

# WELCOME TO THE HILL HOUSE

## NEWSLETTER



September is a beautiful month, with plenty to appreciate, including warm and pleasant weather, abundant and delicious fruits and vegetables, and the beautiful sight of changing leaves. September derives its name from the ancient Roman word “septem,” meaning “seven. This is because September, in the old Roman calendar, was actually the seventh month of the year. However, January and February were added to the start of the year when the Gregorian calendar was created, making September the ninth month. Despite this change, the name “September” has persisted, serving as a reminder of the month’s ancient origins. September was also called Haefest monath in old English, or Harvest month because it is the perfect time to gather crops in preparation for winter. During the Anglo-Saxon period, September was known as Gerst Monath, which means “barley month” in Old English. This name was given to the month because it was the time of year when the barley crop was harvested and used to brew a popular drink.

**THIS SEPTEMBER HILL HOUSE WILL BE HAVING IT OWN CELEBRATION IN THE FORM OF A HARVEST FETE, SO PLEASE EVERYONE COME ALONG ON THURSDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> AND SUPPORT US AND EVEN BETTER HELP OUT ON A STALL. MAKE A DONATION. THERE’S A BARBECUE TOO. PLEASE SEE JULIE AND DENISE IF YOU CAN HELP OUT.**

# DOWN MEMORY LANE

## Harvest festival



Can you remember taking part in the Harvest Festival Thanksgiving service when you were younger either in school or church?

It was usually celebrated on the Sunday nearest to the harvest moon, which is the full moon that occurs nearest to the Autumn equinox, usually towards the end of September.

At this service, pupils or members of the congregation might bring gifts/donations of food and flowers to decorate the church building as a sign of their thanks to God for a bountiful harvest. These gifts were then taken to those people in need and elderly people in the neighbourhood.

# Minutes from August's Residents, Families and Friends meeting.

Carol welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

1. Carol explained that this was a general three-monthly residents and family or friends meeting to offer everyone the opportunity to discuss the services offered by the home and to update everyone on any changes that are happening at Hill House.
2. CQC Monitoring – last quarter no issues or concerns raised, CQC have no plans to visit Hill House at the present time.
3. A discussion regarding the introduction of MCA's and Consents around valuables, the responsibilities of the residents and their families and the reason behind this being introduced. The reasoning being, was that over the last few months all three of the Golfhill Ltd Homes have had substantial insurance claims made against them. Carol recommended everyone look at their terms and conditions and read No 9: which states "our insurance policy covers accidental damage but NOT LOSS OR THEFT to personal effects up to the maximum of £1,000per resident. If residents and families wish to cover loss of items of a higher value, we recommend you take out an All-Risk insurance policy in the residents own name." As a home we now take photographs of all jewellery that residents have in their possession/wearing on their admission, monies are put away in the individual's medication cabinet in their room and we document in the resident's care notes or on the property list those residents who keep their wallets/purses etc on their person at their own risk.
4. Incontinence pads and the supplying of – Carol stated that it is not the homes policy to provide continence pads to residents who are not prescribed pads but wish to wear them as they feel safer. Currently Hill House purchases 200 pads a week as an emergency backup, for situations such as: catheters being removed, residents who are incontinent but have not been assessed before their admission to Hill House, residents whose conditions have deteriorated, and they have become incontinent, delays in the monthly arrival of prescribed pads. Hill House will complete 3-day continence assessments for residents who become incontinent and request incontinence pads are prescribed by Bladder and Bowel. Bladder and Bowel no longer prescribe the pull up pants so for residents who preference this is, they will either have to wear the pad and net pant provided or families will have to buy them.
5. General plea for help with our Autumn Fete on September 7<sup>th</sup> either by anyone being interested in running a stall, simply visiting on the day, or making donations to the stalls. Alison Rich is happy to run the book stall, Jennie Warren happy to help out running a stall, Sally Ashford to make donations to the raffle/ tombola and Kathleen Tarring and Ruth Burge happy to run the teas and cake stall. Betty Hodge would like to be involved too so Denise and Julie will get her to help on the stalls they will be running.
6. Activities – general discussion around if anyone had any thoughts on any different activities we should be offering. Julie Jones discussed how difficult it was now due to the changing needs of the residents from before the Covid Pandemic when Hill House had a mixture of residential and nursing residents to

the present day when Hill House has more high-level complex nursing residents, EOL, a lot of residents now spend time in their rooms, the physical and mental abilities of the residents which made group activities more challenging to organise. Julie stated that Denise and herself carry out more 1-2-1 activities in resident's rooms. Betty Hodge would like to have activities such as: pin the tail on the donkey, a shove ha'penny board. Ruth and Kathleen discussed knitting, craft and buying some plastic mesh sheets for doing simple cross stitch/needlepoint, Denise thought about setting up a knitting club on a Wednesday and asked if Ruth would like to become involved in the running of it. We also discussed buying some wall hanging or tabletop fuzzy felts. Kathleen asked if her mother 210 could play some word games and Julie stated she would find out the Boggle, Scrabble and Word Searches to do with her.

Everyone enjoys the entertainment that is sourced externally.

We briefly talked about Christmas and what type of trips out, activities etc we should start think about organising this year, bearing in mind that we only have a handful of residents who are able to go out in the caddy. This will be discussed further at the next meeting in November – which we are hoping to entice more attendees by offering cake/mince pies and Baileys.

7. New Care Control Signing in for visitors – from September, Hill House will be using electronic signing in on an iPad instead of the paper form. We will be on hand to support technophobic. Everyone will be issued with a login. – No concerns raised.
8. Carol asked in general what everyone's thoughts on the "awareness Boards" was, do they find the information useful? Are there any subjects that anyone else would like to include on them?
9. Carol wound up the meeting by asking if there were any concerns or comments that anyone wanted to discuss/add?

Ruth and Kathleen asked if residents food is always cut up by either the kitchen or the staff team – I replied that this was indeed the normal practice. Ruth said on one occasion her husband SB had said his meat had not been cut up, but he had done it himself. I said that it was unusual because all the team are aware of resident's individual needs but lately we had been supported by agency staff so possibly this could be a reason on that occasion. I will discuss at the next staff meeting on 22/08/2023.

Kathleen and Ruth discussed that sometimes it took staff a long time to answer the call bells but they were aware that the home had had ongoing issues with the pager system we use, I confirmed this was true and we have had Aidcall in on numerous occasions as well as Apollo to enhance the strength of and coverage of our internet. Kathleen asked is the delay due to short staffing and I stated no, our bed occupancy presently is low so that our staffing levels remain safe. I have told Kathleen and Ruth if the bell rings longer than 5 minutes then just press the emergency alarm, and they will have all the staff in attendance.

No one wanted to add anything further. Everyone thanked for attending and I stated that we always welcomed feedback or any queries and are always available should anyone wish to pop in for a chat.

# **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

## **ENTERTAINMENT IN September**

### **(SUBJECT TO CHANGES)**

**5<sup>th</sup> – 1.30 PM – ANDY (SINGER) IN THE LOUNGE AND ROOMS**

**6<sup>th</sup> – 11.30 – 12.00 NOON EXERCISE CLASS WITH MIKE**

**7<sup>TH</sup> – HARVEST FETE - 2PM - MAC IN THE LOUNGE – BIG BAND SOUNDS**

**12<sup>TH</sup> - 10am - SIMON AND HIS PETS IN LOUNGE AND ROOMS**

**14<sup>th</sup> – 11am VICAR ELIZABETH VISITING IN ROOMS**

**14<sup>th</sup> –2pm - LUC WITH HIS HARP IN THE LOUNGE AND VISITING ROOMS**

**18<sup>th</sup> – 2pm – SHARON WITH HER VIOLIN IN LOUNGE**

**20<sup>th</sup> – 2pm – TORBAY OWLS – IN LOUNGE AND ROOMS**

**21<sup>st</sup> – 2PM – PATRICK (SINGER) IN THE LOUNGE**

**22<sup>ND</sup> – 2PM – LEA (SINGER) IN THE LOUNGE**

**25<sup>th</sup> – PAUL WITH HIS BAGPIPES IN LOUNGE AND ROOMS**

**26<sup>th</sup> – 10am - SIMON AND HIS PETS IN LOUNGE AND ROOMS**

**27<sup>th</sup> - 2PM - MAC IN THE LOUNGE – BIG BAND SOUNDS**

**29<sup>th</sup> – 2pm – LOUISE WITH HER SAXOPHONE IN LOUNGE**





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September babies are Virgos and Libras. If your birthday falls in the beginning of the month, you are a Virgo, best known for being practical, loyal, and organized. After the 22<sup>nd</sup> you are a balanced, social, and fair-minded Libra.



Happy Birthday to:

Joyce P – 20<sup>th</sup>, Carole 20<sup>th</sup>, Sheila 21<sup>st</sup> and Barry 23<sup>rd</sup> September.

## **ACTIVITIES**

**HILL HOUSE WILL HAVE THE VAN AVAILABLE FOR RESIDENT OUTINGS ON TUESDAYS,  
WEDNESDAYS, AND THURSDAYS**

**Hill House is sharing the minibus with three corners our sister home.**

**On recent trips we have been to Paignton Sea front, Broadsands, Berry Head and M & S in  
Torquay**

**JULIE AND DENISE ARE VISITING RESIDENTS IN THEIR ROOMS OFFERING 1 TO 1'S**

**WHERE PRACTICABLE THE FOLLOWING -**

**REMINISCENCE AND DISCUSS, QUIZZES,**

**MANICURES, READING NEWSPAPERS AND BOOKS,**

**ANAGRAMS, SINGALONGS, CHOICE OF GAMES,**

**ONE TO ONES, KARAOKE, CRAFTS, PAINTING,**

**ALL THE USUAL ACTIVITIES WILL STILL BE TAKING**

**PLACE IN THE SUN- LOUNGE DAILY WHEN RESTRICTIONS ARE LIFTED.**

**WE ARE HOWEVER NOW HAVING ENTERTAINERS IN THE LOUNGE AGAIN FOR RESIDENTS  
ONLY AT THE MOMENT IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO GO OUT AROUND THE AVENUE TO  
LOOK AT THE GARDENS, PLEASE ASK JULIE OR DENISE**

**RESIDENT'S, FAMILY AND FRIENDS MEETING**

**AUGUST 17th AND NOVEMBER 16th all at 2pm IN THE OLD LOUNGE HILL HOUSE**



## **Money and valuables**

Are entered onto the Care Control Electronic Monitoring System.

All jewellery will be photographed. Monies will be counted and

A sheet completed to keep a tally of monies coming in and out.

A small request is that if families are bringing in or sending money then the home is kept informed so this can be added to

the balance. Monies will be locked away in either the

medication cupboard in the resident's room or in the office safe

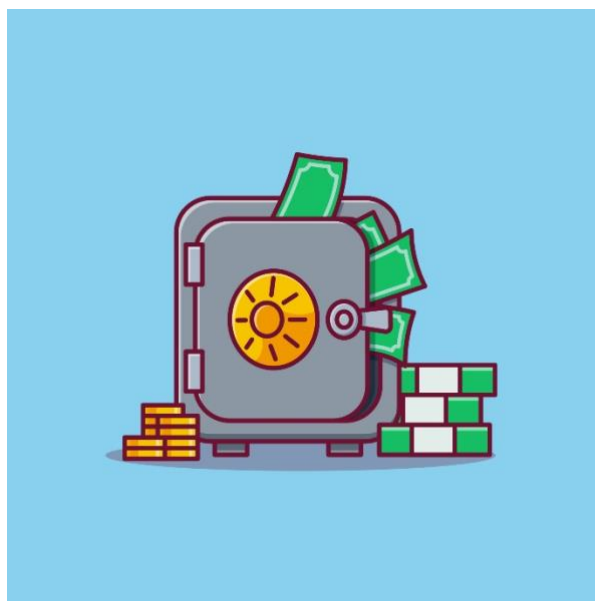
if this would be the preferred option for residents deemed as

lacking capacity. For residents that upon admission there is a property list completed and then this

have capacity they have the

option of keeping their money on their person, in the medication cupboard or locked drawer in their bedroom

PLEASE LABEL ALL ITEMS OF CLOTHING WITH RESIDENTS ROOM NUMBER





Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**DIRECTIONS:**  
Find and circle the  
vocabulary words  
in the grid. Look  
for them in all  
directions including  
backwards and  
diagonally.

# Harvest festival

## Word Search



ANNUAL  
APPLES  
AUTUMN  
CELEBRATION  
CONTESTS  
CORN  
CORNUCOPIA  
CROPS  
FARMER  
FEASTING  
FESTIVAL  
FIELDS  
GAMES  
HARVEST



HAYRIDE  
LEAVES  
MERRIMENT  
MUSIC  
OCTOBER  
PUMPKINS  
REGIONAL  
SCARECROW  
SEPTEMBER  
SQUASH

# HARVEST PRAYER

*Please be gentle with yourself and others.  
We are all children of the Creator,  
And none can say why some fields blossom  
While others lay brown  
beneath the harvest sun.  
Take hope that your season will come.*

*Share the joy of those  
whose season is at hand.  
Care for those around you.  
Look past their differences.  
Their dreams are no less than yours,  
Their choices in life no more easily made.*

*And give.  
Give in any way you can.  
Give in every way you can.  
Give whatever you possess.  
Give from your heart.  
To give is to love.  
To withhold is to wither.  
Care less for the size of your harvest  
than for how it is shared,  
And your life will have meaning  
And your heart will have peace.*

*Anonymous 17<sup>th</sup> Century Sermon*