

# ASQUITH HALL NEWSLETTER



## ASQUITH HALL NURSING HOME

## Welcome to the Launch of our First Asquith Hall Newsletter

Welcome to the launch of our first Asquith Hall Newsletter. The purpose of this newsletter is to provide up to date information as to what is going on within the home on a monthly basis. This will include highlighting key events, birthdays, celebrations and a focus on being part of our local community. There will also be a spotlight article to give you a taster of what future events will be happening in the following month as well as this month's activities. In a bid to be successful in bringing you the right information we would like contributions and articles from staff, visitors, relatives and friends of Asquith Hall. We will also give you a spotlight on some of the staff here at Asquith Hall and give you an

insight into who works here. We also hold a special page in memory of those who have just left us in line with our thoughts around dignity and memories for those who have passed away as well whilst in our care. We also aim to focus on the get up and go activities which include accessing our beautiful local area and we are very excited that our new bespoke minibus is on its way to us. We hope for better weather as Spring approaches with a more detailed activity planner to access outdoor activities. This is also to be enhanced with the start of our sensory residents garden which hopefully the landscapers will start early April. Please read the remaining articles to give you more

details as we have lots to update you on.



Newsletter

Any thoughts, comments or information please direct to our design team via reception.

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### Special points of interest:

- *Pancake Tuesday*
- *Daily Activities*
- *Launch of the Garden Club*
- *Preparations for Mother's Day*
- *Delivery of our Purpose Built Minibus*
- *Designing Personalised Memory Disc to use in our Therapy Room*

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## Introduction to Asquith Hall

For those who don't know our story Asquith Hall was built in 40 weeks on the site of the old Mons Mill. We opened officially on 3rd June with our first resident walking through the door so yes we are approaching our first

anniversary—how time flies. Purpose built for the care of residents requiring intense mental health and dementia care. Whilst a lot of our residents have complex needs we see ourselves as a firm member of Todmorden community. We

have forged links including local GP services, community groups, local shops and ultimately our local people. We support our local market, the incredible edible programmes and local shops and businesses, which we visit every week.

## Seasonal Events

We start the month of March with St David's Day for those of us who are patriotic to our Saints Days.

Progressing on to March 8th we will host Pancake Day with extra treats and plenty of sugar.

Spring leaps in as the day's become lighter although it is still very cold in Todmorden putting off some of our residents venturing out.

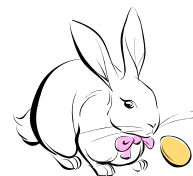
We are trying to look forward thinking of better weather with the launch of our sensory garden. Landscapers are due to begin at the end of March with a design that includes raised flower beds, play surface paths to minimise injury if you fall or if any

accidents occur, a small water feature and edible flowers which also emit lovely fragrances enhanced with solar powered mood lights. There is also room in the plans for solid wooden memory benches for residents and staff to sit for a while. This coincides with our garden club who in the winter months planted spring bulbs and started window boxes for the some of the bedrooms at the rear of the building enabling those who couldn't be active to have some colour and sense of spring. The gardening group visited Gordon Riggs over the winter period and have some good ideas for those who want to keep busy. Some residents have asked for bird boxes

and at the last residents meeting asked for a rabbit!!! not sure about this one yet.



Garden



## Daily Activities

Asquith Hall employs Tony Moore as our Activity Therapist who facilitates general group activities and those specific one to one activities that may be required. Alongside Tony the staff on each unit are encouraged and allocated to work with all residents to plan and facilitate a balance of activity and rest. We acknowledge that not all residents want to or are able to do the things that they previously enjoyed so hobbies and recreation time can vary immensely for individuals.

### *“Anything is possible at Asquith Hall”*

Our aim is that every day gives opportunity for enjoyable pastime both on a group and individual basis. There is a weekly planner in reception and on

each unit to highlight featured events that sometimes are very simple in origin to greater plans that may be outdoor activities. In house we have a vast supply of equipment, facilities and opportunities for example the use of the hydro massage pool, the sensory room, activity room, TV's, Karaoke machines, board games, arts and crafts, hairdressing, beauty care etc. Outdoor activities are enhanced by use of company cars and in future weeks the company minibus.

## Launch of the Garden Club

The Asquith Hall Garden Club is appealing for any budding gardeners within our family and friends to help us out on this one.

We have ambitions to try and grow strawberries and tomato plants with the odd hanging basket thrown in for good measures.

Help would be appreciated in knowing which plants work well in hanging basket to trail and certainly some

knowledge of how to look after everything would be appreciated while the staff are very willing we have no budding Percy Thrower's in our mists. We also need some help for the sensory garden with ideas of what plants / shrubs work well together with colour and smell that will be attractive alongside our design plans. Gordon Riggs is on our doorstep so we plan to have some active sessions at going to look at different plants and

shrubs and certainly look at some decorative pieces that will enhance our garden. We believe there is also a very nice coffee shop there if anybody wants to pop in and join us for coffee.



## Preparations for Mother's Day

Mother's Day falls this year on 3rd April.

As the weeks are passing quickly we have tried to plan so that something happens to mark this event at Asquith Hall.

Whilst a lot of our ladies have been mothers or like mothers to people it is an ideal opportunity to acknowledge the roles we play in family life.

We have a suggestion that one of our staff member's daughter's who is a local carnival queen will come into the home, meet and greet our residents dressed in one of her famous carnival queen outfits and present all ladies with a small gift.

We have also asked one of our favourite chefs, Victor, to make us a special Mother's Day cake for coffee and afternoon treats on the day.

Emerald Activity Company who come in on a regular basis during the week will also be doing a variety of sessions around the Mother's Day themes, including reminiscence, home comforts and families together with arts and crafts.

A reminder that Emerald Activity Company will be in the home a minimum of 3 times per week and will happily update any families as to the work they do with individual residents and are always open to suggestions of what they can be doing to

enhance the activity team at Asquith Hall. They are notable by the trademark green polo shirt and green hard suitcase on wheels which usually hosts a wealth of supplies and equipment to use in the sessions.



## Delivery of our Purpose Built Minibus

Counting down the days now to the arrival of our all purpose built minibus. All singing, dancing equipped with karaoke system, TV, chairlift and luxury seating. The minibus has been bespoke for our own needs equipped for the most physically in need or for those that can jump in and all aboard. We have been using company cars recently and whilst this may still be appropriate for some residents we hope the minibus will allow everyone to have opportunity to travel away

***"Our New Minibus is  
Arriving Soon  
We Can't Wait"***

from the home for free time without being worried about physical restrictions or the need to use a wheelchair. I believe we are having an official launch and talk of the first test drive

as to where we will be going in it. On the subject of outdoor activities we again would appreciate ideas of local attractions that may be suitable for our residents as the weeks ahead become warmer. Staff who are willing to drive the minibus and feel confident should liaise with the owner so they can be skill tested and added to our insurance cover. A full driving licence is required and supervision can be given to ensure they are confident with a larger vehicle.

## Designing Personalised Memory Disc to use in our Therapy Room

Asquith Hall has a purpose built snoozelon therapy room that has varied uses but especially good for relaxation and visual therapy. In a bid to get the best use out of this area the projector that is used for reminiscence would benefit by being able to project real life pictures that are familiar to the residents. Our suggestion is that each resident who is identified to use the therapy room has a personalised memory disc made up containing

memorable events, photos and personal memories to do with their life. This could then be used in individual work with the resident where it is important to reminisce about happy times, family associations and even favourite places and hobbies. Families can assist us in providing any photographs, pictures of scenery or suggestions on what we can put on their individual discs. We have suggestions that we could do projected

discs about the local area or local beauty spots, seaside pictures, holiday resorts. This is an ideal opportunity for staff to also complete the social assessment that every individual completes to ensure activities are meaningful. Staff will be approaching friends and families soon for assistance in gathering this information. We at Asquith Hall believe everybody is unique and individual and care should be person centred and relevant



## ASQUITH HALL NURSING HOME

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*Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter and if there is anything that you could contribute or indeed assist with the design of the newsletter please do not hesitate to contact myself or the Office Manager.*

*As part of our quality assurance programme we will in future weeks ask you for feedback into how the home is performing and all feedback is valuable.*

*We would also like to thank the family of John Haines a resident who passed away with us recently who donated monies towards the sensory memory garden and would like a bench in the name of John. Also a donation from the family of Dougie Main who again have allowed us to put the donation towards the garden project.*

*A big thank you for all the help and support from families and friends.*

## A Taster of Thing's to Come

Nothing ever stays still at Asquith Hall.

We are always striving to improve what is happening within the home and that's why April is looking to be a very exciting month.

Plans and preparations for our anniversary day celebrations, Easter on the horizon, Mother's Day itself.

Plans and preparations for the Royal Wedding celebrations on 29th April.

The launch of the men's group which may include a pint and football.

The ladies group on a shopping expedition and beauty care. Music therapy and exercise group.

We also have opportunity to have a karaoke competition, bingo and prize quiz night with supper included.

We are also beginning to plan our day excursions out as hopefully the

weather will be better with our first trip being to Hollingworth Lake and an ice-cream on the way.

Individual sessions will continue to be planned for the use of the hydro massage pool with full risk assessments being completed with the staff within the month.

Hairdressing bookings are on a weekly basis on Thursdays.

Hand massage aromatherapy and beauty care are organised as required.

Use of the snoozelon room on a daily basis as required.

Special events notice board situated in each unit.

Weekly activity programme available in reception and on request.



Designed and Edited by  
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