



# Eastbury House Newsletter October 2020

Dear All

Looking back to the last newsletter in April seems an awful long time ago.

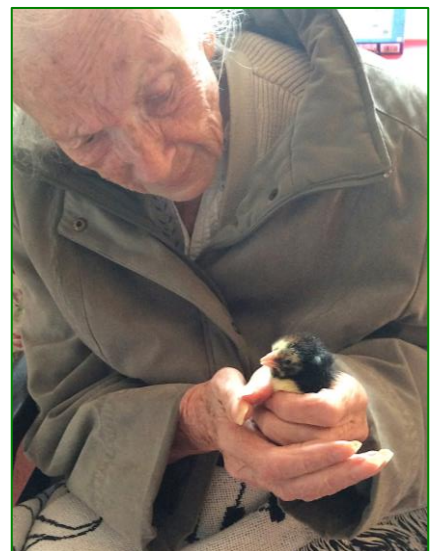
Since then we have welcomed new manager Stacey Witt, who has been the breath of fresh air that we needed. Stacey and the team have done a tremendous job of steering us through the turbulent waters of the COVID-19 virus, and all the myriad of government rules and guidelines that come with it, and all the while trying to balance the safety of residents with, the equally important, human contact with family and friends.

On a personal note, I would like to say a huge **WELL DONE!!** to the residents and staff of Eastbury House, for enduring such a long and difficult time, yet somehow managing to maintain a sense of humour! You have all shown enormous patience with the situation and with each other.

We are still not out of the woods, I know, but we are all in this together so... hang on in there, keep your spirits up and keep looking out for each other. We've come this far... we can all help each other to the finishing line!

We have definitely been keeping busy over the last five months, hopefully you all recall the fantastic VE day celebrations in the garden in May, and the One Hundredth birthday party shortly after that.

We've planted hanging baskets, runner beans, hatched chicks, played croquet and netball (all be it seated!), been for drives, held quizzes, arranged flowers, enjoyed countless days of sun in the garden, as well as all our regular activities.



We've planted spring bulbs, visited the Black Shed Flower Farm, been for walks and more recently, some of you have been enjoying a weekly one-to-one baking slot with our cook Liz, of which we have all enjoyed the proceeds!! Some of the residents have even taught Liz a thing or two.



On 21<sup>st</sup> September we were lucky enough to have some musicians to perform in the garden. The weather was perfect, the last really hot day I seem to remember, and Gini Astley and her daughter Florence treated us to a beautiful program for flute and harp. It truly was a magical afternoon!

At the end of September we held a fundraising event for Macmillan Cancer Support. Staff put on their pyjamas for work on the 24th and 25th September, and we had an in-house coffee morning with raffle raising £150!!



In the last week we formed small work parties to gather and harvest lavender from the wildflower garden at the end of Long Street. The following day we had an afternoon making lavender bags ...the house smells gorgeous! The lavender bags are being sold for 50p each or 3 for £1.20, so any family and friends visiting ...please do ask if you'd like some! The money is going towards our Macmillan fundraising.

Looking ahead we are fast approaching the first of our theme nights, Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October is an Italian Night.

Our very own Tony Sorrentino will be cooking an authentic Italian dish; this will be preceded by a glass of prosecco, a delicious array of anti-pasti, and accompanied with some fine Italian wine and music. To get us in the mood we are having Italian themed activities during the week.

### Dates for the Diary

- **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October** – Italian Night, 6pm in the Dining Room
  - **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October** – Clocks go back
  - **Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October** – Halloween