

The Charlotte Straker Project

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2023

MESSAGE FROM BERENICE GROVES CHAIR OF THE TRUSTEES

We have had a busy few months, filled with exciting events and initiatives, and I am thrilled to be able to share them with you in this newsletter.

CHANGES TO SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

Following significant feedback we have made a number of changes to our current Senior Management Team. Pam Crawley will become General Manager/ Registered Manager and she will focus more on developing and monitoring of our business and will be responsible for the strategic developments for our home. Cheryl Kennedy will be Home Manager and will be responsible and accountable for the day to day running of the home and care standards, as well as overseeing clinical care, domestic, nursing, residential and kitchen teams. Sam Willis remains in the Deputy Manager position. We expect that this restructure will make a positive change across our company and support our values. I'd like to thank Pam, Cheryl and Sam for their hard work and wish them the very best for the future.

CORONATION CELEBRATIONS

We had a truly royal time over the Coronation weekend - our residents watched a live broadcast of the coronation ceremony and then enjoyed music, afternoon tea and entertainment - make sure you see our photos inside.

RESIDENT ROOM AND RESPITE VACANCIES

We currently have rooms available for new permanent residents and we also have vacancies available for paid respite care from June 24th – July 10th 2023 and July 23rd – August 5th 2023 inclusive. We are also now able to offer respite day care. Please contact us if you would like to discuss, as our senior team will be happy to answer any questions and give more information.

AND FINALLY...

We are currently gearing up for our Summer Fete - which will be held on Saturday 10th June. We've just found out that the best selling author LJ Ross will be opening our fete - we're all very excited to meet her. And we're all enjoying the gorgeous splash of colour in our gardens from a wonderful spring flower display - don't the daffodils look stunning!



B. A. Crooks

BERENICE GROVES
CHAIR OF THE TRUSTEES

SPRING ACTIVITIES

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF AT THE TYNE THEATRE

Due to a very generous donation from Cynthia and Paul Davidson from PDA Search and Selection Limited, we were able to take our residents to see a performance of Fiddler on the Roof at the Tyne Theatre and Opera House in Newcastle last week. It was a truly a magical experience! John B told us "I loved the music. The orchestra was wonderful and I remembered most of the songs." Colin I added "it was lovely to get out, and very exciting to see the musical – it brought back lots of memories." Muriel M said "I loved it all, the coach trip, the theatre, and the music"



Everyone was so excited to go, and it was a truly memorable day out. Watching residents singing along to the classic tunes and get lost in the captivating story was absolutely wonderful. Even getting on the coach for the drive to the theatre was great fun, as we could show everyone all the changes that had been happening to Newcastle City Centre. Once we were at the Tyne Theatre, the staff were so helpful and looked after us all beautifully. Thank you again to Mr and Mrs Davidson for their generous donation which helped make this wonderful day a reality for our care home residents. It's truly inspiring to see this level of community support and generosity in action.

FLIPPING GOOD FUN ON PANCAKE DAY



The staff, residents and volunteers have had "flipping" good fun during our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Day celebrations. Tossing pancakes in a traditional frying pan can be very heavy so instead we tossed tortilla wraps on badminton rackets! It was great fun and there was lots of laughter. Muriel commented "This is a much lighter way to flip a pancake and I managed to get some of them quite high!"

THE CORONATION!

Our residents celebrated the coronation with a day full of activities and events. The staff organized a fun-filled day for the residents to commemorate the historic event, and it was a huge success. On Saturday we watched a live broadcast of the coronation ceremony, which was held at Westminster Abbey. Everyone was thrilled to see King Charles III and Queen Camilla make their way to Buckingham Palace.

On Sunday the highlight of the day was the coronation tea party, where the residents enjoyed a selection of sandwiches and cakes. The staff had decorated the dining room with red, white, and blue bunting, and everyone was dressed up in their finest attire.

All our volunteers, staff and trustees were invited and they were joined by relatives and family of our residents for music by the Sunshine Panners and our favourite singer Ruth.

Overall, the coronation celebration was a memorable and enjoyable day for everyone involved, and it was a great opportunity for the residents to come together and celebrate a historic moment in British history.



SPRING ACTIVITIES

GOOD FRIDAY FISH AND CHIPS

We celebrated Good Friday with a classic British tradition – fish and chips! The Angel of Corbridge brought their Angel Fish van and cooked the meals on site so they were delicious and hot. It was a fun and delicious way to bring everyone together and enjoy the Easter holiday. It was a great opportunity for us to share stories and memories of past Good Fridays. Thank you to the staff from the Angel for their hard work – they were so efficient and quick.



FASCINATING VISIT TO THE NEW CORBRIDGE HUB



A group of residents and volunteers were invited to visit the new Corbridge Heritage Centre which is situated at the former Methodist Church building - now the Corbridge Community Hub - to view a display about the history of the village. We listened to a very interesting talk by David Waugh, who is an author on the history of the village. Our residents were fascinated with the photos and artifacts and shared stories with us about their lives in the area. John B spotted his son in a Corbridge school photo from the 1970s and Keith S particularly enjoyed reading the exhibits about Corbridge villagers who fought in France in World War 1.

After looking round the display we were invited in to the regular "Tea and Chat" run by St. Andrew's Church at the Corbridge Community Hub, which is held in another section of the old Methodist Church. We were made very welcome by Rev. Linda Hunter and her team of volunteers and Keith said the scones with jam and cream were the best he's ever tasted!



SPRING ACTIVITIES

SPRING TIME FUN ON THE FARM

We had an amazing day recently visiting a local farm to see the new born lambs as well as a visit to a coffee shop. The farm is owned by Sally Urwin, a member of our staff team, and she showed our residents the latest arrivals, the mums and babies and the farm pony. Muriel, Jane and John loved holding Sweetpea the lamb in the farm shed, and Sally took Sweetpea onto the bus so that Margaret and Colin could say hello and have a cuddle. John told us "I loved seeing the farm and the lamb was just gorgeous." Muriel said "We used to look after pet lambs so its lovely to see them again." After the trip to the farm we then went for a coffee and cake to the Errington Coffee Shop. The ladies in the coffee shop looked after us so well! Thank you to everyone who was involved in the organisation of the day – it was a super Easter trip out.



FUNDRAISING NEWS



Adrian Eley, President of Tynedale Rotary visited Charlotte Straker House to present us with a cheque from their recent Wine Tasting Event. The Rotarians raised a very generous £1,800 from the wine evening, and our Chair of the Trustees, Berenice Groves commented "I want to extend a huge thank you to everyone who came to the Wine Tasting Event. It was a fantastic evening, full of fun and laughter, and it was also a great opportunity to give everyone attending the chance to learn more about the impact that their donations have on the individuals who live at Charlotte Straker House. The funds raised from this event will fund resident trips and activities throughout 2023. Thank you to Adrian plus all those who attended, sponsored and supported us in any way."

BRIDGE CLUB DONATION

Thank you to the members of the Corbridge Bridge Club for their generous donation of £300 which will help fund the rolling refurbishment of our bedrooms. The Bridge Club held a Christmas party with a raffle, with prizes donated from local businesses. Adrian Andrews, President of the Bridge Club visited Charlotte Straker House to hand over the cheque to Berenice Groves, Chair of the Trustees.



OTHER NEWS....

DAY RESPITE CARE

Looking for extra support caring for your loved one? Charlotte Straker House is excited to announce that we now offer day respite care to the community. Whether you need a break for a few hours or for most of the day, our compassionate team is here to provide the personal care and high-quality attention your loved one needs. Dependent on availability, daycare can be arranged very quickly at short notice and doesn't have to be a regular arrangement – it's up to you! Care is available between 10 am and 4pm and can be booked by the hour. Before you check in you'll be assessed by one of our team. This is so we can fully understand your particular needs and give you the confidence to relax and enjoy your time here. Contact us today on 01434 633 999 or email office@charlottestraker.org.uk to learn more about our day respite care services!



Charlotte Straker
Care according to need



Day Respite Care

Charlotte Straker House, Corbridge

We are the number one choice for those looking for additional daily care for individuals over 65 years. Our quality care home has a welcoming, friendly atmosphere with bespoke personal support, a stimulating activities programme and delicious home cooked meals.

Our package Includes

- ✓ Respite care available between the hours of 10-4
- ✓ Bespoke personal care and support
- ✓ Activities programme and therapies
- ✓ Delicious meals and all refreshments

Call us now on 01434 633 999 for hourly costs and availability

Contact Us 01434 633 999 | www.charlottestraker.org.uk | office@charlottestraker.org.uk

GOODBYE TO PETER WOOD

We held a presentation for Peter Wood to celebrate his many years of volunteer work at the Charlotte Straker Project. Peter has been at the heart of the Charlotte Straker Project for over twenty years and he will be greatly missed for his compassion, care for our staff and residents and dedication to our charity.

We all want to thank Peter for his years of great leadership and thank him for being a great mentor. We're delighted that he has signed up as a volunteer so we will continue to see him at Charlotte Straker House! From us all we want to wish you a much deserved, happy and relaxed retirement.



SKY SUBSCRIPTION

We have signed up to a subscription on Sky TV and can now offer Sky Entertainment, Sky Sports and Sky Cinema on the large TV in our downstairs lounge. We're already planning sports afternoons and cinema evenings and residents are planning their viewing entertainment!



HOW CAN I HELP?

There are so many ways you can help our charity!

Help us reach more people!

Share our news on Facebook and Twitter or sign up to our newsletter by emailing office@charlottestraker.org.uk

Give a one-off or regular donation

Help keep our respite care bed open by visiting www.charlottestraker.org.uk/donate



Fundraise for us!

If you want to organise a personal challenge or set up a fundraiser we can help. Visit our fundraising and events webpage or call 01434 633 999 for more details

Consider legacy funding

One unique way of helping us is to consider leaving a legacy to our charity in your Will.

Visit our donation page on www.charlottestraker.org.uk for more information

Join our friendly volunteer family!

For details on our volunteering opportunities please visit charlottestraker.org.uk/volunteers or call 01434 633 999

Want a career in care?

We offer joining bonuses, job progression and full training. For the latest vacancies visit our website or ring 01434 633 999