



on Hall Grange

Hall Grange is a residential care home and it has expanded greatly over recent years. It now accommodates 86 people and has a special dementia wing. It is set in delightful gardens in Shirley and the Wilderness of wonderful trees and shrubs is currently being developed into a facility not just for residents but for the whole community. One wing is residential care for people who have reasonable mobility but need support with housekeeping tasks or personal care and the other wing is for people living with various forms of dementia. We have a wonderful staff team headed by Abi Williams and everyone, staff and residents, seek to create 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 good 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 our Activities Co-ordinators. 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. Trips to the seaside are very popular.

Each week there are a number of worship-based activities such as morning prayers on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday when clergy and members from different churches come to share their message and their music with the residents. Sunday worship is conducted by preachers and ministers from the Croydon Circuit. 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 shared with people from Shirley Methodist Church.

Work on The Wilderness Project is coming to fruition and an all-weather path is being constructed all around the site. There will also be projects for residents and the community to get involved in, including a vegetable patch. The official opening will be an important occasion on Saturday 9th May 2020, to which the Mayor of Croydon has been invited.

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 Spring and Autumn Fayres in May and October to raise more funds. The Fayres are organised by the team of

volunteers and 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 Hall Grange 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.

Please visit us – you will be made very welcome.