

CourtCIRCULAR

SPRING 2024



STEP INTO SPRING!

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90th Birthday
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Retirement
SECURITY



Welcome

It gives me huge pleasure to see so much good news. There are some great stories inside which talk of celebrations and social gatherings, historic events and life stories. We are so glad to be sharing news from Retirement Security and from around the Courts. I do hope you enjoy this edition as much as I did and I wish you and your families a happy Easter from myself and the Retirement Security team.

Bob

Bob Bessell

Chairman of the Board



What is happening at your court?

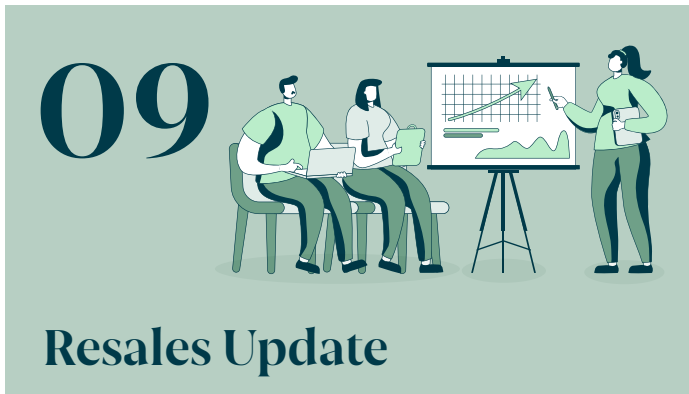
We would love to hear from you, so we can share it in the next edition of our new Court Circular.

Simply email Michelle Hackett at michellehackett@retirementsecurity.co.uk or send handwritten notes and printed material via your Court Manager.

Find your Court Circular Supplement inside



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Retirement Security have their own Mrs Christmas!



Celebration for Audrey Matthews' 90th birthday



Your Wellbeing & Welfare

If you have an illness or disability, claiming Attendance Allowance may lead to a significant increase in your weekly income, making it easier for you to acquire the help and support you may need.

What is Attendance Allowance?

Attendance Allowance (AA) is a benefit for people over state pension age who need help with personal care or supervision, or someone to watch over them, because of physical or mental disability.

Entitlement is based on the help you could reasonably do with, not any help you actually receive. You can spend it on whatever you want, but it can be taken into account for the social care means-test.

AA is not taxable, is not based on national insurance contributions, and is not means-tested, so you do not have to give details of your income or savings. It is paid on top of other benefits or pensions. If you receive AA, you may also qualify for, or receive more of, other benefits.

Who qualifies for Attendance Allowance?

To qualify for AA, you must fulfil all of the following conditions:

- have reached state pension age
- satisfy one of the disability tests
- and have done so for six months
- not be subject to immigration control and be habitually resident
- the UK is your competent state for paying sickness benefits.

Conditions of entitlement:

The disability tests

You can claim AA if you need help with personal care, supervision or watching over because of physical or mental disability. It does not matter if you live alone, with other people, or have a carer. It does not matter whether you actually get any help. What matters is that you reasonably require help. There are day time and night time conditions which are explained on the following page.

Day time

The rules say you must reasonably require either frequent attention throughout the day in connection with your bodily functions, or continual supervision to avoid substantial danger to yourself or others.

Night time

You must show you require either prolonged or repeated attention, or require another person to be awake for a prolonged period or at frequent intervals to watch over you to avoid danger to yourself or others.

Rates

- You will receive lower rate AA (£68.10 per week) if you fulfil either the day or night conditions.
- You will receive higher rate AA (£101.75 per week) if you fulfil both day and night conditions.

Daytime disability conditions

You may meet the daytime 'attention' conditions if, because of your disability or health condition, you require physical or verbal help with your 'bodily functions' such as: breathing, eating, drinking, getting in or out of bed, going to the toilet, washing, dressing, sleeping, communicating, hobbies and pastimes, and taking medication.

Think about the help you need during the day, not just in the morning and bedtime. Seeing and hearing are bodily functions. For example, if you are visually impaired and need someone to read your post to you, or you are deaf and need help with communicating. Walking is a bodily function so needs arising from mobility problems count, but only at home or when visiting others or attending social activities;

for example, help getting in and out of a car, using a walking frame or wheelchair or storing them after use. You may meet the condition if you need someone with you when attending treatment at hospital (renal dialysis, physiotherapy, chemotherapy). You may qualify if you need continual supervision to avoid the risk of danger to yourself or others. Continual does not mean nonstop so breaks of an hour or so are fine. This might be if you are at risk of falls, getting confused, having fits or seizures, or if your condition deteriorates or relapses without much warning.

Night-time disability conditions

You may meet the night-time conditions if you require attention for a 'prolonged' period (one spell of at least 20 minutes) or 'repeatedly' (two or more shorter spells) during the night. This might be for difficulties going to the toilet, getting in and out of bed or moving in bed. You may need someone being awake to 'watch over you' for a prolonged period (20 minutes or more) or at frequent intervals (generally at least three times a night) to avoid the risk of danger e.g. from falls or wandering.

Making a claim

You can claim AA by:

- calling the AA Helpline (0800 731 0122) to request a claim form. or
- downloading a claim form at www.gov.uk/attendance-allowance/how-toclaim

Your services manager is available to provide you with any advice or support you may need to make your application.





Bob Bessell
Chairman of the Board

Reflection On My Journey...

...particularly the last 40 years setting up and managing Retirement Security.

There are now so many contributory elements to the concept of integrated retirement communities / leasehold very sheltered housing, including its name(s), that it is practically impossible to identify all of its origins, but there is certainly a very long list of the people who made significant contributions.

Perhaps the most unexpected is the Pope, whose extended visit to the north of England, about 1974, was a major evangelical success, but financially placed severe stress on the Church's finances.

To meet the financial strain, the Church found itself having to sell off surplus land, which included what is now Tiddington Court in Stratford-upon Avon.

Many of the other Courts for which Retirement Security is currently responsible had similarly exotic origins, such as Cathedral Green Court in Peterborough, the land for which was a free gift, but just as important was the range of people involved. The most significant of whom, without doubt, was Lord Joseph, formerly Sir Keith Joseph, whose father had been Lord

Mayor of London and founder of BOVIS, a major development firm who were responsible for about half of the present repertoire of properties in the Retirement Security portfolio.

It was Lord Joseph who arranged for me to meet Lady Thatcher, formerly Mrs Margaret Thatcher, just before she became Prime Minister.

The outcome of that meeting was an invitation by Mrs Thatcher to tell her what was so special about leasehold retirement housing, to which my response was an invitation for her to address the Directors of Social Services; she responded by agreeing, on condition that I provided her with a draft of the speech.

Unfortunately, what could have been an epoch-making event turned out to be a 'damp squib' as she preferred to rely on a very mundane contribution provided by a member of her staff. However, even to achieve a contribution by the Leader of the Opposition was a significant advance to the retirement housing debate on which we can continue to build.

The Story of Nita Hills

Tannery Court



We looked into what was available in the area for residential apartments for retired people and attended a talk given by Bob Bessell. We were very impressed by the concept for elderly people and bought an apartment forthwith.

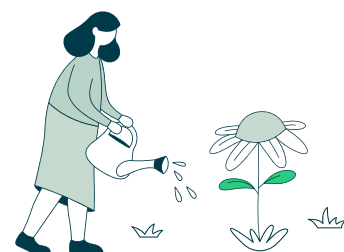
When we moved in, the gardens were flourishing with rape seed in flower, docks and buttercups. One of the first activities myself and other Owners did was a lot of weeding and getting shrubs and flowers to enhance the grounds.

The Board of Directors was put in place three months after we moved in and I joined as a Director and was Chair for several years. I remained on the Board for 16 years until last year, where my health sadly forced me to resign.

I have seen many people come and go and unfortunately my husband was one of them four years ago. The staff here are excellent, friendly, caring and do all they can to help.

When the pandemic hit the country, Wales had very strict rules which made living very lonely and miserable for many of us, especially those on their own.

Fortunately, after nearly three years, life is getting back to normal and we are enjoying our many social activities again.





Did you know?

Retirement Security Celebrates a Milestone Pension Credit Success for Centenarian in the West Midlands.

Retirement Security proudly announces a landmark achievement in securing a backdated Pension Credit award for a 100-year-old West Midlands Owner. The successful claim has not only provided essential financial support but also highlighted the importance of pension credit awareness in our communities.

The Owner was unaware her eligibility for Pension Credit had been calculated incorrectly. The intervention by Retirement Security's dedicated team resulted in a significant improvement to her financial well-being, ensuring she receives the support she is entitled to and a £43,967 lump sum payment.

This case stands as a testament to Retirement Security's commitment to ensuring that Owners receive the benefits and support they deserve. It also underscores the pressing need for heightened awareness and guidance when it comes to welfare benefit entitlements.

Retirement Security advises all Owners or their loved ones to seek information on their welfare rights. Every eligible Owner should have access to the benefits that can make a substantial difference in their quality of life.

For more information on Pension Credit and other entitlements, or to find out how Retirement Security can assist, please contact your Services Manager.



Resales update

Good news!
The property market has
got off to a great start this year.



Retirement
SECURITY

Life - Defined By You
**Independent
living, with a
difference**

- High quality independent retirement living with support when required
- 24/7 onsite staff and dedicated weekly domestic support for every Owner at our Courts for your convenience
- A retirement community where Owners have real power and control of the running of their Court
- A safe, secure and professionally managed environment with a wide range of facilities
- Dining room, social spaces, and beautifully landscaped gardens for your enjoyment
- Guest suite available for your visitors along with free car parking spaces

Register your interest today.
Call: 01789 292952
Email: info@retirementsecurity.co.uk
www.retirementsecurity.co.uk

ARCO
APPROVED
OPERATOR

Retirement Security have overseen 21 new sales in January and 22 new sales in February, boding well for a successful and healthy 2024. The sales team are currently working closer than ever with a number of Court Managers to introduce new Owners to the community.

We've just held an open day event at Marlborough Court in Eastbourne, hosted by the Court Manager and her team with Dale Funnell, our Sales Consultant. This led to new sales being agreed before the event even took place! Lots of enquiries and plenty of prosecco / canapes consumed on the day; all in all a great success and effort from the team and Owners at Marlborough Court. Following this, a number of people have returned to secure their favourite apartment.

Social media has seen unprecedented levels of enquiries due to our new Court specific advertising campaigns that have reached hundreds of new leads. We will continue to expand across all Courts as soon as possible, combined with our commitment to Rightmove, Autumna and other third parties specialists.

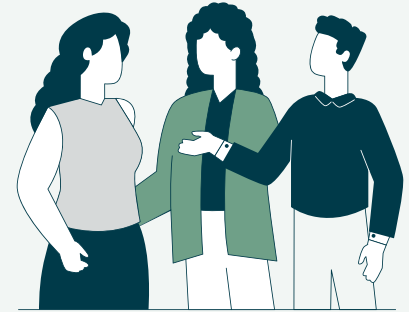
Melton Court in Poole will soon be hosting an open day and the level of interest is already strong from our locally placed adverts and social media posts. Nicki, the Court Manager, and her team are really looking forward to hosting what is sure to be an enjoyable and successful day!



Retirement Security have their own Mrs Christmas!



Our Services Manager, Lin Sutcliffe certainly dressed up for the occasion over Christmas. Lin explained **"I had a wonderful time sharing mulled wine and mince pies with Owners and staff members at Elizabeth Court and Melton Court"**.



Supporting You

There are many ways in which we support our employees and Directors, and regular training and updates for your local on-site teams is part of that.

Court Manager Training – Court Managers were invited to attend the event which took place on 12th September. Following this session we have provided a number of online training sessions for Managers to support them when dealing with employee matters.

Court Manager training will include:

- Recruitment of young workers
- Absence, prolonged and sporadic
- Appraisal, formal and informal
- Culture and grievance updates
- Dignity at work



Christmas Jumper Day



During December the team at Retirement Security wore their favourite Christmas jumpers to work in aid of **Save the Children**.

This worthy charity helps children in the UK and around the world get the best future possible. We are looking forward to making this a wider event across the Courts.

Introducing our new Marketing Assistant!



Debbie Winters - Marketing Assistant

We warmly welcome Debbie Winters to Retirement Security. Debbie joined the Resales Team in February bringing with her a wealth of experience in estate agency and retirement living resales.

How are you?

sad? stressed? anxious? worried? hopeless?
angry? tearful? overwhelmed? want help?



Your Mental Health First Aiders (MHFAiders®) are



There are plenty of different types of support out there, and an MHFAider® can help you access them.

MHFAiders® are a point of contact if you, or someone you are concerned about, are experiencing poor mental health or emotional distress. They are not therapists or psychiatrists but they can give you initial support and signpost you to appropriate help if required.

If you have any questions about Mental Health First Aid at please contact our head office on 0800 389 9384 or 01789 292952 or send an email to info@retirementsecurity.co.uk

An Owner's Tale - John Flashman

John was born on 30th September 1929 and was brought up in Winchmore Hill, near Alexandra Palace, London. The war came only too soon; during the blitz in 1941 the Flashman family had a lucky escape.

A German bomber dropped two torpedo-shaped landmines by parachute very near their home; one actually went through the roof and first floor of the house next door, landing alongside a grand piano and a sleeping elderly lady – fortunately it did not go off! The next morning John spotted the now defused landmine lying on the pavement waiting to be taken away. The other mine exploded on a golf course, causing only slight damage.

So John was sent to board at Berkhamsted School for the remainder of the war. Here he developed his running skills, where he was Victor Ludorum in 1948 - the Hertfordshire Junior Champion in both the 100 and 220-yards races. Later he equalled the 100-yds in 10.1 seconds record of Norris McWhirter (co-founder of the

Guinness Book of Records with his brother Ross).

In 1948 John started his National Service and joined the army. He was commissioned into the Royal Army Service Corps and was posted to Belfast, just prior to the worst troubles. Here he ran a supply depot and became a member of the Covent Garden-led 'mushroom society', growing mushrooms in a disused warehouse for consumption in the camp – and in another disused warehouse he played badminton for the army! John was fortunate to be demobbed in 1950, just four weeks before the start of the Korean War.

John then joined the London office of Shell, where he met Jill. They played badminton together at the Lensbury Sports Club, owned by Shell and BP; they were a formidable pair, and so the romance began.

John's job was programming oil tankers from the Middle East to European refineries. Whilst touring Iraq, Qatar, Abu Dhabi and Lebanon he met associates of the imprisoned Terry Waite and was almost imprisoned

himself! Following the overthrow of the Shah of Persia and the Suez disruption, in order to keep the supply of petrol to the UK flowing, he bought crude oil from the USA and Venezuela.

Jill and John married in 1955. They set up home in Winchmore Hill where their son Richard was born in 1956, followed by Caroline in 1959. When Caroline was only 7 weeks old Shell sent the family to Australia, travelling on an ocean liner which was also carrying '£10.00 Poms'. Needless to say, the Flashman family had better accommodation!

In Sydney amongst other homes, they were given a bungalow in Collaroy near Manly; unfortunately, there was only one toilet, which was outside, and inhabited by funnel-web spiders which had to be knocked off with a stick before one could use the loo. John recalls that on Christmas Day he took the children to the beach whilst Jill cooked the turkey. The temperature was 30 degrees and Caroline's plastic carry-cot melted on the sand; and then they went home to hot turkey!

After some 6 months in Sydney, the family were sent to Melbourne, and after two years in Australia the Flashmans returned to the UK, sailing on the Dutch liner, Willem Ruys, via the Panama Canal, the same ship that had brought them out via the Suez Canal. They settled in Hadley Wood, between Epping Forest and Barnet. John was based at Shell's new London Waterloo office, where his experience in Australia proved very useful in developing North Sea Oil.

Shell were partners with BP and were based at the oil terminal at Sullom Voe, Shetland, 100 miles west of the nearest landfall. In 1981 Jill and John were present at the official opening of the terminal by Queen Elizabeth: a small IRA bomb went off, fortunately doing only minor damage to the roof of the building. The Flashmans later also met Charles and Diana at the naming of the Aith RNLI lifeboat. John recalls that Charles was very quiet, whilst Diana spoke excitedly to everyone, even going to the kitchen to meet the chefs who had baked a special cake for the occasion. Also whilst working in Scotland, John helped relocate Shell's Brent System Head Office from London to Aberdeen.

The Flashmans left Scotland in 1989, when John retired at the age of 60, living briefly in Hadley Wood, before moving to Christchurch. Over the years they took up cruising on hired boats on the Thames and canals. And then they bought a boat, which they named 'Jayare' (as in JR, from 'Dallas'), and moored it permanently at Lensbury Motor Cruising Club, where John was appointed Commodore. They took trips down the Thames, the Medway and up the North Sea Coast to Felixstowe and Woodbridge. Jill also had many other interests including being Captain of Barnet Golf Club, a member of the W.I., working for the NSPCC and RNLI, as well as taking navigation exams, playing bridge, upholstery and crochet – a busy lady.

Eventually they decided to move to Bournemouth, where they bought a penthouse flat in Tower Road in 2003. John became Chairman of the Board and Chair of the Bournemouth & Poole National Trust Outings Committee; the 800 members travelled all over the country by coach until Covid put paid to it. At Elgin Court they met and became firm friends with Diana and Ted Over, eventually following them to Melton Court in 2017.

Unfortunately Jill developed a blood cancer and had several falls, resulting in her admission to Poole Hospital, where she caught Covid. After a short stay at Bourne Valley Nursing Home she passed away on May 7th 2023.

Jill was very happy during her years at Melton Court, especially enjoying the restaurant and the garden, where she helped to keep the roses in order. Manager Fiona and Chairman of the Board Christine soon recognised John's potential as a Board Member and he now chairs the restaurant committee. He is also still a member of the Parkstone PROBUS, the association of Professional Businessmen.

John still eats in the restaurant every day – one of the main attractions of Melton for them both. Of course he misses Jill immensely, commenting on how lovely, lively and sensible she was.

He is a regular attender at All Saints Church, Branksome Park, as well as being a supporter of the Holy Communion Services provided at Melton Court by St Aldhelms Church. John supports and participates in the social activities programme whenever possible and would encourage all fellow owners to follow suit.

Helena Greene



Home Is Where My Dog Is

Bryan Rigg, Carrs Court

I have been totally blind since 1985 and Ginny, my fifth guide dog, who I got in March 2016, was 10 years old on Boxing Day 2023. In the normal run of things she should have retired then. However, due to the restrictions in Guide Dogs for the Blind's breeding programme caused by Covid, there is a 2-year waiting list for replacement dogs and as we have been told she and I are still working well together, she will continue to work for another 12 months. As I will be 92 by then I am hoping that the association will be able to provide me with a "plodder".

Ginny gives me the independence and freedom

to go anywhere at any time without having to ask my wife or anybody else. She is much loved by Owners and our marvellous staff alike and no doubt her successor will get the same admiration. I was very touched to receive a birthday card for Ginny's 10th birthday, painted by my neighbour Val Rogerson. As well as being my eyes when going for walks and shopping, she provides therapy to others, especially those here who have had pet dogs in the past.

Earlier in my life I was a member of the local fund-raising branch of 'Guide Dogs' and was an official speaker for them, giving

some 325 talks at schools, ladies organisations, rotary clubs and many more. In 2004 I was honoured to meet the late Queen in Buckingham Palace in recognition of my voluntary work. The Queen shook hands with me and more importantly stroked my guide dog Iain.

On my daily walks I often meet people to whom I have given talks to. One lady recently told me that she has a photograph of me on her bedroom wall! Fortunately, she went on to say it was taken of her son when he was a boy scout, who had met me and my guide dog over 30 years ago. Thank goodness for that!



Alan & Brenda Celebrated Their Emerald Wedding Anniversary

Forum Court

Owners Alan and Brenda Buck celebrated their emerald wedding anniversary on Valentine's Day. They have been married 55 glorious years and Alan serenaded his wife before enjoying a glass of bubbly and cake with some of their friends in the lounge at Forum Court.



Celebration for Audrey Matthews' 90th Birthday

Deerhurst Court

3rd January saw a large and happy gathering at Deerhurst Court to celebrate owner Audrey Matthews' 90th birthday. Audrey was joined by over 40 guests, which included Owners, friends and family, some of whom travelled from as far away as Florida, New Orleans, London and Wiltshire. Among her local friends were Mary, a friend since their teenage years, and Thelma,



whose friendship extends over 60 years. Audrey was also celebrating her one year anniversary at Deerhurst Court, where she has made many new friends and is very settled and happy. Audrey and her family would like to thank the wonderful staff at Deerhurst for making everyone so welcome.

Winter Poetry Competition

We would like to thank all the entrants, we received an overwhelming response. The poems were certainly of a very high standard and we thoroughly enjoyed reading them all. **Congratulations to our three winners!**



**Second place -
Imagine Winter**
Margaret Lockwood,
Plymouth Court



First place - Winter - Joan Best, Forum Court



**Third place -
A Winter's Joy**
Miles Paterson,
Margaret Court



Imagine Winter

Imagine winter and what do you see?
 A frosty pavement or a leafless tree?
 Short, cold days and long dark nights?
 Close the curtains and switch on the light.
 We might have some snow as the winter creeps on;
 Search out the wellies, warm hats to put on.
 Pavements are icy; we daren't venture out,
 But Christmas is coming – we'll cheer up no doubt.
 For this is the time when we think of new birth;
 Christ as a baby – and hope fills the earth.
 We notice new life as some green shoots appear;
 Things will get better! It's almost New Year!
 Winter's still with us but soon will come Spring;
 Look forward, be hopeful for all it will bring.



Winter



Winter is for young folk, not for the old
Kids like ice and sliding, we don't like the cold

Frosty steps are just too risky,
Just tread slowly, not so frisky

But winter has its compensations
For those of us who draw our pensions
No coal to store or fires to light
Just flick a switch and all is bright

We don't have to rush to office or shop
Or crowd on trains with commuters who cough
We enjoy our cosy winter quarters
With frequent visits from sons and daughters

With time to read, new hobbies to enjoy
New things to learn and old skills to employ
And winter brings Christmas, a time to treasure
"Strictly" is over, but TV still gives pleasure

New Year gives yet more celebration
"Must eat less" that's my resolution
Only three months of winter are still in hand
Before days get longer and holidays are planned
And we must greet summer and all that it brings
Global warming and droughts, insects that sting
We'll dream of winter and fondly remember
How much we revelled in mid December



A Winter's Joy

The snowflakes fall so soft and light,
A blanket of white, so pure and bright.
The world is hushed, the sky is gray,
But in my heart, it's Christmas Day.

The fire is warm, the candles bright,
The tree is trimmed, a lovely sight.
The carolers sing, the children play,
And in my heart, it's Christmas Day.

The stars above, so clear and bright,
A peaceful scene, a holy night.
The angels sing, the shepherds pray,
And in my heart, it's Christmas Day.

The winter's chill, so cold and stark,
But in my heart, it's warm and dark.
For in this season, love abounds,
And in my heart, true joy is found.



Deerhurst Court

Christmas Flower Arranging Class



On 19th December several Owners of the social club attended a Christmas floral arrangement class at the Court. The class was taken by Ann Baddeley, whose father lives at the Court, and was open to complete floral novices. Ann was a professional florist for many years and frequently does floral demonstrations for the social club.

Owners used fresh roses, holly, garden foliage, cones, gold & red baubles and a beautiful gold candle.

Some decided to gift their creations to friends and family. This festive afternoon was completed with coffee & mince pies. The social club are already planning their next class – spring baskets.

Forum Court

Burns Night Supper



Forum Court held a traditional Burns Night Supper on 25th January. They had haggis, tatties and neeps followed by cloutie dumpling and a whiskey sauce. The haggis was accompanied by bag pipes into the dining room and then addressed by the gentleman in the red kilt,

David Stephans, a friend of Owner Frank Goldsmith, who is dressed in the blue kilt. Jimmy the chef stabbed the haggis and the owners all raised a wee tot of whisky. The evening was finished with a Scottish themed quiz hosted by Cathy Mackenzie.

Gorselands Court

Belly Dancing Experience

Gorselands Court enjoyed a traditional belly dancing experience. The fantastic Fatima talked us through the history of belly dancing in such a fun way that all Owners thoroughly enjoyed the event. It was lovely to see everyone laughing and getting fully involved. This was all thanks to Olive Hornsby, one of our Owners, who organised this in addition to the many other events she organises at the Court – Sue Thomas, Court Manager



Making Memories

Gorselands Court would like to give a big thank you to Maria Shuttleworth for running our art class. The classes have gone from strength to strength as you can see from the masterpiece made by all who attended. These art classes are very therapeutic for our Owners and very much enjoyed by all, and everyone is made to feel welcome – Sue Thomas, Court Manager



Christmas meal



Valentine's Day meal

Priory Court

Burns Night

To mark the anniversary of the poet Robert Burns' birth, Owners came together to enjoy a traditional Burns Night Supper at Priory Court.

"This event is one of the highlights of our social programme, the evening was full of fun and laughter – it was a great success".

Mrs Tildsley, Chair explained



Like Breakfast, But Better



When the Priory Court Manager, Lisa Jenkins was thinking of ways to enhance the catering provision at the Court she came across this article: **"Brunch is cheerful, sociable and inciting. It is talk-compelling. It puts you in a good temper, it makes you satisfied with yourself and your fellow beings, it sweeps away the worries and cobwebs of the week."** Guy Beringer **"Brunch: A Plea"**.

Inspired by this Lisa introduced a Saturday Brunch Club which is enjoyed by many Owners, with the number of diners continuing to grow. Mrs Duke, a regular at the club, said **"It's a great way to meet up with my neighbours informally, there is always lots of chatter about news, sport and the latest reality TV show"**.

Saxon Court



Schools Choir Brings Christmas Cheer

Owners were delighted to be entertained by the local school choir over the festive season. 34 pupils from Eastbrook Primary School in Southwick gave beautiful renditions of classic and modern Christmas songs including, 'Away In A Manger', 'Silent Night', 'Jingle Bells', to name but a few. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the visit.



Tannery Court

Tinsel, Turkey and Treats



Court Manager, Christine Bather, made sure that Christmas 2023 was going to be a season to remember for Owners at Tannery Court.

Owners had an amazing time taking part in Christmas bingo, parties and themed coffee

mornings. However, it was the entertainment which was the most memorable. Mrs Jones explained "Music filled the air with visits from Bro Aled Male Voice Choir, Beulah Brass Band and Kevin and Alistair – they were all truly remarkable".

Tannery Court

Valentine's Dinner

St Valentine's Day
Evening Meal
Wednesday 14th February at 5.30pm

Welcome Drink On Arrival
Menu

Starter
Prawn Cocktail served with Brown Bread
or Carrot & Coriander Soup

Main Course
Chicken and Mushrooms in White Wine Sauce,
served with Seasonal Vegetables

Sweet
Sherry Trifle
or Chocolate Gateau with Chantilly Cream.



Tannery Court celebrated St Valentine's Day by holding an evening meal at the Court. The Court was decorated in style with an array of red roses and hearts. The ambience for the evening continued with tables laid with heart confetti, red roses and glowing table lamps.

The evening was enjoyed by all and the Owners are looking forward to their next themed evening meal.



Dennis Does It Again!

Congratulations to Dennis Smith at Tannery Court who successfully finished another half marathon last November. He raised an amazing £5,700 for the local children's hospice. Well done Dennis!



Where can you find us?

Ashby Court
Hinckley

Blake Court
Enfield

Blundellsands Court
Southport

Boat Lane Court
Northenden

Bowling Green Court
Chester

Burcort Court
Sutton Coldfield

Bushmead Court
Luton

Carrs Court
Wilmslow

Cathedral Green Court
Peterborough

Deerhurst Court
Solihull

Dovehouse Court
Solihull

Elizabeth Court
Salisbury

Emmbrook Court
Reading

Forum Court
Southport

Fullerton Court
Teddington

Gorselands Court
Liverpool

Greyfriars Court
Lewes

Kennet Court
Wokingham

King Richards Court
Northampton

Margaret Court
Stratford upon Avon

Marlborough Court
Eastbourne

Melton Court
Poole

Minster Court
Lincoln

Oaktree Court
Milton Keynes

Osbourne Court
Wirral

Pinner Court
Birmingham

Plymouth Court
Redditch

Priory Court
Knowsley

Saxon Court
Hove

St Georges Court
Sutton Coldfield

Tannery Court
Abergele

Tiddington Court
Stratford upon Avon

Spring Art Competition

“Spring adds new life and new beauty to all that is.” Jessica Harrelson

Is there anything that brings on more joy than the cold dark of winter giving way to the brightness of spring with its longer days full of sunshine and all the colour popping up around us in early spring flowers? To celebrate all the beautiful parts of this time of year, we welcome you to express your creativity in new and unexpected ways. Draw, Paint or Photograph your depiction of spring.

1st Prize £75
2nd Prize £50
3rd Prize £25

Take a good clear photograph of your artwork and send your entry to michellehackett@retirementsecurity.co.uk or post via your Court Manager.

Deadline for entries is **Monday 13 May 2024.**



CourtCIRCULAR

SPRING 2024

The world's **LARGEST** chocolate bunny was made in 2017 in Brazil, it was a 13-foot-tall, 10-pound sculpture

LENT is referred to as a time of fasting, but participants focus more on giving up one significant indulgence

EGGS

have been seen as ancient symbol of fertility, while springtime is considered to bring new life and rebirth

EASTER takes place on a Sunday, after the 40-day period called Lent

FUN FACTS ABOUT EASTER

EASTER is the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ

EASTER SUNDAY is different date every year. It is determined by the date of the spring equinox and the cycles of the moon

76% of Americans think the ears of a chocolate bunny should be the first to be eaten

CADBURY EGGS were first introduced as an Easter confection in Europe in 1875

Both hunting and **PAINTING EGGS** on Easter go back centuries

An English superstition held that **HOT CROSS BUNS** baked on Good Friday, the Friday before Easter, would never mould

The first story of a rabbit (later named the "Easter Bunny") hiding eggs in a garden was published in **1680**