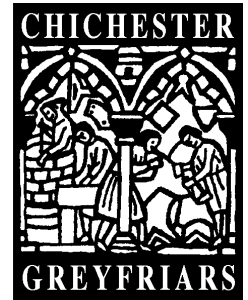

Newsletter



CHICHESTER GREYFRIARS HOUSING ASSOCIATION LTD (a charity)
Summer 2011

FROM ANNA CLARE - HOUSING MANAGER

Dear Residents,

Most of you will be aware that I am leaving my job at the end of June as my husband has an assignment in Singapore and I will be going with him at the end of the summer. An opportunity not to be missed! I can't believe that it has been 21 years since I took over from my predecessor – David Jacobs and before him Charlie Newell. At that time the job seemed to have been made for me, returning to my career in housing on a part time basis and still giving me time to care for my two young sons. I wouldn't have guessed that I would stay so long – my sons are now young men!

So, out with the old and in with the new, I am delighted to introduce you to Mrs Shelagh Morgan, Chichester Greyfriars' new Housing Manager. Shelagh comes with a wealth of housing experience having worked for local authorities, a housing software company and for the last 9 years as Chief Executive for the Methodist Ministers' Housing Society. Their loss is our gain. I am sure that over the next few months you will all have the opportunity to meet Shelagh and if you are at the Summer Meeting on 19th July she hopes to pop in to say 'Hello'.

As I said in my letter to you all - I have greatly enjoyed my time spent at Chichester Greyfriars during which I have let over 150 tenancies, produced about 40 newsletters, 12 annual reports, overseen refurbishment of eighty flats and attended numerous board meetings and summer meetings. I have learnt a great deal and many new skills, working with contractors, consultants and agencies of all kinds and with directors who have been helpful and challenging. But most importantly I must pay tribute to my colleagues Amanda and Colin who have always been cheerful, supportive and hardworking and saved me from many a scrape! I shall miss my 'Greyfriars family'.

With best wishes to you all.

Anna Clare

Housing Manager

A WELCOME TO NEW RESIDENTS

We welcome Edward Williams & Daphne Taylor to Royal Close and Brian & Joyce Stimpson to St Pancras and wish them every happiness in their new homes.



RESIDENT REPS

Mrs Aburrow has stepped down as Resident Rep after seven years! She was presented with a plant by the Chairman at a recent Board meeting in which he expressed his sincere thanks for her willing help and support over the years.

It was agreed at the same meeting to reduce the number of directors from 15 to 12, a more manageable number for proper debate and involvement; to reduce the number of Residents Rep directors to two and have a maximum term of office of three years for Reps.

Resident Reps Ed Robinson and Ellie Parish have done a fabulous job and are due to retire. We need nominations for their replacement - are you willing to offer your services? If so, please contact the office.

A REQUEST FROM THE GARDENER -

I just wanted to drop you an email regarding mowing and strimming at Royal Close and Arthur Ingram Court.

There seems to be an increase in pots, lights and chairs etc. being placed on the grass or right on the edge of patios making

it increasingly difficult to mow. Also, my worry with the strimming is that I shall catch some of the pots etc. by accident which may cause them damage. All the pots are looking very nice, its just on the odd property that causes concern.

There has also been an increase in bird food put onto the grass. One spot in particular, where there is so much, that it almost stops the mower engine!

PLEASE COMPLY WITH THIS REQUEST ☺

CAR PARKING

Pressure on spaces are great with more car owners at Royal Close and St Pancras. We have made two extra spaces at Royal Close by remarking the spaces and hope that car users will park thoughtfully and consider their neighbour.

Please give Colin registration details of cars parked on CGHA property that you know do not belong to residents or their visitors.

NEW SOLICITORS

Following a selection process we are pleased to announce that Coffin Mew LLP has been appointed solicitors to the Association. Southampton based, they have extensive knowledge of the social housing sector and we look forward to having a successful working relationship in the future.

MY HOME ENERGY SWITCH

A new service from the National Housing Federation and uSwitch – a simple and fast way to compare energy suppliers and find the best deal.

Visit www.myhomeenergyswitch.org.uk or

Freephone 0800 051 5346

STORYTIME

1st Prize

Age Concern West Sussex Literary Contest

Good news

by Mr Martin Hunt

Hello dear. The doctor tells me that your operation has been a great success and that you can have visitors although you must absolutely not try to speak yet. So I thought I would come along and sit by you and tell you all the latest news to cheer you up.

First of all, I have some very good news. You will be pleased to hear that there is no need to worry about financial matters. I contacted a firm of lawyers who advertise that they will act for you without charging a fee and they accepted us as a client. They have been in touch with your employers who have agreed to settle out of court, since the accident occurred on their premises. They even agreed to pay extra on the understanding that you would not be working there again.

Now dear do not try to speak you know it is not good for you.

Anyway, we will be able to do lots of wonderful things together with the money. As you know I always wanted to go on a cruise and when I sounded out a cruise company they said that they have had two cancellations for a cruise starting in two weeks time. Of course you will not be out of hospital for some time yet and so I didn't accept their offer but when I told my friend Edna about it she said that she would be willing to accompany me.

She said, quite rightly, that you would not want me to miss such a wonderful opportunity and so I changed my mind and booked the tickets. I am buying a complete new outfit for the voyage so that I can keep up appearances on board ship and have bought a few things for Edna so that she looks smart too.

Do not get so excited dear or I won't be able to put you in the picture about what else has happened. We shall be back long before you are out of hospital so there is no need to worry about that.

You will also be pleased to hear that a visitor to Joan and Paul at number six saw your old car, the Bugatti, when I had opened the garage to collect a brush and offered to buy it. He said that although it was very old and not worth much he would be willing to pay five hundred pounds for it to take it off my hands. Not only that, he said he would take all the old tools that you have had for working on the car and that I was not to worry about delivering it because he would come with a trailer and collect it. He was a really nice man and what a bit of luck that you put the car in my name for tax purposes or I would not have been able to take advantage of his kind offer.

What funny noises you are making dear. I hope you won't over exert yourself.

Well to continue, now that the garage is empty I asked cousin Alfred to give me a quote to turn it into an extra room with an on suite bathroom so that my mother can come and stay. I know you said that we did not have room for her but I thought that now the garage is empty converting it would be the ideal solution.

Alfred said that he was very busy at the moment but that he would do his very best to fit it in as soon as possible. He also said that being family he would give us a very special price. All he wanted to begin with was a five thousand pound deposit so that he could buy the materials.

Please dear you really must try to relax. There is no need to worry. You can leave everything to me.

Oh and another thing. You know that you have always been on at me about the amount of clutter in the house; well now you will be very proud of me. I have been right through the house and got rid of masses of things. For example, I passed on your golf clubs to John's son Peter who wanted to take up the game but did not have the equipment. You certainly won't need them again as the doctor has emphasised that you should not do anything strenuous in the future.

I also got rid of all your old audiovisual equipment that was cluttering up the loft space and have now turned it into a sewing

room. This means, of course, that I can get on with mending your old clothes.

Dear, you are going a funny colour. I hope you are not feeling poorly again.

There is also no need to worry about the garden. I have hired a young man to keep it under control. He was recommended by some of my friends who said that he is very capable. He is very strong and well built and can manage all the heavy work.

I was very lucky to get him because he is so much in demand. What really decided him in my favour was that he needed somewhere to stay and so I offered him the use of our spare room until he finds somewhere more permanent. I think it will be a very satisfactory arrangement.

Oh dear! Nurse, please come quickly; I think my husband has had a relapse. I rather fear that he was not up to hearing all the good news I gave him.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Tom Siggs Award judging Wed 6 July
- Summer Meeting Tues 19 July at 2.30 St Georges Church Centenary Centre
- Chichester Circle Dancing at the Guide Hall, Whyke Lane 7.30 Tuesdays
- Chichester Folk Song Club Singaround at the Four Chestnuts 8.30 Tuesdays
- Chichester Chess Club all welcome at the Fountain Inn, Southgate 7.30 Tuesdays

HEARTSMART WALKS - FREE

Arranged locally by trained volunteer walk leaders HeartSmart Walks are designed to cater for all ages and abilities, offering an opportunity to exercise and meet new people in a safe and friendly environment. Walks usually finish start and finish at the same point and are between 2 and 5 miles long.

You need to arrive 10 minutes before the walk is due to start, no booking required and if the weather is poor the walk may be cancelled

For further information contact the Health Development Team 01243 534589 or www.chichester.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=4844

A SENIOR MOMENT

"WHERE is my SUNDAY paper?!" The irate customer calling the newspaper office, loudly demanded to know where her Sunday edition was. "Madam", said the newspaper employee, "today is Saturday. The Sunday paper is not delivered until tomorrow, on SUNDAY".

There was quite a long pause on the other end of the phone, followed by a ray of recognition as she was heard to mutter, "Well, s***, that explains why no one was at Church either.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT



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