

Heritage House Winter Newsletter



December 2019



Diary dates

Thursday 12th December

HH CHRISTMAS BINGO

Heritage House, Mill Road
Doors open at 6.00pm
Eyes down at 7.00pm

Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th
December

FESTIVE FOOD FAIR

Lady Elizabeth Wing, Holkham
10.00am - 4.00pm

Wednesday 18th December

HH GRAND CHRISTMAS DRAW

Heritage House at 1.30pm

Saturday 21st December

HH CHRISTMAS CAKE & PRODUCE
STALL (THE LAST THIS SEASON)

Burnham Market 9.00am - 1.00pm

Christmas is a comin'

But there will be no fat geese on offer at Heritage House this Yuletide. Instead our day visitors have five days of turkey dinners to look forward to in the week before Christmas. Once again the turkeys, five of them, have been kindly donated by Morrisons in Fakenham and will be served up each lunchtime - with all the trimmings - by Juli and her team of Christmas helpers. But this is just one element of a very full programme of events that we have on offer during the fortnight before the big day and you can read all about it on page 2.

Morrisons are by no means the only people we have to thank. There are many, many more kind people who have supported us in one way or another during the past year and this is a good time and place to say thank you. There isn't space to name every single one of you but that doesn't mean we've forgotten you or that we don't appreciate what you've done for Heritage House.



Just some of the great prizes up for grabs at the Bingo Night on December 12. Your chance to p-p-p-pick up a penguin!

G'bye sport!

Last week we bid a fond and, it must be said, somewhat beery farewell to Terry Kane, one of our longest serving (and uniquely Antipodean) volunteers. Terry has been both a driver and an assistant on the minibuses during his 14 years with Heritage House. He's been one of our great supporters and we'll miss both him and his Aussie wit. And he didn't go empty-handed; as well as the beer, who do you think it was that guessed the weight of Trevor Wright's splendid 7lb 10½oz Christmas cake on Saturday? Yes, it was Terry! We wish him all the very best.



Cards for sale

You may have noticed that we have Heritage House Christmas cards for sale. They were designed by three of our day visitors, Doris, Midge and Ken during the art sessions that are run for Heritage House by Linda Pattrick and Mary Rainsford. There are six cards to a pack, two of each design, and they cost £3.50 a pack. This is Ken's card:



What's on in December

2019 has been Steve Cheshire's first full year as our Manager and it's been a year of innovations all round (the new vehicle livery, cream tea outings and the introduction of regular religious services are just three examples). And the lead up to this Christmas is no exception. Steve and his team have organised a very full programme of events, as you'll see below, and there are more still in the pipeline:

Monday 9th: Christmas songs with Kate Clodd
Tuesday 10th: Carol Service at Wells Primary School
Wednesday 11th: Christmas Sing-a-long
Thursday 12th: Alderman Peel HS Choir 10.00am
HH Christmas Bingo 6.00pm
Friday 13th: popular singing duo 'Back to Back'
Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th (10.00am - 4.00pm):
Festive Food Fair at Holkham

Christmas dinner week:

Monday 16th: The Fakenham Ukulele Band
Tuesday 17th: guitarist & singer Ian Strutt
Wednesday 18th: Hospital Carol Service 10:30am
HH Grand Christmas Draw 1.30pm
Thursday 19th: Staff and Guests lunch 12:00pm
(served by HH Manager & Trustees)
HH Carol Service with Wells Rector
the Rev. Brenda Stewart 1.00pm
Saturday 21st: HH Christmas Cake & Produce Stall
Sunday 22nd: Morrisons bucket collection
Tuesday 24th: HH Christmas Eve Party

Several things need a special mention. Firstly we're grateful to Tesco for supporting our Christmas lunches with a £50 voucher (that'll pay for the spuds and sprouts says Juli!). Also to Heather Gowards of Gowards Funeral Services in Fakenham for kindly providing many of the Bingo prizes (see photo on page 1 for others). But we do need further help. We need volunteers to fill one hour time slots at the Festive Food Fair at Holkham over the weekend of the 14th/15th and we need a driver/drivers to take volunteers and staff to and fro on both days. We also need volunteers for the bucket collection at Morrisons on the 22nd. And don't worry, in both cases - Holkham and Morrisons, you won't be on your own: at Heritage House we always hunt in pairs!

We're also on the look out for bottles for the next bottle stall. We had 130 for the Carnival stall and 140 at ChristmasTide and they all went. So let's try to make it 150 next time. Any sort of bottle will do; all those unwanted Christmas presents for example?

Thank you all

So many people to thank, so little space. Firstly a big thank you to the Norfolk Superheroes. We were their 2018 charity but it was this year that we felt the full impact of their great generosity - the new minibuses and their livery for example. Next Scilla, Annabel, Anne and Sally who run the annual bridge afternoons and have raised over £15,000 for us; and Moira, Clare and all their helpers who ran stalls for us at Wells Carnival and ChristmasTide (last weekend that stall and the Christmas tree that Moira and Juli decorated for the Wells Christmas Tree Festival raised £1,000 for HH!).

And then there's the care staff. Their sponsored walk and bingo nights have fully funded our splendid new medical room - one of many spaces in HH that has benefitted from Audrey Wooller's DIY skills. Another local hero is Sally Whitworth. Thanks to Sally and her team of bakers, suppliers and helpers the monthly cake stalls in Burnham Market have raised over £4,300 for HH so far this year, which is fantastic.

Thanks also to Janet and Nigel Slegg who have once again switched on their Christmas lights for us; Sylvia Taylor from Mill Court who knitted all those little Father Christmases for the ChristmasTide stall (they're at the top of page 1 and bottom of page 4); and to Holkham, who have again chosen Heritage House to be their charity at next weekend's Festive Food Fair.

Thanks too to all our volunteers and every single member of staff; without you we couldn't do what we do. And a big vote of thanks to our Trustees for their good guidance, in particular Lady Leicester and Nicky Milner who have supported us so very generously this year. Last and very definitely NOT least, a great big thank you to all our day visitors. Without you and the support you give us we would have no purpose. Thank you all so much.

Dum di dum di dum di dum

Yes, it's that tune again. You may remember that we mentioned 'An Evening with Tim Bentinck' (also known to Radio 4 listeners as David Archer) in the Autumn newsletter. It was a flagship fundraiser for Heritage House that was held in Holkham Hall in mid-October and, among other things, it included a 'North Norfolk' Archers scene written by Tim who, in real life, is also the 12th Earl of Portland.

Two of the roles in the four-handed playlet were up for auction and, unusually, those bidding were doing so, not for themselves, but for the opportunity to nominate somebody else for the part. And the two lucky (unlucky?) nominees were ... another Earl, the 8th of Leicester, to play that son-of-the-soil Eddie Grundy and Wells legal eagle Miranda Marshall as Ruth Archer (you have to be an Archers fan to know who these characters are!). The other roles were taken by 'proper' actors - David as, well, himself and Sarah Cheshire as Lynda Snell (Sarah's stage name is Bellamy - something else for Archers fans to chuckle over - but she's better known to us as Steve's wife).

His 'friends' had originally planned that 'Eddie' would perform with Basil the Holkham parrot on his shoulder but Basil, who was described in the Daily Telegraph a couple of years ago as a "feathered hoodlum" was very much 'in character' and had to be sent back to his cage. But it was all good fun and, as you can see from the photograph below, the cast enjoyed themselves. Best of all it raised £11,000 for Heritage House, which is really fantastic, and we are enormously grateful to Lady Leicester and Nicky Milner for organising the event, to David for doing it, to Monica Vinader for her wonderful raffle prizes and to all the people who attended. Bravissimo!!



l to r: Lord Leicester (E Grundy), Tim Bentinck (D Archer), Miranda Marshall (R Archer) and Sarah Cheshire (L Snell)

What's on next door

Keith Knight from the Norfolk Deaf Association (NDA) will be holding his regular twice monthly clinics in Wells Hospital on the first and the third Tuesdays of each month as follows:

December 17th; January 7th & 21st; February 4th & 18th; and March 5th & 19th, all between 1.00 and 3.00pm

HH needs you!

Terry Kane's 'retirement' and the imminent departure of one of our regular minibus drivers due to what is politely referred to as 'advancing years' reminds us that we do need to recruit more drivers and, particularly, assistants. So, if you have the time and would like to join a great team of people - or if you know someone who might, please do get in touch. We'd love to hear from you. Full training is given and you can do as much or as little as you like. It's all a great help.

200 Club

Not long to go now before our much anticipated December draw with its double whammy prizes, and it's not too late to join: membership of the Club costs only £12 and would make a very nice Christmas present for the grandchildren - or yourself! In the meantime congratulations to all our November winners. They are:

£50	Mary Rattee	No. 48
£20	PWA Crossley	No. 314
£10	S Griffiths Jones	No. 257
£5	Georgia Lewis	No. 124
£5	Nicky Milner	No. 248
£5	R Griffiths Jones	No. 157

Give as you Live

We've mentioned before that there are various ways that online shoppers can support the charity of their choice for free. Heritage House is signed up with Give as you Live (GAYL), one of the better shopping and price comparison sites. Through them you can shop at over 4,400 stores and on every purchase you make a percentage of the price will be donated to the charity of your choice - *at no cost to you whatever*.

Although it requires a couple of extra 'clicks' it's not a complicated process. Say for example you wanted to buy a nice new outfit from John Lewis. All you have to do is go to www.giveasyoulive.com, sign up (it's free) and select Heritage House as your charity. Next click on 'Stores' and select John Lewis. From then on you shop as normal but (and here's the big difference) by shopping via GAYL you'll be donating 1% of what you spend to HH. And it will cost you absolutely nothing!

Once you're signed up with Give as you Live it's just a matter of shopping via their website. The benefits can be considerable: M&S also offers 1%, Amazon and Trainline up to 1.5% and Argos up to 4% (but do check the small print). To date, thanks to those of you that have already signed up, Heritage House has received £900 from Give as you Live. Perhaps there really *is* such a thing as a free lunch!

And finally...

Heritage House will be closing for Christmas and the New Year but (in another first) we will be open for two of the days in between - Monday the 30th and Tuesday the 31st. Then, having welcomed in the New (leap) Year in whatever style takes your fancy, we're back to normal from Thursday the 2nd of January. In the meantime a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you from all of us at Heritage House.



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"Because we care"