

# Christmas News

## FOR PEACEHAVEN SUPPORTERS

*Dear Friend and supporter,*

Season's greetings! We do trust that you will experience the true meaning of Christmas during this lovely time of Celebration.

Apologies that we have not been in touch for a while but we would like to bring you up to date on what has been quite a journey during 2016!

### Staffing:

In April Mervyn Bothwell came to assist the Directors and to enable the Chief Executive Officer, Lily King, to reduce her working hours. Mervyn, who has worked in the statutory and voluntary sectors for over 30 years, fulfilled the role of part time Executive Director until the summer and in August became the temporary, part time, Director of Services. From September Lily moved to be the part time Administration Manager.

Denise McKeown and Jenipher Chimbanga left us in 2016 and we wish them all the very best for the future. We also want to wish Joy Twamley best wishes as she finished before Christmas.

Ann Thompson and Rosalie Chooi joined the staff team during 2016.

Lynn Murphy, Sally Stroughair, Denise McKeown and Bethany Barnett were on maternity leave during 2016 with Sally returning in September.

Sarah Jane O'Brien graduated in November following her successful completion of Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Degree in Applied Social Studies (Professional Social Care). Well done Sarah Jane!



### Residents:

Rachel and Fran came to live at Lydia House and have settled well.

Plans are underway to renovate Blake House in 2017 to enable every resident to have their own en-suite, improve lighting on the first floor, provide a guest toilet and improve the admin space for staff. Additionally, a very generous gift from a local Trust will enable improvements regarding access at Applewood Heights.

Gordon's book-'Business as Usual' remains in demand and copies may be available in local bookshops or by contacting Ruth Chipperfield, the author.

During the summer Leo, who lives at Lydia House, spoke about his wish to visit the Titanic exhibition one day with Mark, his keyworker. On October 18th Leo and Mark set off from Greystones station to Connolly station in Dublin, then onwards up to Belfast Central; Leo thoroughly enjoyed this journey. From Belfast Central they headed into the city for a lovely meal at one of the restaurants (much craic was had!). After the meal they headed over to the Titanic exhibition in a taxi where Mark received some education on all things nautical; he now knows what a "tender" is! Leo was in his element as he loves all things transport related and has an outstanding memory for these things. Mark and Leo boarded the Titanic's "tender" The Nomadic (see picture!). Leo really enjoyed this day and is planning to visit the Ulster Folk & Transport Museum at Cultra, Holywood in 2017.





## New Beginnings:

As you aware in June 2016 the Presbyterian Church in Ireland announced its intention to take over the operations of Peacehaven and continue to provide care for the residents under the auspices of its Council for Social Witness. It is hoped that the Presbyterian Church will be responsible for the operations of Peacehaven at some point during 2017. Mervyn will remain in his part time role initially but it is envisaged that recruitment for a full-time Director of Services will commence in early 2017.

We, as outgoing Directors, acknowledge the Lord's hand in Peacehaven becoming part of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland family but would particularly want to acknowledge the role that Clive Evans has played in making the initial connections and would wish to thank him and Graham Dawson as they have assisted in navigating ways forward. Thanks are also due to the contributions made from Lindsay Conway, Linda Wray, David Hooks, Denise Keegan, Laura Kelly and Judith Johnston from Presbyterian Church in Ireland.



Lindsay Conway  
(Director)



Linda Wray (Residential and Supported Services Manager)



David Hooks  
(Finance Manager)



Denise Keegan  
(Assistant Residential and Supported Services Manager)

Linda Wray has said:

*'We trust that in the weeks and months ahead both staff and residents will develop their relationships with our Council staff. Our priority is to ensure high standards of care are provided to the residents and that we not only meet but exceed the standards set by HIQA.'*

Presbyterian Church in Ireland wish to establish a local Support Group to bring a new dimension to its work in Greystones, promote Peacehaven's work in its congregations, encourage specific prayerful support, befriend the residents and assist with income generation. They would welcome local people to join with those who have already committed to being part of the Support Group. If you would be interested please contact Linda Wray on +44 (0) 2890 417234.

I am sure that you will agree that 2016 has been a most significant year for Peacehaven, and as we, the Directors, look forward to handover to the Presbyterian Church in Ireland we also await with interest to see what the future brings. It is with confidence that we place the residents and the work in Greystones into God's providence and acknowledge His blessing and give thanks to Him and to all those who have been involved in this good work over many years. We trust that Lydia Cochrane and Dorothy Blake's vision, many years ago, has been achieved and will be built upon in the future.

## Happy Christmas and sincere best wishes for 2017.

Yours sincerely,

Geoffrey Hanan  
Hilda Bleakley  
Cheryl Swarbrigg  
Jill O'Byrne  
Sylvia Sloane

From the Directors of Peacehaven Trust Limited

*If you would like to receive future correspondence in electronic form, or do longer wish to receive correspondence please e-mail [admin@peacehaventrust.com](mailto:admin@peacehaventrust.com) or write to the Administration Manager, Peacehaven, 1-2 Hillside, Greystones, County Wicklow.*

*Thank you.*

## Peacehaven Trust Limited - Our Contact Details

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### The Board of Directors:

Hilda Bleakley, Geoffrey Hanan, Cheryl Swarbrigg, Sylvia Sloane, Jill O'Byrne