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Mariners' Park News Spring 2019

A few words from Mick Howarth

Dear Resident

Welcome to our Spring Newsletter. The Park has been blessed with a dazzling display of daffodils this year, and an early one too, to what is hopefully the start of some warmer weather.

Two important landmarks have been passed this last quarter. Firstly, our new apartment block, John Fay House, was handed over by the developer on the 28 February. I hope you took the opportunity of the Open Day to see the new building and apartments for yourself. The bright, open plan two bedroomed apartments are a huge improvement on the previous accommodation and will provide warm, comfortable homes for years to come for retired mariners. This latest addition means we have 125 homes on the Park, plus a new quest en-suite facility at John Fay House.

The second landmark is the securing of planning permission for the Gibson House suite. With this now in place it is planned that work on restoring Gibson House will start in April. Once this, plus the building of five detached homes in the grounds is completed, work will commence on the apartment blocks fronting the promenade. As you will be aware one of the blocks will be exclusively for the charity to accommodate residents. There will be 26 such apartments, mostly two bedroomed, and all with a balcony. It is envisaged these will be available early in 2022, bringing the total accommodation up to 151 homes. Like the rest of Mariners' Park, these apartments will be for rent.

12-13 Other new improvements include extending the CCTV coverage to Ismay Drive, as well as adding additional lamp posts to improve the street lighting. In other parts of the Park we have added new brighter LED bulbs to the lamp posts to enhance light levels for your comfort and safety.

On a sad note, I am sorry to report that our Caseworker, Cathy Wilson, has retired on ill health grounds. Many of you will have benefitted from Cathy's support over the last six years. She worked tirelessly to ensure residents and mariners across Merseyside received the welfare benefits and services they were entitled to, generating over £1 million for mariners in that time. She will be sadly missed. I hope you will attend her leaving "do" on Thursday 4th April at 4pm in the Hub. We are currently advertising for a replacement, and as soon as appointment is made, I will let you know.

I hope you enjoy our Spring Newsletter.



My best wishes

Mick Howarth, Welfare Services Manager

Face of 2-3 Mariners' Park Guest Room 4 Estate News 4 Spanish 5

Inside this issue:

Introduction

- Themed Night
- Important Information
- Mothers Day
- Staff News 8 Cathy Wilson 9
- Social Zone 10–11
- Mariners' Park Care
- Home
- Guest Room
- Men's
- Activities Co-ordinator
- Office Closure 20

New Residents 20

Face of Mariners' Park—Mrs Muriel Matilda Eady

I was born by caesarean section in the old Liverpool Royal Infirmary on 28 March 1929.

Tragically, I knew my lovely mum for the first two weeks of my life only. She died suddenly at the tender age of 31 from a blood clot in her lung. She had been kept on strict bed rest following my birth which would not happen today. Her name was Veronica Matilda and she had only ever wanted to be a mum.

Following this, I lived with my Granny (dad's mum) in West Derby. She was a formidable character who would leave me tied to my cot, with a bottle of unpasteurised milk, whilst she went to the pub!

My dad met and married my step mum, although I never knew she was not my real mum until I was 17. Mum and Dad had to entice me to run up the road to them when I was three, if I had turned and ran toward Granny, she would not have let me go.

We then settled in Bowring Park but unfortunately, I ended up in Cleaver Sanitorium in Heswall with TB. Chiefly due to the fact that I lived on nothing but raw milk until the age of three. I was a patient

there from five - eight years old. We were pushed out in our beds onto the veranda, snow on our blankets, which caused frost bite in my little hands!

In those three years, mum and dad were only allowed to visit once a month and for a few months mum never came. The reason for this was that she was pregnant, and I got quite a shock when I returned home, I was so pleased when I thought they had bought me a doll's pram, I tried to push it and met my new brother! He sat up and screamed and from that day it was a love/hate relationship. Alan emigrated to Australia when he was 21 and has surfed most days ever since. He is now 82!

I loved the outdoors but not swimming or horse riding, many a tale to be told there!

My first job was learning to sew, make teas and general dogsbody duties at Wetheralls in Bold Street when I was 14. I lasted one day as the place was overrun with rats! I then worked in the offices at Bon Marche, then the automatic and electric company and was kept very busy, looking after the family whilst Alf was away.





Face of Mariners' Park—Mrs Muriel Matilda Eady

Our lives revolved around our family and many friends. We had a static caravan on a farm in North Wales for 37 years and regarded it as our second home. I have many happy memories of our three children and their families playing rounders and having barbeques with us there.

I was so very lucky to be able to join Alf on many trips to places such as South Africa, America, The Caribbean, Singapore and many more.

Alf and I had a great many special friends and Marion and Nic and Dodie and Ken joined us here after we moved from our family home in Brisbane Avenue, Wallasey. Alf was busy with the Masonic Lodge, Anchorage Club, his stained-glass renovation of the figurehead with the Indefatigable Club and I was his driver. Alf never took to driving, (many a tale to be told there too!)



Our family have always been so important to us and it has grown so big. Its lovely to think that this has been the case because Alf had a terrible start in life too. Alf passed away on 11 April 2014 and we all miss him greatly.

I decided to move from my lovely bungalow in King George Drive to my apartment in the Hub on 2 February 2018, (our wedding anniversary), and I am very happy and feel so supported in my new place.

I am so looking forward to my 90th birthday to celebrate with all the family and friends (unfortunately my granddaughter Louise and family who live in New Hampshire are unable to come, so too, my grandsons Neil and Tom who live in California and Gibraltar respectively. Tom is in the Royal Navy – another sailor to continue the tradition!).



John Fay House—Guest Room

The completion of John Fay House means we now have a guest room available again for family and friends to use whilst visiting the Park or Care Home.

Located on the ground floor at John Fay House the guest room provides an en-suite double bedroom with a small kitchenette for guests to use.

Here is what you need to know:

- Bookings can be taken from 1st April 2019
- The cost is £25 per night for the room
- Guests can book for a maximum of two weeks at any one time
- Bedding, towels and essential toiletries are provided
- Flat screen TV is provided
- Kettle and toaster are provided, plus crockery and cutlery
- Parking spaces are available at John Fay House.

To book please contact Sharon Shepherd at Trinity House Hub Reception. Telephone number 0151 346 8840 or email <u>sshepherd@nautilusint.org</u>.

Estate News

Well, what a busy period it has recently been. As I make time to write this article, we have had 6 moves into John Fay House and more imminently. This has also created a number of empty properties across the estate, and all at the same time.

This has impacted upon my team of staff as well, with Cliff, working in John Fay House for the two weeks, planing doors, fitting door stops, sorting out keys and working with carpet fitters, blind installers and assisting residents moving into the building, Steve continuing with the day to day things across the rest of the estate, the gardeners, raking out and turfing around the new building and Phil in addition to a contract painter decorating the vacated properties.

Along with this, at long last, the main car park in Cunard Avenue has opened up again, after, what seems to have been an eternity I am sure, of you not being able to use it. Please feel free to make use of it. Can I also point out that in order for people to park near their homes, that we ask anybody with two vehicles, to park at least one of these on the main car park. This will then assist your neighbours in parking as close to their home as possible.

As you will also have seen, a lot of tree felling has taken place at Gibson House in preparation for the developers starting their work very soon, thankfully, this will then be taken away from Nautilus in terms of the security of the grounds and also of the building. After 17 years of this, I certainly will welcome the day, which can't come quick enough for me.

Spanish Themed Night



Thursday 16th May starting at 7.00pm



2 course meal, soft drinks available cost £5.50 per person (bring a bottle)

Function Room, Hub

Main meal is a choice of Tapas or Paella

Names to Sharon or Annette by



Monday 13th May, 12 noon



Counterfeit Money

Could we ask all residents to be vigilant as counterfeit £20 Scottish notes have been handed in to Can Cook Café.

Staff will be checking money that is handed in to them with a special pen. Any notes found to be counterfeit cannot be returned into circulation and we cannot reimburse residents.

What do you do if you get a counterfeit banknote?

Counterfeit banknotes are rare and also worthless.

We cannot reimburse you for counterfeit banknotes. If you suspect that you have a counterfeit banknote, please take it to your nearest police station. The police should fill out an NCO-1 form and provide you with a receipt and incident number. The suspect notes will be sent to the Na-tional Crime Agency and if counterfeit to the Bank of England for further examination.

If you have information about someone making, selling or using counterfeit banknotes, please contact the police or phone Crimestoppers anonymously on **0800 555 111**.

Counterfeiting directly funds organised crime. It hurts the UK economy by creating losses for businesses, which ultimately affects the cost of things that we buy. It also affects the pocket of anyone who receives a counterfeit note, as they are worthless. If you report counterfeiting to the police, you are helping with investigations and alerting them to a problem in their area. This means that they can take action to protect your community.

Feeding Pigeons/Seagulls and External Gates

We have had a number of complaints about some of our residents feeding the pigeons and seagulls.

Could we ask residents not to feed the pigeons or seagulls as they are a nuisance both with the noise and the mess they leave behind.

Could we also ask residents who use the pedestrian gates to ensure that these are closed after you use them. Reports have been made to us that the gates are left open. This would give easy access to non residents.

Thank you for your assistance .

Mother's Day Lunch



BOOK NOW Mother's Day Lunch

Sunday 31st March

£9.99 per person (free glass of Wine for the ladies)

Advanced booking for groups of 4 and above, Names to Sharon or Annette, Hub Reception by <u>Friday 23rd March</u>

Admiral Nurse Update

Hello everyone, I can't believe that it's 2 years next month since I joined you all at Mariners' Park. The spring newsletter seemed a good opportunity to give you all an update on the Admiral Nurse role. I work 18 hours per week, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. I can generally be found in the care home between 9.30 and 3.30 on these days. I do support retired seafarers and their families living in the community across Merseyside as well so may not always be on the park. The best way to contact me is by phone on 07487248980 or by email <u>aellison@nautilusint.org</u>

I have had the privilege of supporting some amazing families and staff who care for people with dementia here at Mariners' Park. Last year I was nominated for a Dementia Specialist Nurse award by our manager Jane Davies, I attended an interview in London and on the back of the fantastic testimonials from people I have supported was a finalist and attended and awards ceremony in Brighton. I didn't win but did feel very proud to have been a finalist. Thank you to the special people who made it happen.

My job is the best job in the world in my opinion, I have the opportunity to share my skills and knowledge with people who desperately want to provide dementia care that is individual, and person centred. Whether it is specialist medication advice or simply ideas for someone who is struggling to communicate with their loved one. Sometimes I am just a listener and other times it's a hug and a tissue. Each day is different, each person is different but the sense of achievement is the same.

Bespoke Beauty

Hayley from Bespoke Beauty is going to be leaving Mariners' Park in April to join a Hair Styling team in Hoylake at Salon 41. Hayley has been based at Mariners' Park for over two years now. Please join us in wishing her Good Luck at Salon 41.

Staff News

Farewell to...

Michelle Hamdi, Domiciliary Care Team Carol Murphy, Domiciliary Care Team Nurses – Jenny Tyler and Anita Foster has left us for pastures new in the hospital, Barry O'Neill has also joined the hospital but is staying on our bank

Other News:

Angela Reynolds has just this month changed from day shifts onto night shifts.

Welcome to ...

Brian Kohn, Gardener Antoinette Newlove, Emma Read and Elizabeth Shepherd have joined us as new HCAs in the Care

Mariners' Park News

Cathy Wilson



Cathy Wilson Caseworker

Leaving Presentation

Thursday 4th April 4pm Trinity House Hub



All residents are invited to attend to wish Cathy well in her retirement.

Many residents will have benefitted from Cathy's expert help to make sure they received all the welfare benefits and services to which they were entitled. Cathy worked for the Charity for over 6 years and helped 100's of mariners and their dependents in that time.

Do please attend as Cathy embarks on a new chapter in her life.

Drinks and nibbles will be available.



Social Zone

Page 10

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 2nd April

Entertainment from

The Not Forgotten Association Variety Show

starting at 2.30pm

Care Home

**

Saturday 6th April

Grand National Sweep Stake and Prosecco and Wine Afternoon starting from 3.30pm Function Room, Hub

**

Monday 8th to Sunday 14th Audrey is on annual leave **

Monday 15th April

Reverend Alan Leach will be holding an Easter Service starting at 11.30am Care Home

**

Social Zone

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 19th April

Cheese and Wine Afternoon starting at 3.00pm Function Room, Hub **

Tuesday 23rd April

Best of British Quiz starting at 7.30pm Function Room, Hub

**

Friday 26th April

St Georges Day Bring and Share starting at 7.30pm Function Room, Hub

**

Monday 29th April

Tea at Parkgate Leaving the Hub at 5.30pm Move details to follow

If you have any ideas for trips, new events please email or talk to Audrey Stocker

All dates are subject to change please check

your week events list

Thank you

Mariners' Park Care Home

Silver Surfers

On Friday 22nd February we enjoyed a technology presentation from the Chester branch of Currys PC World. Peter Harrison of Currys PC World said "We are trying hard as a business to get everyone comfortable with technology and understand how it can help them with some of the issues they may have and make life that little bit easier".

Although our wi-fi and indeed PC World's own portable wi-fi Hub, wasn't being very obliging, we enjoyed demonstrations showing how to get the most out of our mobile phones and tablets. We learnt about voice to text technology (for those who are hearing impaired, text to voice technology (for those who are visually impaired), downloading and reading books on a Kindle, voice activated light bulbs and voice activated speakers. Some residents brought their own equipment with them for some troubleshooting help. We are looking forward to holding a further clinic type session in the future where the PC World team will be coming back to support residents with any issues they may have with their existing products.





Page 13

Mariners' Park Care Home







What's in your Man Cave?



Howard James, one of our off the Park residents, who attends our La Liga sessions, has kindly given us a preview of his office memorabilia, which includes his Dad's medals from World War 11.

Mariners' Park News



RMS CARINTHIA



MV DORIC





Atlantic Star: Pacific Star: Italy Star: North Africa Star with bar (for bravery).

Vindicatrix Training Ship

Howard was a Cunard Yank, who served on all the ships shown, in the 60's. He started his Merchant Navy career training on the MV Vindicatrix, and he says it was the most important ship, as it set him up for his seafaring career.

Key:

- 1: MV Velarde: 2.MV Empress of Canada: 3.MV Corinthian:
- 4. MV Wendover: 5. MS MV Queen Elizabeth.





Hello Sailor

A party from Mariners' Park visited 'Reliving The Blitz' at Birkenhead High School Academy, who had refurnished their air raid shelters with the aid of a National Lottery Grant. It was a fascinating experience, enjoyed by all, especially when they switched the lights off and played a recording of a bombing raid!

p.s Danny Coyle, one of our residents, is seen here displaying his comforting skills.



Our intrepid Mariners visited the Williamson Gallery to see a new exhibition of sculptures inspired by the Sea.



"Make a nice doorstop!"



Peter Andrews reflecting on a model of a ship he sailed on – MV Demodocus



"Have you seen these signs?" "I don't breathe under water!"





*Images kindly supplied by Mike Feltham.

Office Closed

The Office and Hub Reception will be closed on:

Friday 19th April Monday 22nd April Monday 6th May Monday 27th May

Welcome

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

Mr S Dickinson Mr Brown Mr R Dickinson Mr Dalby Mrs Usher Mr Robertson Mr Willis Mr Rice



Do you want to receive the quarterly Newsletters

Are you happy to receive the quarterly Newsletter? If you no longer wish to receive the quarterly Newsletter from Nautilus Welfare Fund please contact the administrators on one of the following or pop in the Trinity House Hub reception and speak to either Annette, Julia or Sharon:

Telephone: 0151 346 8840 Email: welfare@nautilusint.org