Forget-Me-Note Pad

The monthly newsletter for Forget-Me-Not Club volunteers No 3 October 2010

Having a wonderful time in Stonehaven

By HEATHER MORRISON

WE have enjoyed Jubilee House at Stonehaven twice this year, in May and October, with several carers and clients spending time in the property owned and run by The Queen's Silver Jubilee Trust. The house has been upgraded – it is cosier and more comfortable this year. The lovely setting of the Auld Toon down by the harbour provides nice walks and we can frequently be found sitting by the harbour watching the world go by – of course with one of the Shell Hoosie's afa' fine cones! Our meals are varied and sometimes we have fish and chips from The Bay round the table at home or stroll round to one of the nice restaurants nearby. The neighbours and shopkeepers are kind and helpful as we are now well known in the area. A favourite lunch stop is Benholm Mill, run by and for adults with learning difficulties – it is a beautiful setting with much of their own produce from the garden used in the soups. Our table at the Horn blower Fish Restaurant in Gourdon is named after the fishing boat owned by Ian, our neighbour at Jubilee House! Naturally we cannot be in Stonehaven without a McHardy's steak pie and Robertson's butteries but

the real joy of the time there is the fun of playing games in the evening, singing as Tom plays his mandolin or harmonica, and hearing stories of holidays enjoyed in early years.

Nothing can beat a pre bedtime walk around the harbour where the lights twinkle, the boats bob and curtsey to us as we listen to the chatter and laughter of people enjoying their drinks at the pub.

We plan to return to Jubilee House next year and hope a few more folks will enjoy the benefit of this wonderful facility.

More photos can be seen on our web page.

Money matters

The customers at The Stag collected more than £26 in the collecting can in the bar.

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The textile bank at Drumoak has been emptied for the first time and 180 kg of material had been donated, raising £54 for the club.

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The next coffee and cakes event will be on Saturday, November 20 at the Scout Hall.

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More than £700 was raised at Helen Cross's recent open house. Helen would like to thank everybody who donated and attended to make it such a success.

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Sheila Ferres has designed a Christmas card in aid of FMN. It and the calender will be on sale soon.

Forget-Me-Notes

BY KATIE GOURLAY

THE Forget-Me-Notes meet in St Columba's Church Hall in Banchory on a Thursday morning from 10.15 – 12.15 to enjoy singing together.

The group has gone from strength to strength this year having started with a membership of eleven in January and is now sixteen. There are many good voices, male and female, and the sound produced lifts the spirit and sends us all off with a spring in our step and songs which keep us humming for many days after the session.

Most of the members are brought by car or taxi.

Heather Morrison, Jane Gray and Coral Davies do the ferrying and Joy Crofts, Jane and Coral help during the session.

Our repertoire varies from old music hall favourites to a wide variety of Scottish songs, folk songs and songs from well-known musicals, all of which are accompanied by Tom Gourlay on his mandolin, Katie Gourlay on the keyboard and Sandra Gibbons on her guitar.

After a happy first half with lots of singing and laughter Joy make us tea or coffee and a 'fancy piece' to give us strength to return to our singing again.

The tea-break also gives us a chance for a blether and a well earned rest.

£2,970 grant for Forget-Me-Notes

THE People's Postcode Trust has awarded the Forget-Me Notes £2,970.

The money will be used to buy a new keyboard, song books and to expand its sessions.

The letter with the good news also said: "The Trustees were impressed by your organisation and this particular project. I am therefore delighted to let you know that your application has been successful."

Now that's something to sing about.

Heather says thanks

Thank you all for my lovely cards & gifts to celebrate my 65th! Covie and I had a fantastic holiday in Ontario making it a very special birthday - so looking forward to shopping at RGC!

Can you help?

The Forget-Me-Not Club is currently looking for:

- Volunteer drivers
- One to one volunteers
- Fundraising committee members
- Ideas and help with activities

For more information, call Heather on 07702735122

Fun and games on Wednesdays

By ANN CHADWICK

"TEA'S up!" calls Bert to summon everyone attending the Forget-Me-Not Men's Group for a cup of tea or coffee and a piece. Don't panic, there are enough cheesy biscuits to go around, but who will get the chocolate biscuit? Must be Hugh, our chocolate king. It might even be someone's birthday and after we've sung 'Happy Birthday', we'll all share the cake selected by Maureen and maybe someone will be inspired to sing another song. After the break and some wit and repartee, we return to the activities, which could be indoor bowls, pool, or dominos. Charlie is the domino champion as he will remind everyone when he wins a game with his "we are the champions" cry. A game of Scrabble may be played for those so inclined – but don't let Jane play if you want to win! A circuit of the sweet box gives everyone a chance to choose their favourite chocolate but why do all the soft centres go first? All too soon taxis and lifts arrive and we all say "goodbye" until next Wednesday afternoon.

Forget-Me- Not Men's Group is held at the DISC on Wednesday n between 2.00 and 4.00pm.

Cheque this out

SENIOR pupils from Banchory Academy visited a Monday session of the Forget-Me-Not Club recently to hand over the £3,000 raised at the fashion show. They are already planning the 2011 one. In addition there is word of another event, possibly in March, possibly at the British Legion, possibly including Peter Ferguson and possibly involving sequins, glitter balls and dancing shoes.

More details as they become available.

Once again, planning meetings take place at Tease and involve lots of hot chocolate.