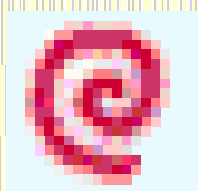


The Pilkington Family Trusts



Year Book
2011



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FORWARD

The Welfare Year Book attempts to portray the yearly Welfare Scheme.

It tries to capture some of the happenings that would not normally appear in the standard reports.

It is not intended to give a blow-by-blow account of the Welfare Programme activities.

It contains short stories and photographs, which attempt to capture the mood of some of the activities and portrays them in a light-hearted way. It also contains copies of letters received from beneficiaries throughout the year.

The Year Book covers real-life situations and happenings and hopefully demonstrates how beneficiaries' needs and situations are handled.

Compiled and produced by Carole Lowe

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

MAUREEN GOODMAN, WELFARE OFFICER, ST HELENS

Mrs E's husband worked for Elders Walker in Darlington for 37 years. He retired at the age of 58 due to ill health. Mr E died in 2003.

Mrs E suffers with severe arthritis in her knees, hip, shoulder and neck. More recently her hands have become quite painful and are starting to become disfigured. This condition does affect her mobility and she no longer goes out on her own. She has a good friend who helps her with ironing and shopping; although she does not pay for this service, she does treat her friend when she can.

Mrs E is asking for help to have her roof at the back of the property repaired. At the present time her roof is leaking and has caused damage to her bathroom ceiling. Mrs E has two sons, one who lives away and one who is still at home. This son has been unemployed for a number of years. Although he is working again he does not have any disposable income or savings. Neither son is in a position to help financially, however a friend has offered to repair her bathroom ceiling when the roof has been repaired.

The leak is coming from a joint where the original roof and the roof from a later extension have been joined. The repair will include removal of the old lead valley supply and fix new lead valley and re-slate the back.

Mrs E did have problems trying to get estimates for the repair, she says it is difficult to find a reputable roofer.

She got in touch with Age UK who could not recommend a roofer but did say that if they were to have any work done they would contact Eastbourne Roofing. After making further enquiries she has been informed that the above company are genuine fellows by others that have used them.

**A discretionary grant was approved for £460 to assist
with the roof repair**

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

MARGARET BROWN, WELFARE OFFICER, WEST MIDLANDS

Mrs D is 83 years old and originates from Jamaica. She is very positive about England and feels blessed by all she has been given. She is currently struggling with many aspects of daily living due to arthritis. She also has severe pains in her legs that debilitate her greatly, but she generally tries to make the best of things. Mrs D believes that the Lord is looking after her as she has good neighbours, a good daughter and a good grand-daughter who all help her. Mrs D feels that people are happy to help her as she has always done her best to help others.

Mrs D is in need of a gas cooker as her current one is very old and believed to be dangerous, so her grand-daughter has told her not to use it. She is therefore living off convenience foods which are not suiting her at all. She has always cooked everything from scratch and feels she cannot prepare her traditional Caribbean foods in a microwave. This is having a detrimental effect on her health and sense of wellbeing as food preparation is an important part of her culture.

Mrs D's grand-daughter is a single parent of two children so cannot afford to help her purchase a new cooker. Her daughter also appears not to have the means to assist her financially. Mrs D has no savings.

Mrs D will require a cooker with a double oven, ie with a small oven below the hob and a larger oven below that. This is because Mrs D can no longer bend down safely to a ground level oven.

**A discretionary grant was approved for £239.99 to assist
with the purchase of a new cooker**

Features

**ALL CHANGE IN
COMMUNITY CARE**



After many years of stability within the St Helens based Welfare Officers' team, we've suddenly had a number of folk 'jump ship'.

We're absolutely delighted to have recruited three new ladies from varying backgrounds, each bringing a wealth of experience and knowledge.

The ladies have very quickly settled into the organisation and shown an eagerness to 'get out there and meet the beneficiaries'. We wish them well in their careers with the Trust Funds.

At the back left, Christine Barrow. On the right, Lynne Carney. Seated, Elizabeth Andrews.

Pilkington Pensioners Social Groups
2011
Tina Peel

The Story so far.....

Old man winter sent another bitterly cold chill to St Helens intent on causing disruption. After last year's snow the pensioners were determined not to let it get the better of them again, so one by one they set out on treacherous journeys to their meeting points. They huddled round in their groups and told stories of childhood winters. Schools never closed, buses kept running and the snow was 6ft high!

It's set to be an interesting year, with Tina going off for adventures of her own the welfare officers will be called upon to look after the groups. Activities, guest speakers and trips are in place, gremlins have been told to stay away. Only time will tell if they do.....

... the story continues...

Usually the activities are tailored to suit each group's needs. This year, to make it easier for the welfare officers to cover and also so they can support each other, I have let the activities take centre stage. Many of the months are themed with the same activity being provided to all groups. This is reflected in the new layout within this report.

For the most part the groups have remained stable and consistent. Numbers for Sutton Manor, St Luke's, St James's, Billinge, Burscough, Clinkham Wood and Bold Miners are steady, although some of the groups are smaller than I would like. The pensioners have commented on how the numbers have been dropping but this drop has been gradual over the years since the group was launched, rather than a sudden drop and is to be expected as pensioners become too frail to attend.

Despite a lot of effort during welfare officers' home visits, new members are hard to find and motivate even though the need to get out and join in with a social group would clearly be a huge benefit and the pensioners are physically able to get to groups, for some reason they refuse to go and remain sat at home and alone.

I have researched activities provided by other organisations and I feel the style of particular social groups could benefit from being developed to continue into a social lunch or an afternoon tea.

St Ann's has become a smaller group since Christmas, mostly due to illness and reduced mobility. Town Centre has not been as successful as hoped, maybe this is because it is 2 years after it was first set to launch, the pensioners who were interested then are no longer in a position to attend. Friends Together is very low in numbers and the group may soon fold, the decision to carry on in my absence has been left with the group.

***During** the first part of this year I have held planning meetings, coffee mornings, quizzes and games, borrowed objects from the World of Glass and arranged for the odd guest speaker to come along. I have pre-scheduled an activity for almost every month for the rest of the year.*

***Ready, Steady Cook** with the St Helens Health Improvement Team. The team will be taking fresh fruit and food advice out to the groups. They'll get to enjoy freshly made fruit kebabs, learn about healthy eating, how to have a balanced meal and how to understand the confusing food nutrition labels.*

***Herbalist Talks** with John Taylor. A local, highly qualified herbalist will be popping in to help the pensioners with their aches and pains. They are really looking forward to his talk, it's later on in the year and I get the impression they wish it was sooner.*

Blacksmith's Talk. The Smithy on Kiln Lane provide a selection of talks. To start with I've arranged for the groups to hear all about the local blacksmith. As time goes on the groups can also hear talks on Tudors, Victorians, World War II, Greeks, Romans, Egyptians and anything else from the list that tickles their fancies.

Famous People Quiz. 40 images and clues relating to famous people across the years. This is scheduled in for June as it's the first month that will be entirely covered by the welfare officers. It's a no fuss activity to allow the groups and welfare officers to get used to each other and work out their own routines.

Name That Tune. CD's have been brought in for September's musical activity. They'll be offered hundreds of musical clips to choose from.

Indoor Boules. Scheduled for November to get everyone up and moving in the colder months.

Blackpool Christmas Lunch. There will be no December meeting as all groups have been invited to attend one of David Smith Travel's famous Blackpool lunches at the Paradise Rooms. This will keep the welfare officers free to deliver the Christmas parcels. 58 seats have been booked, a few were reluctant to put their names down so far in advance, so numbers may increase. The cost covers the coach, a 3 course lunch, drinks on arrival, bingo, raffle and a cabaret act. It looks set to be a good day out. A few pensioners who rarely attend the social groups have come out of the woodwork for this trip!

RUSKIN LODGE



ROYAL WEDDING



April was wedding fever and along with the rest of the country we celebrated the Royal wedding with a tea party. Because we held it on the Thursday before the wedding we got into the mood by showing a presentation of the guests' own wedding days. They brought in pictures of their wedding day and I put them onto a film show and some even brought in their own memorabilia including a wedding dress and the hat one bride wore. We celebrated with a wedding cake and plenty of laughter.

Dot Hamlin

Bishop High School



In February we arranged a visit from the Handbell ringers of Bishop High School in Chester. They were fantastic and wowed everyone with their talent and presentation. It was so relaxing to listen to them play and quite surprising to hear the delicate tunes they played; not at all like the thunderous bells we expected.

Think this may have been one of those visits that the guests will talk about for a long time.

Dot Hamlin

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



***We had two 100ths birthdays at day centre over the past year.
We celebrated with a special cake and plenty of fun. It was lovely
to share their special day with friends.***

Dot Hamlin

HELP FOR HEROES



Sue Woodward, Care Assistant and Anne Guilfoyle, Team Leader at Ruskin Lodge have been busy raising funds to buy goods to enable parcels to be sent out to troops in Afghanistan.

Anne's son is presently serving in Afghanistan and she was sending out her own parcel. From this came the idea to raise the funds to send parcels to all the troops not lucky enough to receive anything.

Staff and guests have donated toiletries and made up baskets to raffle off. Over £500 has been raised in order to buy the goods for the parcels, with the next batch leaving Ruskin Lodge in July 2011.

Picture showing Sue Woodward sorting and wrapping the parcels.

DAY CENTRE ACTIVITIES

August - we went on a world cruise hosted by Susan Jay and her husband the captain. We voyaged from Southampton to New York stopping off along the way at places like Spain and the Caribbean. With the room all decorated like a cruise ship and a song and nibbles for every port we stopped in, it made for a very enjoyable day.

September - saw St Helens Police visit the day centre but fortunately only for Personal Safety chat. They gave the guests an awareness of personal crime protection and gave out their very popular freebies..

October - was when a very talented harpist from Music in Hospitals came and played for the guests. She played some lovely music and even allowed the guests to have a go on the harp.

November - was the month we treated ourselves some lovely days out with equally lovely meals. We visited the Smithills Coaching House in Bolton and Briars Hall, Lathom.

December - was a busy month as usual with the Carol Concert and Parties all of which were very enjoyable. The artist at the parties was Sandra along with the Snowman.

Also in December we held a Christmas Fun afternoon with Open the Box, Guess the Station, Where's Santa and stalls selling various gifts and hand made articles. All this was in aid of Help the Heroes and we managed to raise £350. We presented this to a member of the organisation who came in and explained to us where the money would be spent.

February was busy with a visit from Jim Dixon from the Home Improvement Agency. Children from the Bishops High School Hand bell ringers, Richard Appleton talking about the History of Rainhill Hospital, the children from Queens Parks and Allan Moore talking about the Lost Railways of St Helens.

March We had a visit from Dave Duckett and his exotic pets.

April We enjoyed an afternoon with the Celebration Choir from Holy Trinity Church. This was a very enjoyable visit with the guests joining in too.

We had a visit from Gary Conley speaking on the project of The Dream sculpture. He explained where the idea came from and the journey to completion. It was very interesting and changed quite a few opinions on the sculpture.

May We had two visitors of the four legged type along with their owners. Two ladies from Guide Dogs for the Blind came in along with their dogs to speak about the organisation.

Along with these activities we had our normal and much enjoyed Quizzes, Crafts.



Thank You Letters

Just to say a big thank you
for once again organising a
lovely afternoon at the
Thistle, enjoyed by many.
It was nice to see so many
old colleagues.
We do appreciate all your hard
work.
Many thanks hope to see you
next time.

Just a Few lines
to say ---

Thank you

For all the care
and attention we
received during
our stay at
Ruskin Lodge

God Bless You All

Thank you so much
for my calendar
and hamper. Your
kindness is very
much appreciated.

Best Wishes for
Christmas & the
New Year.



Thank You Letters

To The Pilkington Family Trusts
I am writing to thank the above
Trusts very much for my Voucher.
It is very much appreciated and
will take much pleasure in spending
some. I am now in my 92nd year
and don't get out much, so will look
forward to spending my Voucher.
Please extend my Thanks to the Trusts.
Yours sincerely

I am writing to thank you very much
for the calendar you kindly sent me.
It was so good of you to remember me
now Fred is not here.
I like all of Les Betts' paintings. + I
know it takes a long time for you to
send them all away.
All best wishes to you all for 2011
many thanks