Winter time... in the Lodge

by Ciarán Murray

Its winter time and the days are shorter and nights are longer. This season brings us reasons to reflect and remember as well as Celebrate and enjoy our time together.

Community Spirit
We visited Dublin City Library and Archive on November 6th to attend a special talk and demonstration on the History of Jacob’s Biscuit Factory. Page 8

Remembrance Mass
We hosted a Remembrance Mass, celebrated by Fr. Brian Gough November 22nd. Page 3

Mervyenne Jacque
We hosted a 90th birthday party with a performance by Mervyenne Jacque. Page 11

RAMS in Rhyme Concert
We will have other minor occasions including a Visit from RAMS in January 9th. Page 9

Ceremony of Lights
We will celebrate our Ceremony of Lights on December 12th from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Page 4

Inchicore College of Further Education Drama Performance
In December students of the Inchicore College of Further Education (ICFE) Drama Group will perform a collection of songs for Christmas. Page 5

The Secrets of Place Names
Cathy Scuffil, a historian from Dublin City Council will share a talk on the history of place names in the New Year. Page 9

Halloween Party 2017
We had a very successful Halloween Party on October 31st celebrated with a Fancy Dress Party.

Baking Book
Plans are underway for the creation of a Baking Book for Hollybrook Lodge. This is an opportunity for all of you to contribute to our first book and to of course take part in the Baking Groups that will resume in January 2018. Page 2

Communication
If you wish to receive this newsletter by email, please send an email to activitieshollybrooklodge@stjames.ie

Christmas Concert
We will have a Christmas Concert in The Richmond Barracks December 14th from 1:45 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.
Suspiciously Delicious
Our Baking Book Coming 2018!!!!

Over the last 18 months we have had Baking Groups regularly.

We have discussed what we can bake. We base our recipe choices on each season; In Autumn we baked apple tarts with new bramley apples, in summer we created a Pavlova with summer fruits and so on.

As we went along Ciarán kept a record of the recipes and collected them in a folder. Recipes would be printed and shared during groups. Recipes often came from group members.

There were quite a number of recipes! The only thing to do next was write a book!

To his surprise Valerie wrote poems that very night!

Thus far, Valerie has written poems filled with splashes of light, filled with vibrancy and words that ask us to recall times past. Her writing makes you feel like you can hear and see and smell the scenes she creates and emotions rise and fall. In this issue, we share one of these poems with you, to give you a taste of the poetry. If you want to taste the Recipes from the book, you'll have to wait for it to be printed and get a copy!

Or... come join in with our Baking Group. Please know we welcome newcomers all the time. Groups are dynamic and no two are the same so please come along. We may fit one Group in before Christmas Day but Baking Groups will resume routinely in January 2018. We will have support from our colleagues in Clinical Photography; Anthony Edwards will become our Food Stylist. It will be completed in March 2018. Please consider sharing your special Baking recipes before end of January 2018.

Thank you Ita Neill for the last sponge cake recipe. It was delicious! See how good it looked!!!!

Groups are semi-structured with a beginning, middle and end. You don't have to be bang on time for Social & Recreational Groups and may leave at any time.

We often end Groups with a cup of tea, especially Baking Group so you definitely get to taste the goods if you join us.

We have a host of Group Activities that are formally scheduled every week. What's on each day is printed on a Weekly Plan. This is created every Monday and printed copies are displayed on the Activity Calendar white message board inside the main foyer. Copies are also displayed at each Nurses station and you can collect a copy from the Dining Rooms.

All we can say is please try one or more of the Groups. They can be good fun, help us keep socially connected, and often a way to learn a new skill or try something you may not have done for years.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO BAKING BOOK

Why not share a recipe. You will have to format it in writing with Ingredients and measurements and a method or steps to follow.

Contact Ciarán before end January 2018 with your ideas so they may be considered.

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Remembrance Mass

REMEMBRANCE MASS NOVEMBER 22ND 2017

Oratory Altar with our ‘Tree of Life’

Fr. Brian Gough, Head of Pastoral Care/Chaplaincy celebrated our Remembrance Mass on November 22nd in the Oratory. To prepare for this we put a ‘Tree of Life’ or ‘Memory Tree’ next to the altar. Everyone was encouraged to take time to write a note on one of the handmade butterfly cards and clip them onto the tree. Individual and Family names were added and personal notes too to mark the memory of loved ones who have passed on. The tree is still in the Oratory. Theresa Boyle purchased 2 beautiful bouquets of flowers for the day and it really made the space feel very special. All of us in Hollybrook Lodge wish to say ‘Thank you’ to Theresa and Brian for a very meaningful ceremony.

The purpose of this Mass is to allow current Residents the opportunity to reflect on the loss of loved ones and those who we will miss.

We also remembered the Residents who have passed away since the last Remembrance Mass in April 2017 and we invited their families to attend. Members of the families lit candles with Theresa while Trish and Shobhna said a few words in memory of each Resident who did. It was Fr. Brian who spoke about the lighting of candles being quite meaningful in how they represent the body and soul of each person in a symbolic way.

There is a Candle stand for the Oratory. There are coins on the table next to it so please feel free to insert a coin and light a candle anytime throughout the year for your intentions. The Oratory is often a quiet space for you to visit and reflect.

Hail Holy Queen

Hail Holy Queen,
Mother of mercy,
Hail our life, our sweetness and our hope.
To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve
To thee do we send up our sighs
Mourning and weeping in this valley of tears.
Turn then, most Gracious Advocate,
Thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after this our exile
Show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus
O Clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary
Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ

MARTHA MURPHY

A SPECIAL MONTH’S MIND MASS WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 29TH AT 3:30 P.M. MARTHA WORKED IN SAINT JAMES’S HOSPITAL FOR MANY YEARS. SHE RESIDED IN MCALEESE IN HOLLYBROOK UNTIL HER RECENT PASSING. ALL ARE WELCOME TO THIS MASS. MAY SHE REST IN PEACE
Ceremony of Lights
December 12th

We will have our second ‘Ceremony of Lights’ this year on December 12th. We will start the evening off at approximately 4 p.m.

The purpose of this event is to Light our Christmas Lights in the Main Garden. We invite all Residents to join us. The Ceremony is going to include;

- Songs by the one and only, our Guest Singer Mervynne Jacque to get us into the Christmas Spirit
- We will have Candles on offer. Families may purchase one to bring home after the ceremony. Residents who receive a battery candle will be able to use them in their rooms over winter.
- Fr. Brian is going to say a few words and share blessings to mark the occasion. We will have the opportunity to light our candles and take time for our personal and quiet intentions before placing the candles beside the tree and throughout the garden.
- We will sing hymns together on the night and make it an experience we can all engage in and enjoy.
- Our Guest of Honour is Sam Maguire! Thank you to Michael Wilders of Facilities Management/BOC for organizing this for our Residents.
- We will keep our fingers crossed as hopefully we may have one of the Dublin Champions join us on the night.

Our Catering Team, under the leadership of Brenda and Denis are going to provide us with treats like mince pies and Christmas cake.

Family and friends are welcome to join us for the evening. We acknowledge some residents may not wish to come downstairs so we plan to have all of the words and music amplified. If you wish to sit in the McAleese dining room, you will be able to see and hear all the words and music.

Let’s hope the weather is dry and that we can enjoy the experience of being outside on a cold wintry night.
Inchicore College of Further Education Drama Performance December 13th

Members of the Inchicore College Drama Group have confirmed they will visit Hollybrook Lodge on December 13th at 1:30 p.m.

Under the direction of Helene Montague, the Group will perform a host of seasonal Christmas songs. We are excited to see them return. We look forward to their visit and performance and to giving them our applause!
Christmas Concert
December 14<sup>TH</sup>
Richmond Barracks

This year we have booked the Richmond Barracks for our Concert. The Museum Manager Éadaoin is very happy to host us in the Gymnasium building for the concert. To access the Museum we can walk through the garden gate that adjoins Hollybrook Lodge or we can use the Exit Gate and enter the main entrance of the Barracks (this will be the easier option for wheelchairs).

**Details**

Time: 1:45 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.

Concert from 1:45 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. in the Gymnasium.

Refreshments in the Mess Café where the Manager Neil said his team will help to serve tea and coffee. Food will be provided by our Catering Team from Hollybrook in the Mess Café all afternoon.

The Barracks is a national museum space, thus we ask everyone to eat and drink in the café space only. If families are bringing small children, we ask that you supervise them at all times and note again that the items held in the Richmond Barracks are historical items.

The ‘school room’ and the other museum rooms will be open. Éadaoin has encouraged visitors to visit them.

We will have Billy Merriman perform songs on the day. Last year we had a host of performers. We want to simplify matters this year. The focus of the concert is for Residents to have an occasion, one that is appropriate in terms of music and tone.

This is an opportunity for Hollybrook Lodge to remind all Residents, Families and Visitors that when you attend an Occasion, just like a Social Group or Recreational Group, you are a guest and we ask that everyone maintain the same boundaries. This includes personal space; that you do not impose upon Residents or other guests in inappropriate ways. This includes physical gestures like touch e.g. please do not assume others want a kiss on the cheek or hugs etc. It also includes spoken word e.g. be respectful of others at all times and refrain from inappropriate language and gestures. It’s important everyone feel safe and feel secure in Hollybrook Lodge.

We hope you all enjoy the concert and performance.

We will also announce the Winners of the 3 Prizes from our Raffle. Tickets are on Sale for 5 euro per ticket. You may ask staff for a ticket or ask at Nurse’s Station. There will also be spot prizes but we will limit these to no more than 10.
Sam Maguire

We are going to have the pleasure of welcoming Sam Maguire to Hollybrook Lodge on December 12th for our Ceremony of Lights.

We may even have one of the players join us on the evening!!

The Sam Maguire Cup, often referred to as Sam or The Sam is awarded to the winners of the All Ireland Senior Football Championship winners.

**History**

Originally from a Church of Ireland family in west Cork, Sam Maguire played a leading role in the GAA and the Irish Republican Brotherhood (IRB) in London before and during the War of Independence in 1919–1921 when he was the main agent of Michael Collins in London. A book titled “Sam Maguire: The Man and the Cup” by Kieran Connolly described his role in the GAA and the IRB. It tells of his tragic final years when he returned to Ireland in 1923, was later dismissed from his job in the post office and died penniless from TB in 1927.

However, his friends recognised his significant contribution and decided to give a cup to the GAA to perpetuate his memory: the Sam Maguire Cup.

Thank you Michael Wilders for organising this!

**Photograph of Sam Maguire**

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*Photo: All Ireland GAA Gaelic Football Champions Dublin player John Small shoulders team mate Philly McMahon and Sam Maguire 2017*

*Photo: A statue erected in the Memory of Sam Maguire in town on Dunmanway in County Cork, Ireland.*

*Photo: A photograph of Sam Maguire, whose name is immortalized in the GAA All Ireland Senior Gaelic Championship.*
Community Spirit

It’s important you feel part of the community. We are planning to invite people in to present ‘Talks’ as well as to perform over the winter months.

Some of the ideas in the pipeline include a visit from a team of Scouts who will perform songs.

Another visit is to be set for a school choir to join us over Christmas for a performance.

We will update you with posters about these dates when we get confirmation from their leaders and teachers.

Jacob’s Biscuit Factory Exhibition

We recently had the pleasure of bringing 6 Residents to Pearse Street Dublin City Library & Archive for an afternoon Talk and Exhibition on the History of Jacob’s Biscuit Factory.

Ellen Murphy of Dublin City Library & Archive curated the exhibition. It was a fantastic talk by her colleague Wendy Williams. Two of our Residents worked with Jacob’s and were able to bring life to the many photo’s that were on display; Esther MacCauley shared her story of learning to swim in the Jacob’s swimming pool they built for their staff, and we talked about the recreational programs, dances and Dining halls they offered staff.

One of the life’s most important questions was addressed that day too! How do they get the figs into the fig rolls???

Photo: How do they get the figs in the fig rolls??

Photo: A photo from our trip to the Jacob’s Exhibition showing a variety of products from the 1950’s.

We learned about this history of Marietta biscuits and Cream Crackers
Historian Cathy Scuffil will visit us on January 19th 2018, at 2 p.m. She’s going to lead us through the streets of Dublin in a virtual talk, sharing her knowledge about the very colourful history of Dublin Streets and where the names came from.

How did Fishamble Street get its name? Why is Dame Street Dame Street? Come join us for this talk to find out the answers and test her knowledge.

Members of RAMS will come visit us on January 9th 2018 so mark your new 2018 calendars!

We have had the lads join us many times and it’s always a fantastic afternoon. So let’s get ready to give them another very warm welcome in 2018.

The Richmond Barracks has a 1916 Museum open to the Public. Please liaise with 1 Barracks 2 Staff to make sure visiting times are ok and that it’s suitable to leave Hollybrook Lodge during that time.

The Mess Café is open inside the Museum building Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. t 4:30 p.m. Please feel free to call in with your loved one for a lunch, tea/coffee and dessert.

Monday 4th December there is an 11 a.m. screening of “Barracks Square Estate 3 Ages of a Place”. Please feel free to go along with family or a friend. Tickets are €5 each. You may book through Eventbrite;

https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/mondays-at-the-mess-tickets-30118366846
Saint Michael’s Church

Every week, the Mass times are printed on the Weekly Plan for Saint Michael’s Church. There is typically a daily morning mass at 10 a.m. Monday to Friday. Saturday Vigil is 6:30 p.m. and Sunday masses are 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

You and your family may decide if you would like to attend as it’s an opportunity to meet members of the community and be involved. Please speak with staff about your intentions to go.

St. Michael’s Festival of Lights
Sunday December 17th St. Michael’s Church will host a Festival of Lights from 7 p.m.

Irish Museum of Modern Art- IMMA

For those who can travel with their family, the IMMA Museum is a short drive away in Kilmainham.

We hope to arrange an outing as a group soon but in the meantime if you/your family can go, you can reach IMMA Azure program coordinator on

http://www.imma.ie/en/subnav_156.htm

Upcoming Azure tours at IMMA:
Thursday 7 December, 11am - 12.30pm

IMMA Museum Opening Hours
Tuesday - Friday: 11.30am - 5.30pm*Saturday: 10.00am - 5.30pm*
Sunday and Bank Holidays: 12noon - 5.30pm*
Monday: Closed (except Bank Holidays - hours as above)
*Last Admission to any individual exhibition is 5.15pm
Admission is Free
Occasional special exhibitions, including IMMA Collection: Freud Project carry an admission charge of €8 for adult, €5 (concession) and free for U18, IMMA Members and full time students. Admission is free to all on Tuesdays.
Formal Gardens: Open Museum hours

Please keep watch of Activity Coordinator Notice Board in Foyer as many more events are posted.
Mervyenne Jacque... Who’s That?
This is part of our ‘What’s that?’ series. However, in this issue the question is “Who’s that?”

In July 2016 I was in the city at an event and I heard a lady singing. As soon as I heard the songs unfold, I thought I must ask this lady to sing in Hollybrook Lodge.

I asked her what her name was, to which she replied “Mervyenne Jacque”. I could see the sparkle in her eyes as she said the name and immediately I knew this was a stage name, a nom de plume or pseudonym… and so I thought “don’t ask her for her ‘real name’”. I thought it might be rude to ask and replied ‘Nice to meet you Mervyenne, I’m Ciarán’ hoping I said her name correctly.

Mervyenne shared her contact details. She said to call her. She returned to singing and as soon as Monday came I contacted her.

As you all know Mervyenne has been to Hollybrook Lodge many times in the last 18 months.

Mervyenne is available for private functions. Breda recently sponsored a concert with Mervyenne here in Hollybrook to celebrate her mother Mary Keogh’s 90th birthday party.

Her sound is rich and classic, as are each and every number she performs. Her upbeat and dulcet tones have a truly authentic vintage feel that leaves us with good feelings and nostalgia for the glamour of Hollywood and the good old days.

She sings classics like;

- Fly me to the Moon.
- Dream a little Dream.
- Cheek to Cheek.
- Sentimental Journey.
- Summertime.
- Perhaps Perhaps Perhaps.
- That’s Amore… and so on.

The joy is clear to see on everyone’s faces when they listen to and sing along with Mervyenne. She has a very natural talent and engages with her audience with a beautiful spirit and good humour.

Mervyenne is also available for corporate functions, wedding receptions and a variety of special occasions that are require classic, timeless songs.

Mervyenne is performing at our Ceremony of Lights as a gift to all our Residents in Hollybrook Lodge. We look forward to this and thank her for this gift.

CONTACT MERVYENNE JACQUE
If you would like to know more about Mervyenne Jacque, book her for an event or have a chat about her price list, please contact her by;

- Telephone: 087 742 8597
- Email: mervyennejacque@gmail.com
Special Occasions

Celebrations

We celebrated Mary Keogh’s 90th birthday, Saturday November. Thank you to Breda for sponsoring a performance by Mervynne Jacque. It was a beautiful day. Thank you Breda for helping with decorating and all the treats you supplied.

We also celebrated the 80th birthday party of Turlough Halpin and thank you to Mary for her collaboration for the day.

We aim to ask each of you if you would like to have a small birthday party with your Hollybrook friends. This is each person’s choice.

Sometimes we have to celebrate a birthday on a different calendar day. For instance if your birthday falls on Tuesday where we watch a movie, we may celebrate your birthday on that Wednesday after our Music session with Tom. We will do our best to be flexible.

Of course a family or loved ones may plan a party with you at a local restaurant, hotel or other venue so that’s entirely a private matter. If you wish to plan a party of any kind, you may do so but as with any excursions from Hollybrook Lodge it’s advisable to check with the medical team to verify travelling is safe from a medical perspective.

Staff Members

We invite staff to let us know their birthdays so we can add them to the newsletter.

If there’s any news you would like us to share please get in touch with Ciarán.

It may be to let us know of a new engagement, a wedding, a new baby etc. We’d be more than happy to share.

If you have travelled and would like to share photographs and a story about your journey we’d be happy to share it too.

As stated, we have records of birthdays but we know there may be so much more to celebrate but we don’t always know significant dates and life events.

If there are any milestones coming up please share the news with us and we can liaise with you and your family and discuss what we can create and celebrate.

Poetry by Valerie Cummins

“A Summer Childhood”

He who with one smile,
Sends sprays of blossoms in June.
Through the air and skies,
Bright eyes always to shine.
Always knowing that tomorrow will be a new adventure.

Something new to see,
Something new to hear,
Something new to learn.
A childhood of summer.