

James Terry

Court Circular

Friends of James Terry Court, 51 Warham Road, South Croydon CR2 6LH



081-688 5529

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Friends of James Terry Court

We had a very good meeting of the Lodge Representatives on February 24, proving the need for these gatherings on a regular basis. Sixteen Representatives turned up --- a considerable improvement on the previous meeting, but only a fraction of the theoretical 350 we might have had. There were too four committee members and Matron available to field the questions and suggestions.

Probably the most urgent need for your time is for **Bingo** helpers. This is a very popular weekly happening, on Tuesdays starting at 6.45pm and lasting for about one hour, so you could be home for a late dinner without too much of a problem. We need a rota of eight Friends. With two on duty each week, this would mean turning up one Tuesday each month. It is not a difficult job; perhaps the best way to get an idea of what it involved would be to come along as an observer one week. Apart from anything else, it is great fun for all involved.

Call Norah Hunter on 081-680 9852 to arrange a trial visit.

Following our last appeal for speakers, a couple of very enjoyable evenings were arranged. This is well worthwhile, so do consider volunteering if you have something to contribute. A talk, with coloured slides or video allows you to perform in front of a sympathetic and interested audience. Call Matron on 081-688 5529 to discuss your proposal. There is a continuing demand.

Do you have a clean driving licence? **Mini-bus drivers** are wanted from time to time, to take Residents out for "fine day" rides, Sunday pub runs, shopping trips on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and occasionally trips to the hospital. I am told that driving a mini-bus is as easy or easier than driving a car, so ask Matron if you can have a trial run.

Our existing **Mini-bus** is eight years old and, as you know, we are appealing for funds to replace it. We still need around £5,000, so please organize a Lodge raffle, whip-round, or formal contribution from Funds specifically for this vital purchase.

New legislation coming this summer will require that all residents' electrical items be checked by an **NIC/EIC-registered Electrician**. Do you fall into this category? Can you volunteer your services? We need more than one, to spread the load and meet specific dates. Contact Matron on 081-688 5529 if you can help.

Are you, or do you know, an **Occupational Therapist**? Some of the residents need this treatment from time to time. Professionals have offered their services, for which JTC must pay, but professionally-qualified volunteers could save our funds for more widely needed services. From one hour a week would be great. Tell Matron if you can help.

Regarding **Membership of The Friends**, we are still short of the magic 500. Real magic will happen to the 500th registered, who will receive a Magnum of Champagne or a Litre of Whisky. Even if it goes to a teetotaler, it would make a splendid prize for a Lodge raffle in aid of our funds. Representatives, do your duty and get more Life Members, only £20 for a lifetime's friendship.

While you are at it, you who are Lodge Representatives, we need to know who amongst your Lodge members, are Friends. We have our mailing list, of course, recently updated as best we can with our limited computer facilities, but what is missing in all cases is the Lodge name and number. This information would make life a lot easier for our Hon Secretary Eric Evans, so please drop him a line telling him. His name and telephone number are at the top of this Circular. Or, (for Lodge Representatives only) there is a FREEPOST envelope in this mailing: USE IT for your reply.

It was proposed that Representatives' meetings should be held quarterly. This was later discussed by the Committee, who felt that two meetings a year would be enough: one at the start of the Masonic season in September and another at the season's end in March. There are other times when many can meet (eg. the Summer Fete on June 20), and fewer meetings would make each more worthwhile. If you have a particular subject that needs airing, advise Eric Evans ahead of time so that a full answer can be made available for when we all meet.

Also, there is the **Annual General Meeting** of the League of Friends, to be held this year on **Sunday June 28 at 10.00am (Coffee) for a 10.30 start in the Oak Lounge at James Terry Court**. You will have received a separate summons for the meeting in with this Court Circular.

Remember, too, the **Open Coffee Mornings** on the second Sunday of each month, when you are welcome around 11.00am to meet the Residents in the Oak Lounge. Every month EXCEPT November, when it clashes with Remembrance Day.

Dual Registration

James Terry Court has achieved registration both as a Residential Home and as a Nursing Home. This new status was confirmed by the Croydon Health Authority on February 11, and is the result of some very hard efforts and passing of extremely difficult tests. It proves that this RMBI Home is right at the top of the class for facilities and care.

Up to 55 Residents and nine "Elderly and Infirm" may be catered for; these last would be our existing Residents who fall ill, either temporarily or what turns out to be permanently, so under practically all circumstances they can be sure they will not face being moved from their home -- a vital factor for their confidence in the future.

Those falling ill will be transferred to the Care Wing, where specialized nursing staff will look after them. For the first four weeks their own room will be held, but if they continue to need specialist care, they will be considered permanently transferred, though this is always under review.

This care means extra costs; new specialist staff, costly equipment such as hospital beds, alarm systems, and a clinical room fully equipped to support the nursing that will be required. Funding will be from the RMBI.

News

A party of eighteen Residents thoroughly enjoyed their visit to Brigadoon in the Ashcroft Theatre, as guests of the Friends on Saturday April 11.

Joseph Aquilina ran another very successful Race Night on April 23.

There are 52 Residents in James Terry Court, of whom one-third are men. Their average age is 86 -- ranging from 67 to 98 -- which speaks volumes for the excellent attention they receive from Matron and the Staff.

All Residents have their own room, and when it comes to vacation time it is kept for them while they are away. Up to now they have been charged the full rate during these absences, since the room was officially "let" and could not be used for others. However it has been felt that this was not truly fair, so from now they will be charged at a discounted rate for up to four weeks per year.

Birthdays

Friends are invited to send birthday cards to Residents, especially if they share the same birthday as you. Those coming up in the next few months are:

Jun 20:	Mrs E Reason	Jun 24:	Mrs D Tonseth	Jun 26:	Mrs H Tiley
Jun 30:	Mr F R Baker	Jly 2:	Mrs E A White	Jly 8:	Mr S J Relph
Jly 19:	Mrs K M Davies	Jly 20:	Mr W H Lee	Jly 31:	Mr M C Hayler
Aug 7:	Mr A Llewellyn	Aug 7:	Mr W A Collihole	Aug 9:	Mrs D Davis
Aug 13:	Mr R A Axtell	Aug 14:	Mr Smith	Aug 22:	Mrs D Burge
Aug 25:	Mrs R C Markham				

SUMMER FETE - JUNE 20

Arrangements for the Summer Fete are in hand. Matron has set up a Fete Committee to organize it all. *She still needs stall-holders*; there were several offers at the Representatives' meeting, but more are needed. *Help will be wanted that week and the day after the Fete, June 15 to 21, as well as on the day itself.* Matron says she wants "strong young men". Better call her on 081-688 5529 to see what she is on about...

Have you any unwanted bits and pieces around the home? Looked in the attic lately (dare you)? Can you supply homemade produce, cakes and such? You would be amazed at the needs of our clientele, but they won't buy if you haven't supplied their wants.

Deliveries taken in at any time, at James Terry Court

Tickets for the Fete have been sent to Lodge Secretaries and Lodge Representatives. If you haven't seen them in your Lodge, chase the Officers concerned. It will be a great afternoon for all.