

# RMBI news



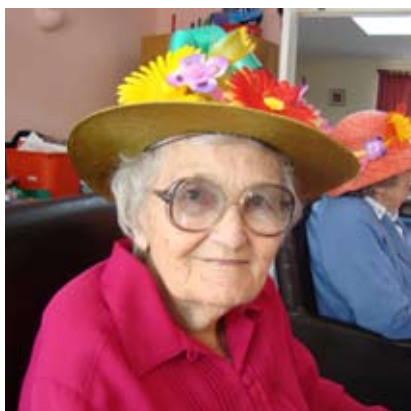
## Beautiful Bonnets, Fantastic Flowers and Colourful Cakes this Easter

The RMBI Homes enjoyed Easter this year with plenty going on including bonnet making, cake decorating, flower arranging and lots of Easter eggs!

Residents from Cadogan Court, Exeter, enjoyed an afternoon of flower arranging thanks to local florist Nicola Wright. Nicola arranges the flowers for Exeter Cathedral and many local weddings, and has visited the Home several times. She is a very popular visitor and always stays for a cup of tea and a chat.

**Photos:** (Clockwise from top left) Cornwallis Court resident, Mrs Marjorie Brown; Cadogan Court residents with their flower arrangements; Cornwallis Court residents with Activities Co-ordinator, Sue Gosling; Scarbrough Court resident showing off her Easter bonnet; Cadogan Court residents Mrs Violet Howell and Mrs Irene Tucker with carer Hannah Scrivens; and James Terry Court residents.

For more Easter photos visit [www.rmbi.org.uk](http://www.rmbi.org.uk).



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## New lifting equipment

The Tithebarn, Liverpool, has recently purchased new lifting equipment thanks to the Association of Friends. The equipment means that residents can be lifted and moved much more easily and safely for both the resident and the staff member.



*L-R: David Innes, RMBI Chief Executive; Linda Johnson, The Tithebarn Home Manager; Donna Lee, Regional Business Co-ordinator; and members of The Tithebarn Association of Friends*



*RW Bro Peter Hosker, Provincial Grand Master, and care assistants demonstrate the new equipment*

## Care Quality Commission

On 1 April 2009, a new regulatory body, the Care Quality Commission (CQC) was launched. The CQC brings together the Commission for Social Care Inspection, the Healthcare Commission, and the Mental Health Act Commission.

The Care Quality Commission is the independent regulator of health and social care in England. The CQC regulates health and adult social care services, whether provided by the NHS, local authorities, private companies or voluntary organisations. For more information please visit [www.cqc.org.uk](http://www.cqc.org.uk).

## Tranquillity lunch for Harewood Court

Each year Tranquillity Lodge treats the residents of Harewood Court, Hove, to lunch – honouring a tradition of more than 100 years. Before Harewood Court existed, Tranquillity hosted a lunch at the RMBI Home in Croydon and when the residents were transferred to Hove in 1955 – to the newly built Harewood Court – they continued the tradition.

The lunch was held at the Masonic Temple in Brighton and 21 Masonic residents attended. In addition to the residents, members of the Tranquillity Lodge; John Alabone, Sussex Provincial Grand Almoner; Brenda Leithead, Harewood Court Manager; and the Secretary of the Friends of Harewood Court (me) attended. We were also pleased to welcome David Innes, RMBI Chief Executive, who attended for the first time.

This year the singer, Bob Hunter, and pianist, Michael Woolridge, were complemented by a magnificent clarinettist, Keith Abbs. He was in the tradition of Benny Goodman and made his instrument talk.

Thanks to Tranquillity Lodge, Annette Campbell and Brenda Leithead. Brenda had the tricky job of doing the table plan!

*Angela Cashmore*  
Secretary, Friends of Harewood Court



*Angela Cashmore, David Innes and Jack Laborde*

## Thank you

Thanks to all residents and their relatives who completed a recent Customer Satisfaction Survey. These surveys enable us to continue to provide high quality care and to improve in those areas of need.

## A day at the park

Cornwallis Court, Bury St. Edmunds, residents enjoyed a day out at Nowton Park recently. They had a lovely afternoon of fresh air and daffodils.



*Thumbs up for a day at Nowton Park!*

## Elvis visits Scarbrough Court!

Scarbrough Court, Cramlington, has welcomed special guest, Elvis, twice already this year! The first visit came at their "rock and roll" party, and the second over Easter. Elvis was kind enough to sign autographs for the fans and everyone had a great time!



*Activities Co-ordinator, Maureen Rolf, meets Elvis with Scarbrough Court residents*



*Elvis entertains residents at Scarbrough Court*

## The Cadogan Crafters

Cadogan Court residents, the "Cadogan Crafters", have been very busy recently. They made fantastic clay tiles which were fired and painted with acrylic paint. The tiles will be on display in the Home shortly.



*The tiles made by the "Cadogan Crafters"*

Cadogan Court residents were also recently visited by Mrs Bean, who was a Secretary to Queen Elizabeth for 40 years. She gave an interesting talk and brought lots of items to look at, including Birthday cards, medals and photos of the Royal Family. Mrs Bean was a lovely lady and had lots of questions to answer as our residents were fascinated and very inquisitive!



*Mrs Bean's photographs of the Royal Family*

## Burns Night

Burns Night was celebrated by the RMBI Homes, including James Terry Court, Croydon, with the traditional bagpipes and Scottish hats aplenty!



*James Terry Court resident in her Scottish hat*

## Fellowship News

Herefordshire Masonic Widows' Group recently held a successful luncheon with over 80 people attending.

The Provincial Grand Master extended a warm welcome to everyone present, including Care Advice Visitor, Denise Goode, who spoke about the work of the RMBI and benefits available. Several ladies took advantage of the presentation packs available on the day and Terry Neate, Provincial Grand Almoner, thanked Denise on behalf of everyone present.

There are six Care Advice Visitors around England and Wales who are knowledgeable about the RMBI, the other Masonic Charities, and other health and welfare information. If you would like a Care Advice Visitor to visit you or speak at your event please phone us on **020 7596 2400**.



*Provincial Almoner, Terry Neate, and Denise Goode*

## Harpist entertains

Lord Harris Court, Sindlesham, enjoyed a visit and concert from a local harpist recently. Everyone had a lovely time and some of the residents even got to try playing the harp!



*Lord Harris Court resident, Mr Arthur Hackshaw*

## Barford Court's lounge

The Pink Lounge at Barford Court, Hove, has been renamed the Robin Williams Lounge in memory of the late Assistant Provincial Grand Master and Chairman of the Association of Friends, Robin Williams.

A photo of Robin has also been mounted on the wall and residents, staff and the Association of Friends are looking forward to using the Lounge.

Also at Barford Court, residents were recently treated to a lovely five-course Sunday Lunch by the Association of Friends. The residents enjoyed it very much.



*Barford Court residents enjoy their Sunday Lunch*

## Holidays at Harry Priestley House

Residents from Harry Priestley House, Doncaster, have been holidaying early this year! Three residents went to Skegness for the weekend and two residents, Lee and Rita, enjoyed a weekend at Blackpool.

Harry Priestley House offers accommodation and residential care for up to 12 people with learning disabilities. For more information about Harry Priestley House please visit [www.rmbi.org.uk](http://www.rmbi.org.uk).



*Rita and Lee dancing the night away in Blackpool!*

## New RMBI website

The RMBI website, [www.rmbi.org.uk](http://www.rmbi.org.uk), has recently been re-launched as a new-look site which includes a wealth of information.

The new website is easy to use and navigate around, as well as including in-depth advice about RMBI services, how to apply, eligibility and other useful information.

There is also location information about each Home including a postcode search, and extensive images of all the Homes.

Please do visit the site, [www.rmbi.org.uk](http://www.rmbi.org.uk), and see for yourself.



## Information sheets now available

We have produced nine information sheets to advise and inform you on various topics relating to the RMBI. The information sheets give advice on:

- The RMBI
- Choosing a Care Home
- Types of Care
- Dementia Care
- Applying for an RMBI Home
- Eligibility
- Paying for Care
- Useful Contacts
- Frequently Asked Questions

The nine information sheets are available on our website, [www.rmbi.org.uk](http://www.rmbi.org.uk). Alternatively please call us on **020 7596 2400** to request a copy.

## The Princesses of Prince Michael

The annual show held at Prince Michael of Kent Court, Watford, was again a big success and residents, their families and friends enjoyed the show very much.

The "Princesses of Prince Michael", aka Anne Behan (Deputy Home Manager), Tracy Lydon and Nina Stephens (Shift Leaders), Sandra Wootton (past employee) and Jenny Hunt (Association of Friends member) entertained singing Mother Eve, Sound of Music, Copacabana and Hey Big Spender!



*The Princesses perform Copacabana*

## The Devonshire Ritz

Devonshire Court, Leicester, recently enjoyed High Tea at the "Devonshire Ritz". It was a lovely afternoon, complete with Ritz style sandwiches, bite size cakes – all on old-fashioned cake stands – and of course endless cups of tea.

A wonderful pianist played in the background and everyone had a fantastic time. There is only one small problem - everyone now wants tea at the Ritz for every supper!



*Residents enjoy high tea at the Devonshire Ritz*

## Support the RMBI



### Tax disc holders now available

The RMBI have car tax disc holders available so you can stay legal and support the RMBI at the same time! There is a minimum donation of £2.50 per holder.



### Masonic condolence and thank you cards

Bro Ivan Morgan has designed a range of Masonic Condolence and Thank You cards with all proceeds going towards the RMBI. Prices start at £1.80 per card.

For more information about either product please visit [www.rmbi.org.uk](http://www.rmbi.org.uk) or call the Fundraising Department on **020 7596 2400**.

## Legacies

After providing for your family and friends, you may wish to consider leaving a gift in your will to the RMBI. Leaving a gift in your will is a kind way of making sure the RMBI has the funds to continue its work.

Every gift we receive, no matter how large or small, helps us to plan and respond to our residents' needs. One such gift was left to the RMBI by Mr Stanley Capon, a late resident of Lord Harris Court. Mr Capon left the RMBI money in his will and this will be used to refurbish the dining room at Lord Harris Court.

If you would like to speak to someone about leaving a gift in your will, please contact the Fundraising Department on **020 7596 2400**.

## Magnificent Middlesex Festival result

In March this year, RW Bro HRH Prince Michael of Kent, Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex, presented a cheque for £4,060,543 to VW Bro Willie Shackell, CBE, President of the RMBI, at the Festival Dinner.

The RMBI Middlesex Festival 2009 was launched in April 2004, with the intention that there would be no official target to achieve for the Festival, other than to have fun in raising money. That certainly seems to have been the case with golf matches, fundraising fetes, a sponsored multiple skydive and a number of sponsored bicycle rides, to name a few, taking place.

The Festival culminated in a spectacular dinner attended by over 300 Middlesex Masons, their wives and guests, in the presence of the Pro Grand Master, Most W Bro Peter Lowndes; the Provincial Grand Master, RW Bro HRH Prince Michael of Kent; and the President of the RMBI, VW Bro Willie Shackell, CBE.

The RMBI is very grateful for this outstanding Festival donation; thank you to the Province of Middlesex.



L-R: David Innes, Chief Executive, RMBI; VW Bro Willie Shackell, CBE, President, RMBI; Most W Bro Peter Lowndes, Pro PGM; RW Bro HRH Prince Michael of Kent, PGM Middlesex; RW Bro David Cons, Pro Prov GM Middlesex; and VW Bro Peter Baker, Dep Prov GM Middlesex and Festival Chairman.

**Please also visit the RMBI website, [www.rmbi.org.uk](http://www.rmbi.org.uk), for more fundraising news.**

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