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Hello again and welcome to our newsletter for October and November 2015.



General News: Can you believe it, only 24 days to Christmas and this is the last newsletter for 2015 – where has the time gone?

We have been so busy these last two months with various things happening. The bathroom has been refreshed with the shower and bath being removed and a new floor installed as we hope to use the room as a treatment room – funds for equipment permitting. We have also had broken lights replaced and repaired in the main room.

We have also had the roof scraped of all the moss that had gathered over the years, it looks like a new roof and with repainted fascia boards we are looking new again – it's just the dull days don't do the "new look" any justice. Tons of leaves are removed from the disabled parking bays and front door every day – the trees seem to have more leaves than ever this year and are taking forever to come off!

We have a huge Christmas tree, thanks to Tony Wilson this year. The tree and hall have been decorated and all is ready for a good Christmas season.



Drivers: We all want to say a **BIG THANK YOU** to all our volunteer drivers – without you we would really struggle to get people in to the day centre, which they so enjoy. If

anybody wants to help drive, let us know, you cannot really appreciate the joy the members get from coming to the day centre – they love it, so if you can help please give us a call on **0118 934 4040**.



Member News: It is always great to welcome new members and we have been doing that regularly during October and November and what a time they have had, we had a Puppets workshop with The Hands on Company, a Rogue Traders session, Jim Allgrove on the Banjo, Frantic Theatre with their one man (lady) act – brilliant. Mandy did a sing along session, we had Tony Parker in giving a demonstration on how he makes gifts from wood using a small lathe, and his goods were on sale to the members.

A sing along session to tunes that helped win the war on Armistice Day. In addition, we had Julia George leading a singalong session to popular songs. We also had Elvis Presley, in the form of Gary Roman an Elvis impersonator, the hall was bursting at the seams with guests and volunteers joining in the fun – it was brilliant!

Then to cap it all we had the **“Be A Santa to a Senior Christmas Tea Party”** at Colleton School on the 21st November. We had about 120 guests at this tea party with entertainment by The Duke on his accordion which had everybody up and dancing. We also had the Colleton School choir sing a few Christmas numbers - they were superb. Guests were given a nice Christmas hamper of goodies. Sadly not everybody could attend, but their hampers will be delivered to them. The hampers were provided courtesy of SOFEA a supplier to the Day Centre. The tea was provided by the David Brownlow Charitable Foundation who we can't thank enough for providing everything - all the goodies, tables and chairs etc.



We even had a visit by Theresa May who popped in for a short visit and ended up spending nearly an hour at the party, dancing with some members and chatting to as many as she could.

Her support of functions for the local community is great and appreciated by all.



Outreach Programme. We introduced a new phase of our outreach programme during September/October. Kat Belton is contacting elderly people in the district on a regular basis. She is providing a sign posting service and introducing people to the benefits of becoming a member of the Day Centre. We are putting every effort in to helping people overcome social isolation, which can be very detrimental to one's health. So if you know of anybody who you think is socially isolated, let us know and we will go and visit them.

Sunday Club. This club is great for beating the Sunday afternoon blues – there is no charge for the club, although you may want to make a donation, which does go towards covering costs. We show a movie after having had a cuppa and it is a lovely relaxing time for all to be with a few friends. The club runs on the 3rd Sunday of each month. The club this month is a Christmas Lunch and it will be on the 13th, and will cost £6, but booking is essential as there are limited spaces. Dates for the New Year are the 17th January and February will be on the 21st. Please let us know in time if you wish to attend on those dates.



Carer's Coffee Mornings. Starting at 10.00am. Please join us, it is informal and relaxed – you don't need to be formally introduced.



If you don't want to receive this newsletter, please let us know and we can simply take you off the mailing list. But we really don't want to lose touch with you, so please stay with us!