



Brook House Newsletter



Christmas is a time to spend quality moments with family and friends, drinking too much mulled wine and gorging on the festive feasts. There have been many things going on at Brook house the past month, so read on to find out what we've been up too and to see the exciting things we have coming up this December!

Reflections

November was a busy month, we had lots going on at Brook House including our 100 mile bike ride for Children in Need which also featured in the Harborough Mail! Our Bonfire spectacular and both our open coffee morning and Children in Need coffee morning. We also had a visit from an animal zoo, please see our pictures below. We also celebrated a very special 100th birthday!



Sam Farrington Alison Ivias Kerry Clarke



Sam Farrington Alison Ivaas Kerry Clarke



Sam Farrington Alison Maas Kerry Clarke



Sam Farrington Alison Maas Kerry Clarke



Sam Farrington Alison Maas Kerry Clarke



upcoming EVENTS

Christmas is looming and here is a list of events
we have coming up in December...

- Primary School Dress rehearsal 4th December
1.30pm
- Coffee morning 6th December 10.30-11.30am
- Shirley's 80th birthday tea party 9th December
- Ian and his singers (Kilworth House) 9th December
3pm
 - John and singers from North Kilworth 10th
December 2.15pm
- Rod the Organist 13th December 2pm -3.45pm
- Residents Christmas party 14th December 4-6pm
 - Holy communion 16th December 2pm
 - Anthony magician 17th December 2pm
 - Reflexologist 18th December 9.30am

Happy Birthday Joyce!

Joyce celebrated her 100th birthday with family and friends on the 25th November.



Sam Farrington Alison Maas Kerry Clarke

Resident of the Month



Shirley Smith

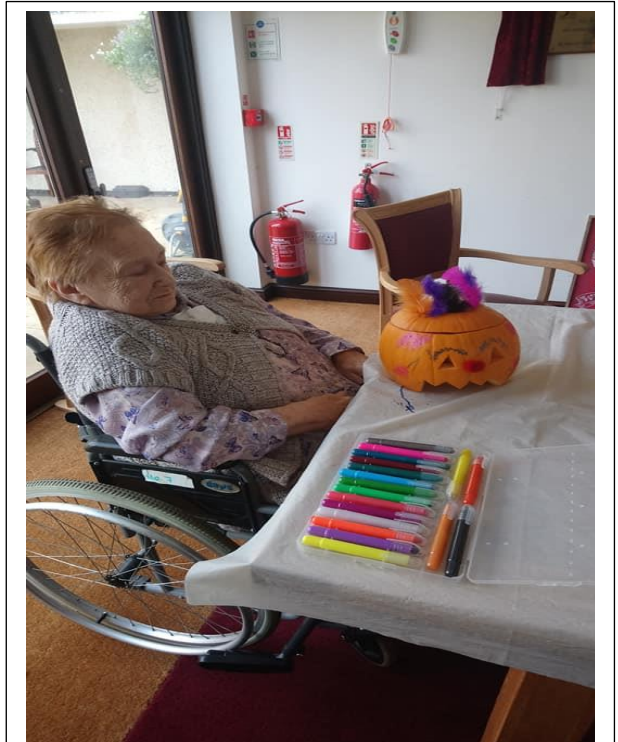
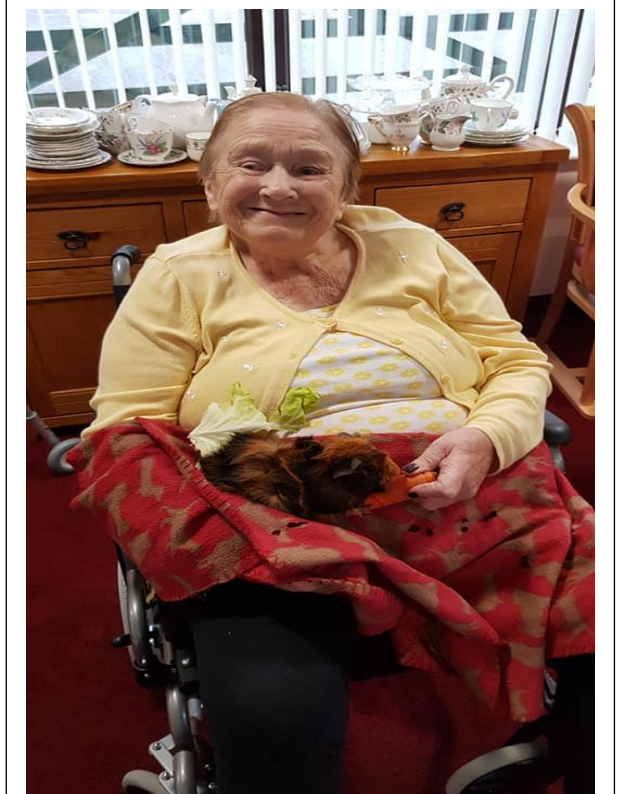
Shirley was born in Market Harborough and went to Welland park school.

She left school at 15 and met her husband Robert Smith.

They got married at 25 and went on to have a son called Gary.

Shirley and John loved there animals and had pet Rabbits, Hens, Budgies and also a dog and a cat!

Shirley's favourite holiday with her husband was to Alaska.



Carer Factfile



Sally Kerr

Sally is 36 and lives in Husbands Bosworth.

She has 2 sons called Owen and Max and her favourite take-away is Indian or Chinese.

Her favourite film is Top Gun.

Sally has worked here for 4 years and her favourite thing about working at Brook House is helping people and making their day better.



Sam Farrington Alison Maas Kerry Clarke



Yummy Chocolate Log



For the Cake

3 eggs

85g golden caster sugar

85g plain flour (less 2 tbsp)

2 tbsp cocoa powder

½ tsp baking powder



For the filling & icing

50g butter

140g dark chocolate

1 tbsp golden syrup

284ml pot double cream

200g icing sugar, sifted

2-3 extra strong mint

icing sugar and holly sprigs to decorate - ensure you remove the berries before serving

1. Heat oven to 200C/fan 180C/gas 6.
2. Grease and line a 23 x 32cm Swiss roll tin with baking parchment.
3. Beat 3 eggs and 85g golden caster sugar together with an electric whisk for about 8 mins until thick and creamy.
4. Mix 85g plain flour (less 2 tbsp), 2 tbsp cocoa powder and ½ tsp baking powder together, then sift onto the egg mixture. Fold in very carefully, then pour into the tin.
5. Now tip the tin from side to side to spread the mixture into the corners. Bake for 10 mins.
6. Lay a sheet of baking parchment on the work surface. When the cake is ready, tip it onto the parchment, peel off the lining paper, then roll the cake up from its longest edge with the paper inside. Leave to cool.
7. To make the icing, melt 50g butter and 140g dark chocolate together in a bowl over a pan of hot water. Take from the heat and stir in 1 tbsp golden syrup and 5 tbsp double cream from a 284ml pot. Beat in 200g sifted icing sugar until smooth.
8. Whisk the remaining double cream from the 284ml pot until it holds its shape.
9. Unravel the cake, spread the cream over the top, scatter over 2-3 crushed extra strong mints, if using, then carefully roll up again into a log.
10. Cut a thick diagonal slice from one end of the log. Lift the log on to a plate, then arrange the slice on the side with the diagonal cut against the cake to make a branch.
11. Spread the icing over the log and branch (don't cover the ends), then use a fork to mark the icing to give the effect of tree bark. Scatter with unsifted icing sugar to resemble snow, and decorate with holly.



Lets talk about....

The Christmas story

It's a phrase that gets thrown around this time of year, but
what does it mean?

Christmas is a time for gifts, family and parties, and turkey with
all the trimmings, but it's also about a story that's age old.

Many of us were brought up with the traditional tale - you
know the one, Jesus born on Christmas day in a stable before
shepherds and three wise men visit. It's a scene shown in
nativity scenes across the world.

But is that what happened? What is the true story of
Christmas?

**A real Christmas story is told that the angel Gabriel said to
Mary 'Peace be with you! God has blessed you and is pleased
with you.' Mary was very surprised by this and wondered
what the angel meant. The angel said to her 'Don't be afraid,
God has been very kind to you. You will become pregnant by
the Holy Spirit and give birth to a baby boy and you will call
him Jesus. He will be God's own Son and his kingdom will
never end.' Mary was very afraid but she trusted God.**

**Mary and Joseph travelled down to Bethlehem for the birth
of Jesus Christ. After struggling to find a room they settled
in a stable surrounded by the animals. It must have been a
very cosy stable! Baby Jesus was born and the Shepherds
tending there sheep were told by Gold of the new saviour
and they travelled down to Bethlehem to see him.**

**The Wise Men followed the star towards the country of Judea
and when they got to the capital called Jerusalem they began
to ask people: 'Where is the child who is born to be king of the**

Jews?' Herod, the king of Judea, heard this and it made him very angry to think that someone might be going to take his place as king. Herod sent for the Wise Men to come to him. He told them to go on following the star until they had found the baby king. He said: 'When you have found him, let me know where he is, so that I can go and worship him.'. But Herod did not tell plan in mind to kill the new king. The wise men followed the North star and it shone directly to where Jesus was laying in his manger, they showered Jesus with worship and expensive gifts. The Wise Men were warned in a dream, by God, not to go back to Herod. So they returned home to their countries in the East by a different way. When the Wise Men had gone, an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream. 'Get up,' the angel said, 'take Jesus and Mary and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for Jesus to kill him.' So Joseph got up, took Jesus and Mary during the night they left for Egypt, where he stayed until Herod died.

When Herod realized that he had been tricked by the Wise Men, he was furious and he gave orders to kill all the boys aged two or younger in Bethlehem and the surrounding area. This was to try and kill the new King, as his plan to find the location of the new king from the Wise Men had failed.

After Herod had died, Joseph had another dream in which an angel appeared to him. The angel said, 'Get up, take Jesus and Mary and go back to Israel, for those who were trying kill Jesus are dead.'

So Joseph got up, took Jesus and Mary and they went back to Israel. But when he heard that Herod's son was now king of Judea, he was afraid to go there. So instead they went to Galilee, and lived in their old town of Nazareth.



'Avin a Laugh'



Q: Why did Johnny throw the clock out of the window?

A: Because he wanted to see time fly!

Q: What did the policeman say to his belly button?

A: You're under a vest!

Q: What do you call a fake noodle?

A: An impasta

Q: What did one toilet say to the other toilet?

A: You look flushed

Q: Why is there a gate around cemeteries?

A: Because people are dying to get in!

Q: Why wouldn't the shrimp share his treasure?

A: Because he was a little shellfish

Q: What lights up a soccer stadium?

A: A soccer match

Q: Why was the baby strawberry crying?

A: Because his mom and dad were in a jam.

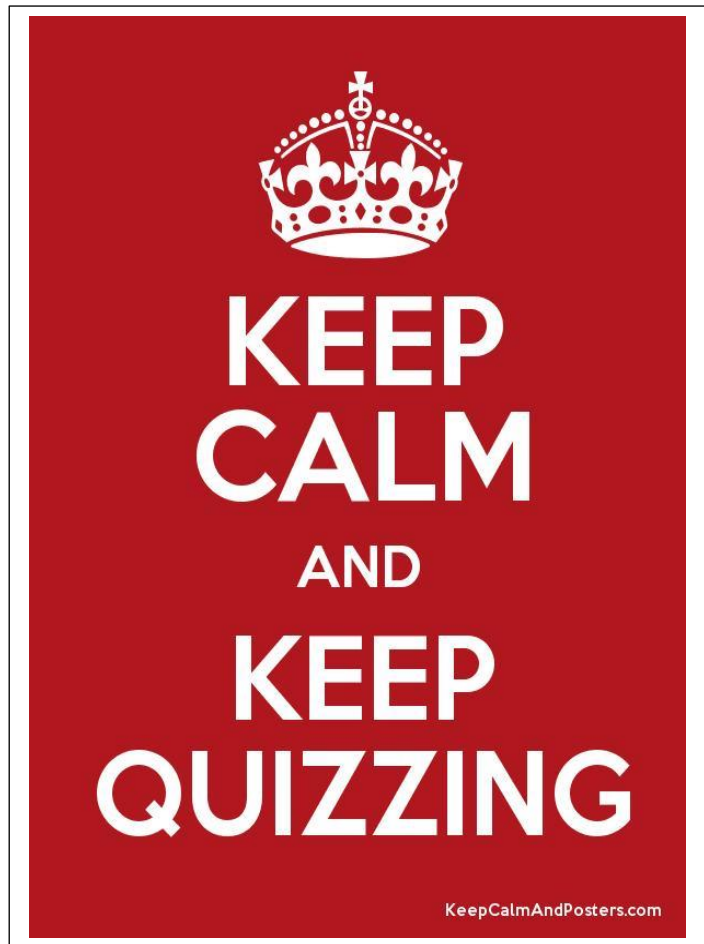
Christmas Trivia!

1. In the song, the 12 days of Christmas, what gift did my true love give to me on the 7th day of Christmas?
2. Who wrote the song "I'm dreaming of a white Christmas"?
3. Who popularised the Christmas tree in England in the 19th century?
4. When Kevin is left home alone for the first time, where is the family's destination for their Christmas vacation?
5. What is the name of the fruit sauce which is a traditional accompaniment to the Christmas Turkey?
6. On what did Marley's ghostly face first appear to Scrooge in Dickens' A Christmas Carol?
7. Which word, associated with Christmas, comes from a Greek word meaning "we can act anything"?
8. "Christmas won't be Christmas without any presents" is the first line from which literary classic by Louisa May Alcott?
9. Whose is the first voice to be heard on the original recording of Band Aid's 'Do they Know It's Christmas'?
10. True or false: Traditionally German children are not allowed to see the Christmas tree until Christmas Day (which is celebrated on the 24th of December).
11. True or false: The traditional Christmas dinner in early England was the head of a pig prepared with mustard.
12. Who was sang about a Blue Christmas in 1957?
13. In which year did Wham get a monster hit with "Last Christmas"?
14. Which sultry voice was driving home for Christmas?



Quiz Answers

1. Seven swans a swimming
2. Irving Berlin
3. Prince Albert
4. Paris
5. Cranberry
6. The door knocker
7. Pantomime
8. Little Women
9. Paul Young
10. True
11. True again!
12. The King, Elvis Presley
13. 1984
14. Chris Rea





Birthday Celebration



Carol Taylor 6th December

Shirley Smith 9th December

Margaret Bradley 16th December

Florence Pink 28th December



**KEEP
CALM
EVERYONE
ITS MY
BIRTHDAY !**



Horoscopes



Sagittarius November 22nd- December 21st

They have vision and are good at seeing the big picture,” says astrologer Francesca Oddie, who describes Sags as friendly, energetic, honest, open, sincere, generous, and full of joie de vivre. Another common Sagittarius trait is being easily adaptable.

Capricorn December 22nd- January 19th

AMBITIOUS Driven to do their utmost bestest, Capricorns never let themselves off the hook. ...