



## on Hall Grange

Hall Grange is a residential care home for 36 people set in delightful gardens in Shirley. Residential care is for people who have reasonable mobility but need support with housekeeping tasks or personal care. We have a wonderful staff team headed by Jan Norman and because we are a comparatively small home, it is easy for staff and residents to get to know one another fairly well which creates a very homely, friendly and supportive atmosphere.

**At the heart everything we do in MHA is our desire to improve the quality of life for older people, inspired by Christian concern.** The quality of personal care we offer is of a very high standard with a high ratio of staff to residents. We have also invested in complementary therapists, activity co-ordinators and chaplains, who work together with the care staff to ensure that everyone's spiritual needs are fully met. We know that for all of us we are much more fulfilled as human beings when we have opportunities to pursue interests, to be creative, to stimulate our hearts and minds, and we make every effort to provide opportunities or assistance for all our residents to live as full and normal a life as is possible.

We have a programme of activities for each day which is prepared by Eleanor, our Activities Co-ordinator. These range from quizzes and word games, reading the daily paper together, walks in the garden, art and craft clubs, entertainment and outings. Outings may be local, like a visit to a park or garden centre, or the monthly lunchtime concerts at the Shirley Church, which we thoroughly enjoy. Occasionally we go further afield using Croydon Accessible Transport such as a recent visit to Leeds Castle in Kent.

Each week there are a number of worship based activities such as morning prayers, discussion groups and Sunday worship. We also have a room called the Sanctuary which is available for residents, staff and family members who want somewhere quiet to read, pray, or listen to music. In the summer we have an open air service for MHA Sunday, and for a number of years music has been provided by Dr. Ford, a local GP, and his band. Christmas Eve we have a special time of worship led by the choir from Shirley Methodist Church.

We are tremendously thankful to all the volunteers and family members who help with activities or help to raise money for the Amenities Fund which pays for entertainers and outings, birthday and Christmas presents for residents. At present the funds are very low and some residents have been making greeting cards to sell at our coffee morning to raise more funds. We have two coffee mornings a year, May and October, organised by the team of volunteers. As well as raising much needed funds these are also good social occasions and I would encourage you to look out for the dates and come and join us.

We would also welcome more volunteers, to play the piano, lead morning prayers, chat with residents, help with activities, so please do contact me if you are interested. We also welcome donations of craft materials so if you have anything you are no longer using we may be able to re-cycle it.

We look forward to friends from the Circuit joining us for our open services.

**Rev. Anne Rusbridge, Chaplain**

May 2011