

James Hirons Care Home Charity Bi-Annual Report, July 2024

Firstly, a warm welcome to our new residents and staff who have joined us since the beginning of this year. We were sorry to bid farewell to trustee Peter Davies in December 23 and, more recently, our long-standing trustee and former chair, David Owen, and we thank them for all their collective years of service. We have welcomed David Poynton as a new trustee and continue to recruit to other trustee posts.

James Hirons is a charity; it never aims to make profit and has always endeavoured to keep residents' fees and annual increases as low as possible, whilst carefully looking after its investments which are there to support and protect the home. However, as we all know, the last year has, like the preceding year, been very difficult economically, and we continue to face unprecedented challenges and major increases in our operating costs. Even allowing for income from investments we are continuing to see appreciable overall losses in income over expenditure. Therefore, with effect from the 1st April 2024 we reluctantly increased our room rates, details of which are available on our website and from our Home and Office Manager.

We continue to ensure that we hold ourselves to account, and are always open to constructive criticism, and scrutiny. We strive to be Well Led and have sound and effective accountability and governance arrangements in place, to comply with all statutory and regulatory requirements, including those of the Charity Commission, Care Quality Commission, Health and Safety Executive, Local Authorities, Commissioners and many more.

A lot has happened over the last year, and we have excitedly, but safely, continued to open our care home for our residents, families, and staff to regain opportunities to share life with each other, their families, trustees and our local communities.

This has resulted in a range of activities for our residents to enjoy including Christmas festivities, Easter, and the annual garden party on the 13th July 2024.

Much research has now been completed, working closely with Lillington Historical Society, Warwick Archives, to unearth our charity's fascinating history. Our findings will be published in a historical booklet towards the end of 2024.

Our registered Home Manager, Allan Fairweather, Deputy Manager Marie Greenaway, and all our staff continue to strive to provide high quality care in a safe, respectful, caring and nurturing environment. This is validated by the Care Quality Commission assessment of our care home which remains GOOD. However, we are all committed and striving to continue to build on and improve further the provision of a care environment to enable our residents to live full and satisfying lives in 'their' home.

We continue to maintain and invest in a rolling programme of improvements throughout the Home and our beautiful gardens to 'make every day a day worth living' for all our residents.

The majority of our residents come from the surrounding area and we have recently refreshed our marketing to enhance this further including Google, Facebook etc. Please help to spread the word, and support us in achieving the next seventy years!

Please do get in touch if you have any queries and, of course, we always welcome your feedback. Telephone: 01926 422425. Email: info@jameshirons.org.uk

Barbara Beal
Chair, James Hirons Board of Trustees