840

or

Fill in the form that is in your weekly post and
return it to the Hub reception by Friday 15th

December

Christmas Past

Christmas Past

Each Christmas I remember
The ones of long ago;
I see our mantelpiece adored
With stockings in a row.

Each Christmas finds me dreaming
Of days that used to be,
When we hid presents here and there,
For all the family.

Each Christmas I remember
The fragrance in the air,
Of roasting turkey and mince pies
And cookies everywhere.

Each Christmas finds me longing
For Christmases now past,
And I am back in childhood
As long as memories last.

By Carice Williams

Social Zone

WEEKLY EVENTS



Monday

Coffee morning
10.30am
Jubilee Lounge, Care Home

Tuesday

Sit Fit
10.00am
Function Room, Hub

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



Social Zone



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



4 December

Christmas Lights Switch On

7 December

Pop-up M&S Store, Hub

13 December

Hotpot Supper

15 December

Residents Christmas Party

18 December

Christmas Lunch, Eastham Ferry

21 December

Christmas Service, Care Home

22 December

Christmas Bingo

24 December

Christmas Drinks

26 December

Movie Afternoon

28 December

Cheese and Wine

31 December

New Year's Drinks

Please see Audrey for more information if you are interested in any of the above



Domiciliary Care Manager

Wow what a year this has been, and it has just flown by since returning from maternity leave in February. My amazing team of staff that I manage in the Trinity House Hub and as part of the Domiciliary Care Team has helped me to settle back into my role, and supported me with the extension to the Hub with Phase 2, moved residents around the estate so that we can build new properties, welcomed new residents into Mariners' Park and we also had the challenging task of filling some of the new 22 apartments before the Royal visit of HRH Earl of Wessex, which was a fantastic day.

It isn't often that I am speechless but all I have left to say is an enormous thank you to my whole team that have helped me since returning to work and who continue to work hard and support not only me but their colleagues through great team work and to make life much better for our residents.

So, to all my team and residents, I personally wish you a very Merry Christmas and a great New Year.

THANK
YOU

Four Generations

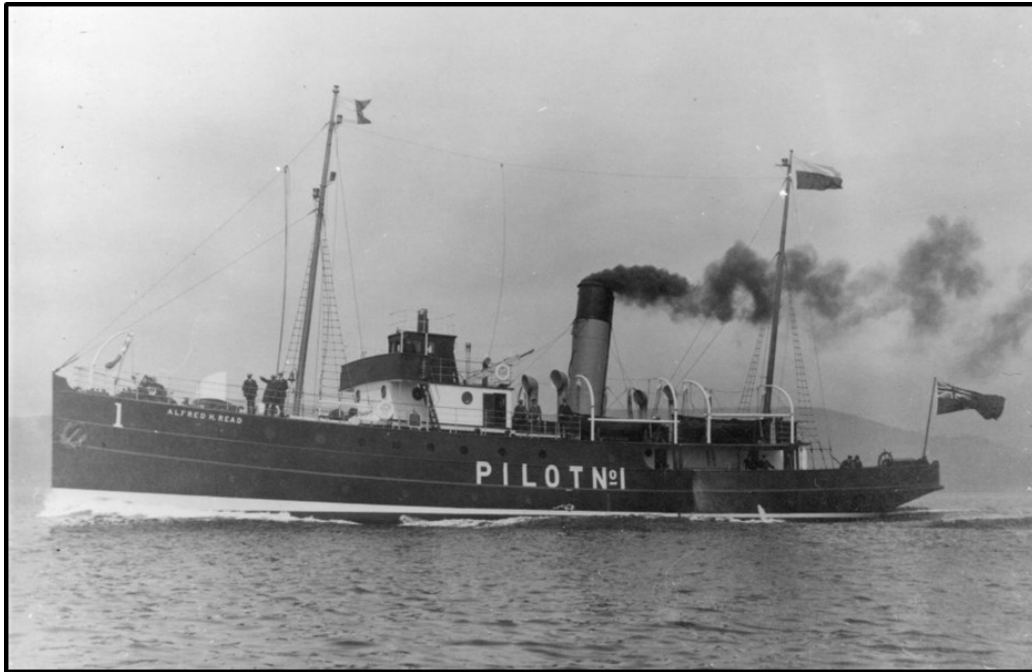
Congratulations to Eve in the care home on the birth of her great grandson Frederick (Freddie) Cynan (after Eve's husband), born 13th November.

Photo: 4 generations

baby Freddie with his great grandmother Eve, Eve's daughter Chris and her son Matthew.



Men's Activities Co-ordinator



**Liverpool Pilot Boat Centenary Remembrance Service
28th December 2017**

3pm

St James' Church, Albion Street, New Brighton,

The Liverpool Pilot Service (Retired Division) are holding a Centenary Remembrance Service at St James' Church, Albion Street, New Brighton, Wirral in memory of the 41 pilots, apprentices, crew and other personnel, including 3 RNVR Officers (one of whom was a Liverpool Pilot), who lost their lives in the sinking by enemy action of the No. 1 Liverpool pilot boat 'Alfred H. Read' on 28th December 1917.

About 3.15 a.m. on 28th December 1917 No.3 Liverpool pilot boat 'Queen Victoria', which was on station at the Liverpool Bar, heard the roar of an explosion from the direction of the other pilot boat out on station about half a mile away, No.1 'Alfred H Read', and it was immediately realised that her lights had disappeared.

They hastened to the spot to find that she had sunk, and only the top of the funnel and the masts were showing above the ice-cold waters of Liverpool Bay. She had sunk in less than two minutes having been struck an absolutely devastating blow amidships by what was later determined to be a German submarine-laid mine. There were only two survivors, pilot apprentice John Sweetman and Marconi Radio Officer, Edward Becket.

The majority of those who lost their lives were from the Wirral and Liverpool. We would like any relatives of those who lost their lives to contact us so that we can give them more information and invite them, and anyone else who would like to, to attend the Service.

Please contact: **Geoff Topp -Tel. 0151 334 5634**

gat.liverpoolpilot@ntlworld.com

Men's Activities Co-ordinator

Liverpool Pilot Boat No. 1 'Alfred H Read' (also) HM Examination Vessel Mersey No.1

ROLL OF HONOUR –

Lost onboard Liverpool pilot boat 'Alfred H Read' 28/12/1917

Albert Edward Ankers, Pilot, Seaforth, Liverpool
Charles Henry Barnard, (Pilot), Lieutenant R.N.V.R, West Kirby
James Birchall, Pilot, Wallasey
William Brodie, Pilot, Bootle
James Cain, Donkeyman, Liverpool
John Frederick Cameron, Pilot, Wallasey
William Charles Chapple, R.G.A Signaller, Pembrokeshire
Norman William Climo, Pilot, Liscard
John Collister, Donkeyman, Dingle, Liverpool
James Henry Cross, Pilot, Wallasey
William George Cubbin, First-Engineer, Seacombe
Alfred Davies, Pilot Apprentice, Liscard
Frank Foulkes, Pilot Apprentice, Lark Lane, Liverpool
Edgar Stephen Durrant Freeman, Pilot, Wallasey
John R Green, Pilot Apprentice, Lark Lane, Liverpool
Eric Clements Harries, Pilot Apprentice, Wallasey
Sydney Gilbert Harris, R.G.A Signaller, Middlesex
Joseph Hawkins, Pilot Apprentice, Liscard
Henry Hiatt, Pilot Apprentice, Wallasey
Robert James, Pilot, Toxteth Park, Liverpool
Alfred Augustus Jones, Pilot, Liverpool
James Fisher Jones, Pilot, Birkenhead.
Alfred Thomas Kirkham Pughe, Donkeyman, Rock Ferry
Alfred MacDonald Knowler, Pilot, Great Crosby, Liverpool
Charles William Langhelt, R.G.A Signaller, Middlesex
Albert J Lever, Pilot, Onchan, Isle of Man
Edgar Howard Lewis, Pilot, Liverpool
John Lewis, Pilot - First Master, Aigburth, Liverpool
Frederick William Treneman Penney, Pilot, Birkenhead
Walter Croker Poole, Lieutenant R.N.V.R, Rock Ferry
John Yates Price, Pilot Apprentice, Walton, Liverpool
Charles James Prior, Pilot Apprentice, Seacombe
Henry Rawson, Pilot, Liscard
Frederick Rogers, Pilot - Second Master, Rock Ferry
Robert Taggart, Pilot, Liscard
Harry Marquis Tibbells, Pilot, Waterloo, Liverpool
William Turner, Second-Engineer, Tuebrook, Liverpool
John Wade, Marconi Wireless Operator, Liverpool

Men's Activities Co-ordinator

Liverpool Pilot Boat No. 1 'Alfred H Read' (also) HM Examination Vessel Mersey No.1

ROLL OF HONOUR –

Lost onboard Liverpool pilot boat 'Alfred H Read' 28/12/1917

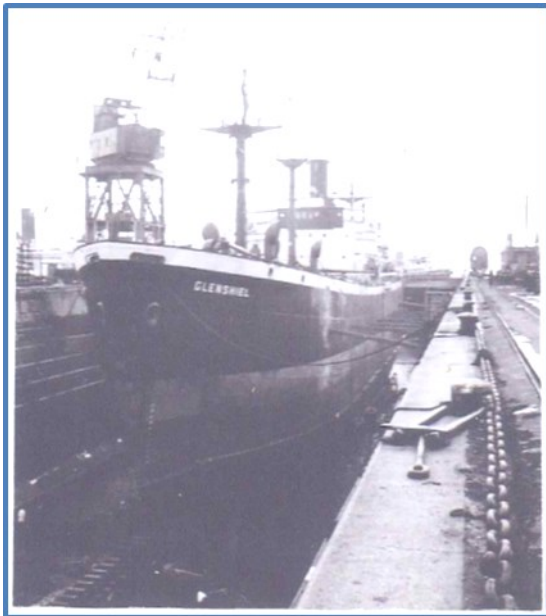
"Alfred Charles Walley, Cook, Seacombe
Richard Williams, Sub-Lieutenant R.N.V.R, Liverpool
James Wookey, Pilot, Wallasey

~ : ~

R.N.V.R. – Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve

R.G.A. – Royal Garrison Artillery

In the Slow Lane—James Burt



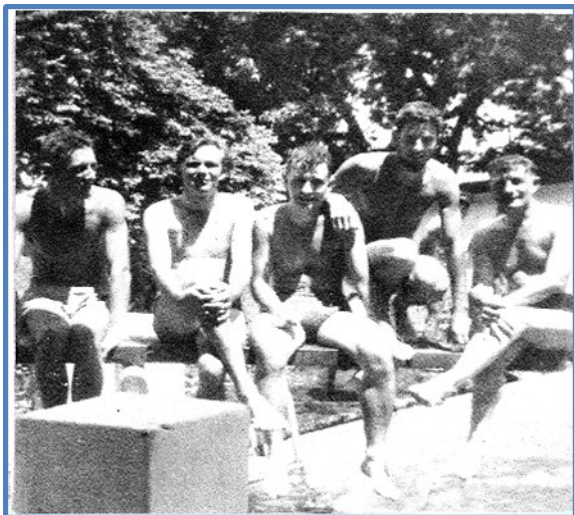
Looking through some old photos I came across, some from 1954, brought back memories which might be of interest, or at least raise a laugh.

We talk about Blue Funnel (and Glen line) ships, A Class, P Class and H class, how good they were. Also the first class liner service to the Far East and Australia. Forgetting the Old 'Sam' and 'Fort' boats which Holts kept into the late fifties and must have paid for themselves many times over. They were a different world.

For my sins, I was 3rd mate on the Gleneshiel (ex Samness), for twelve months; two five and a half month voyages where we lived in the slow lane. Nothing seemed rushed, we were not expected to keep schedules (a good head wind and she was down to seven months), just get there and back.

In the Slow Lane—James Burt

First trip we loaded at the Isle of Dogs, in the Thames, for Seletar, the Army base in the Johor straits (MOD contract) and the usual ports around. Then to Hong Kong where we went to Whampao dry dock. There she had strengthening girders inserted from the for'd watertight bulkhead to the engineering bulkhead (a little-known fact that the Holts strengthened their SAM boats), spent about 10 days there.



From Honk Kong set out to start loading, first port, Manilla, then on to Cebu where we run slap bang into a typhoon, which was a beauty, I remember that we did minus 2 miles in two days. Just hanging onto everything for dear life, finally got to Cebu after five days (normally a day and a half) we found that Cebu had been hit by a Typhoon and a lot of damage.

Had time to look around. Believe it is now on the tourist trail! Interesting , as the first tourists, to look at these photos and compare them with the new restored, for tourist, pictures on the internet.

From Cebu, we made our way down to the Rajang river in Sarawak to load logs and timber. Took about ten days to load, the Dayak workers lived in houseboats tied up alongside and one of the lasting memories is the stink of fish. The protein part of their diet seemed to consist of dried barracuda which hung on poles on the decks wafting the smell to all areas.

Loading in Rajang consisted of anchoring on a wide stretch in the middle of nowhere therefore there was no shore leave. One day, a few of us got the agent to take us up river to Cebu, the local town. Of course, there was nothing to do but have a wander along the dirt road where we were a curiosity to the locals.

The highlight of that visit to Rijang was being invited by the Mill Manager (an Anglo-Indian family, who made us very welcome with cool drinks), to play a game of football against the Mill workers. The pitch was sawdust and the Dayaks played in bare feet! They still beat us by 5-4 if I remember correctly.

In the Slow Lane—James Burt

From there down to Java, calling at Surabaya where we had a pleasant day out, then on to Tang Jong Priok.



We were there over Christmas and New Year, very little work, being the only British ship in port we got invited to the British Embassy for New Year. As supplies in Indonesia were still very erratic, the drinks consisted of Oranjiboom beer and Bols gin, resulting in one of the worst hangovers ever!! To this day I have never had another Bols gin!

The old Sam boats, being built for the comparatively short north Atlantic trips, had fairly small freezer and fridge compartments, so after a month or so in Borneo and Indonesia, supplies were getting low. The plan was to store in Singapore on the way home, but then someone in London, or Liverpool, had the bright idea. We were due in Aden at the same time as one of the A Boats, so they would load extra stores and transfer some fresh meat and fish to us. Great plan? No one took into consideration an old Samboat crossing the Indian Ocean! We missed our supplies by 2 days. By that time, we were down to 2 crates of duck (of unknown date, but a pale shade of green) so for the next 2 or so weeks we had, roast duck, curried duck, fricassee of duck or, special on Sundays, we had tinned ham for dinner.

Our first European port was Amsterdam. We berthed at about 11.00 at the town wharf and were informed that there would be no work that day. Well by 12.30 ten of us were ashore, to this day I can still picture that lovely sight, "L'ABASSADOR' RESTAURANT", black front with silver lettering. The head waiter appeared with a bunch of menus to be quickly waved away with an order of 10 steaks with loads of chips. What a wonderful sight that silver platter with ten steaks with their little stickers of, Rare, M. Rare, Well Done, etc. Happy days! I was the one 'selected' for the second voyage,) We were a bit puzzled while loading in the Royal Docks as we had a gang of joiners erecting two 'Large Garden Sheds', handled very gently by the dockers, which was unusual. On looking at the case I read, stamped on the side, "Handle with care, 80% nitro glycerine.". 400 tons of the stuff for Busan, South Korea. Wonder what Health and Safety would make of that today? Or if we should have got danger money, (bet the dockers did!)

Christmas Carol Service



with tradition Christmas Carols

Service will be held by

Reverend Alan Leach on

Thursday 14th December

starting 2.30pm

Mersey View Room, Care Home

Followed

by sherry, tea, coffee and mince pies

Estate Manager

Firstly, my apologies for things being behind this year. As many of you will be aware, I was unwell from the start of July and only returned to full time work in the second week of November, so for me, this meant nearly 4 months this year were wasted from a work perspective.

Thankfully, Nautilus have agreed that given the circumstances, that I could carry over a large part of the capital budget from 2017 into 2018. Therefore, work that was planned this year, that hasn't been completed and was planned, will be carried out next year.

The main categories are altering bathrooms with baths into shower rooms, thus giving better access for yourselves. There is also kitchen upgrades, insulation on properties and new fires being planned, in a fair manner for all.

If you feel that any of the above work needs to be carried out in your home please contact me about it.

Please also note, that I have had a number of issues raised with me via the selective licensing team at Wirral Borough Council, that I knew nothing about. If you want an issue resolving in your home, you need to let me know about it, as I can't arrange to have it fixed if you don't raise it and bring it to my attention.

The demolition and building work continues on the estate and if you have any issues with anything regarding this work, please let me know and I will try and rectify things for you. I am sure you are all fed up of builders and this is the last part of this work on Mariners' Park Estate, certainly for a few years. Obviously, work will commence at Gibson House and the surrounding land, but the only affect upon yourselves will be in Maddock Road. This work is anticipated to start in 2018.

On behalf of myself and my team, can we wish you a peaceful Christmas and a very happy new year.



Christmas Party



Mariners' Park Christmas Party

Friday 15th December

starting at

7.30pm

Function Room, Hub

Tickets £12.00 per person

Tickets available from Audrey

Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve Drinks



Christmas Eve Drinks

starting at 7.30pm

Function Room, Hub

All welcome



New Years Eve

Bring and Share

starting at 8.00pm

Function Room, Hub

Bring your drinks and nibbles

Mariners' Park Care Home

A very special day for Captain and Mrs Maxwell!

Bob and June celebrated 60 years of marriage in style with a bit of a do and a telegram from the Queen



The happy couple



Mariners' Park Care Home

Happy 90th Birthday Captain Seddon!

Many of you will know Captain Lester Seddon in the care home. Like the Queen he is having two birthdays this year! He celebrated his official birthday with us on Sunday 19th November.



Lester with one of his friends and frequent visitor to Mariners' Park Chris Flannery

We didn't make Lester blow all 90 candles out!

Sadly, Lester passed away peacefully on Tuesday 28th November. He was a true gentleman and will be deeply missed by all of us



Office Closed

The Office and Hub Reception will be closed on:



Friday 22 December
Monday 25 December
Tuesday 26 December
Monday 1 January



*Merry
Christmas*

Scout Post

Don't forget the last collection for the Scout Post is at Midday on Wednesday 13 December.

Stamps cost 30p and can be bought from the Hub reception between 9am -5pm Monday–Friday.



Any news to share...

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.

