

Priory Court Care Home

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A WORD FROM THE MANAGER

A warm welcome to everyone and I hope you are still continuing to enjoy the extremely warm and pleasant weather. It's going to be a shock I think when it turns colder. I am not looking forward to that at all!

It has been a very busy month; the CQC Inspectors came to visit us a couple of weeks ago, and the visit went very well. At this point, I would like to thank everyone – residents, relatives and staff for all the support and encouragement they have given to me



The day would not have gone so well, if it had not been for everyone making huge contributions in many different ways. It is very gratifying to know that people are so positive about being here and I really do appreciate every contribution into the well-being of the Home.

This month we have had three new members of staff joining us – Beebee, Andreia and Roxana. I am sure you will get to know them very quickly.

We will be announcing the Employees of the Month in November, so keep your nominations coming in.

This month, we have had several students from Epsom College coming into the Home on a voluntary basis to do projects with the residents and join in with activities. They also spend some time chatting to the residents, which the residents enjoy and so do we.

There are a number of events coming up shortly, so please do check these out on the back of the newsletter.

Finally, my sincere thanks to everyone for all their hard work and commitment to Priory Court. It's value is immeasurable.

Regards, Rommel

How do felines maintain law and order?

Claw Enforcement.



This month we have had students from Epsom College taking part in Activities with the Residents of Priory Court.

OCTOBER – BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

This month we would like to wish a Happy Birthday to **Pamela** in Tulip Suite, **Verna** in the Rose, **John** in Bluebell Suite and **Richard, Angie and Joan** in Oaks Suite. The Management and staff look forward to celebrating with each of them on their special day.

Do let us know if you wish to book the Newbury Pub or the Tea Room for a unique celebration.



GETTING TO KNOW DOUG.....

Doug was born in 1931 in London. His father died when Doug was four years old and because his mother could not look after the family (there were 11 children) Doug was put into a boys' home until 14 years old. His memory of this time is as fresh now as the day it happened. The only possession he took with him was a small tin soldier, a toy he had been given as a small child. These were very hard and difficult years; the matron of the home was very cruel and abuse, physical, mental and verbal was rife. His older brother Ernie went to the same home and when he left, being the older sibling, Doug was completely on his own.



When Doug was 14, he left the boys' home and went to live with his mother in Slough and started work as a motor fitter. He also joined Slough amateur boxing association. His love of boxing continued when he joined the Navy and one year he became the inter-services boxing champion.

When he was 16, he signed up for 12 years with the Navy. Unfortunately, being involved during the Suez crisis in 1956, Doug was injured and invalided out. During this time, sadly Doug's mother passed away when he was 20 years old.

Doug, as determined as ever, when offered a job by a friend to do some carpentry work, took this offer up immediately. This meant going to college to learn the technicalities for this trade. He spent over 50 years fitting kitchens and carrying out general building work. As Doug progressed, he started up his own business, took two apprentices under his wing, and taught them the 'tricks of the trade' as it were. Now, one of these apprentices has his own building business. Doug says he loved being able to share his knowledge and experience with these two young men.

Whilst in the services, Doug met and married Sheilah and they spent 15 happy years together. They had two children together, Gary and Gail. Unfortunately, Sheilah was diagnosed with bowel cancer and passed away. Doug eventually remarried to Marion and they were together for 25 years.

Doug remarkably retired from his carpentry business when he was 75 years young! Doug says that the most significant thing he has done in life is getting back on his feet after many years of difficulty. He says it gives him great satisfaction when looking back at his very humble beginnings and sees the many achievements he has accomplished. He says he still misses the camaraderie of his naval colleagues and the fun they had.

Doug loves being outside in the garden; he has such brilliant gardening skills. When we can't find him, we know his is probably in the courtyard, trimming and cutting plants and shrubs.

Doug is definitely a survivor, no question about that. He has shown remarkable courage and fortitude in his life, overcoming numerous difficulties with dignity, levelheadedness and a great sense of humour.

Doug, from all of us at Priory Court, we salute you.

SCRAP BOOK – OCTOBER



JUST A THOUGHT....



You may encounter many defeats, but you must not be defeated. In fact, it is may be necessary to encounter the defeats, so you can know who you are, what you can rise from, and how you can still come out of it.

Maya Angelou

We all know what it feels like to be knocked down, but it is the act of getting up that brings the victory. We can all be overcomers. When you get up, stand firm and strong and see your triumph.



At Priory Court we are keen to know what we are doing right and where things might need improvement. This is why we are asking our friends and families to speak out about the staff and service at Priory Court. You can either pick up one of the forms in reception or send it FREEPOST to carehome.co.uk **OR** you can go directly online and post a review.

EVENTS IN AND AROUND PRIORY COURT CARE HOME



Thank you to everyone who donated cakes and attending our Macmillan coffee morning



On Friday 28th September we hosted a MacMillan coffee morning where we raised £169.26p! We would like to say a special thank you and well done to all our bakers and buyers. It was a lovely day enjoyed by all.

SUNDAY SERVICES

**Sunday Service 7th October
with Douglas**

**Sunday Service 14th October Cameo
with Jan**

**Sunday Servicer 21st October Maria and
Gracian**

**Sunday 28th October Service with
Wendy**



EVENTS AT PRORY COURT

OCTOBER 19TH

Pumpkin Carving –

With Students from Epsom College 10.30 am – 12.30 pm

OCTOBER 25TH

Nigel Dawson

Topical discussions with slide show.

OCTOBER 26TH

Dancing for Dignity – Fund raising event.

Ballroom dancing lessons from Simon. We will also be having cream teas please come and join us.

TRIPS OUT ON THE MINIBUS

**Wednesday 3rd October
Bluebell Suite**

**Wednesday 10th October
Rose Suite**

**Wednesday 17th October
Oak Suite**

**Wednesday 24th October
Tulip Suite**



Family members are more than welcome to meet us at the destination on days out.

