

Newsletter

December 2018

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We say a fond farewell, have super fundraisers and would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



Remembering Dorothy

It is with great sadness that we write to say the lovely Dorothy Matthews, Dot as she was known to many, has passed away. It was only back in July that we featured Dot's retirement after serving as a volunteer for the Friends for almost 22 years. Dot was a much loved gentle lady who enjoyed a chat and a laugh. You were always sure to leave the counter with a smile.

Dot's funeral service will be at Eltham Crematorium, Crown Woods Way, London SE9 2AZ at 1pm on 18 December.

Our thoughts and best wishes are with Dot's family at this time.



News in brief

Monday 17 December - Sherwood Park School children will be singing in main reception from noon to 1pm.

Tuesday 18 December - Oxleas choir will be singing in the main reception from 3.30pm to 5.30pm.

Thursday 20 December - Foxbury ward opens under the care of Bromley Healthcare and will be a 28 bedded intermediate ward. The amount of beds may increase in the new year.

Multi-faith room - This will be moving from the third floor to the fourth floor and proposals for a new multi-faith room will be out soon. More details will be in the newsletters early next year. If you are interested in putting your views across please send in your comments to denise.webb@nhs.net

Galliford Try's Bake Sale

On 29 November Galliford Try, the main contractors for the redevelopment works at Queen Mary's hospital, held a Bake Sale in memory of Bob Champion's wife who sadly passed away recently from an Aortic Dissection. The British Heart Foundation funds vital research into this, so was the chosen charity for the event.

Between the overwhelming support of donations (money and cake) from our Supply Chain, the trust, colleagues and friends we raised an amazing £1,100. A fantastic effort by all. Thank you.

Christina Thorn, Document Controller, Galliford Try



Poppy knitter

Philomena, a Dartford & Gravesham receptionist in the Outpatients Department who has been working at Queen Mary's for 11 years, recently returned to the 'art' of knitting and crochet as a form of therapy. As the Centenary for the end of the Great War approached she thought it would be nice to make a poppy that she could keep, whilst still making a donation to the poppy appeal. She found a pattern she liked and made one for herself which she wore to work. However, she was totally unprepared for the response, first of all from her friends and colleagues but also from patients. Philomena decided to contact the British Legion having made the decision to try and make as many as she could to raise some funds for the poppy appeal. It was hard to keep up with the demand and she made and sold her own poppy three times. She is still waiting to hear how much has been raised but has been assured the money is still being counted. The pot at Queen Mary's was very full and Philomena has already been approached about next year, so watch this space.



Carols by Candlelight

This is a Carol Service for friends and families to come together and celebrate the lives of loved ones and offer a space to reflect on what has been happening in our lives in the past year. The service has a collection of well known carols for the congregation to sing as well as special Christmas choral pieces sung by the choir.

There will be an opportunity to dedicate a message in memory of a loved one by either lighting a candle or hanging a message on a tree.

All are welcome to attend on Sunday 9 December from 6pm to 7pm at St James the Great Church, Bladindon Drive, Bexley, Kent DA5 3BP



Sunrise knitters

Are there any keen knitters out there who would like to join the knit and natter group over at Sunrise of Frognaal, Frognaal House? Sessions are typically on a Friday afternoon at 2.30pm when knitters make blankets for patients who are here on the wards longer term so this will be an ongoing project.

Alternatively if you would like to knit some squares at home, they use 4mm needles and knit 25 x 25 stitch squares. You can drop them in directly to Sunrise or leave them at Queen Mary's main reception desk for the attention of Denise Webb.

Music Therapy courtesy of the Friends of QM

The Meadow View Unit would like to thank the Friends of Queen Mary's for their generous donation to the cost of providing music therapy to their service users on the unit. Meadow View Unit is a rehabilitation unit and by having the music therapy sessions it has enabled their service users to participate in an activity that has provided stimulation, social contact and interaction and practicing rehabilitation.



Your news and questions

If you have any interesting news from Queen Mary's new or old you would like to share, views about anything within this newsletter, or any questions you would like to ask about what is happening around Queen Mary's, do get in touch. If you would like this newsletter emailed to you please do let us know.

Contact details are: denise.webb@nhs.net or you can telephone on **02039 107391**