

Changes at BriarGate since our last newsletter:

Once again we must say farewell to a beloved staff member. Sita Maleko announced her retirement at the Christmas party, she has been a valuable and treasured caregiver here at BriarGate for nearly 20 years and will be greatly missed.

We wish her all the best of luck with the future.



Our lovely Sita

We'd also like to announce that Joy Song has been made Senior Caregiver. She has had experience in this position at Mission Bay Rest Home

Welcome:

A warm welcome to our new residents who are the charismatic Alwyn Edwards and the very sweet Esther McGee. We welcome them and their families to the BriarGate family.

Activities:

We'd like to introduce Joanna Dawson as our new Activities Coordinator who is taking over for Linn.

Joanna has been keeping herself and the residents busy with entertainers, frequent van trips (making the most of this gorgeous weather), arts and crafts and carpet games. Her vibrant personality really brightens up BriarGate and we're very proud to have her as a part of our team.



Courtenay enjoying an ice cream while on a van trip

If you, your child, a family member, friend or church group can sing, dance, play an instrument or perform, we invite you to speak with Lidija about getting involved in some of our activities.



Children's Christmas Choir

The residents adore all performances and it really brightens up their day and it would be fantastic to see any families or friends getting involved.

We'd especially like to thank Kath Withell for all her support and hard work in her involvement with activities. We appreciate everything you've done, Kath.

Family Forum:

BriarGate will be hosting a family forum on Friday the 13 of February.

We encourage everyone to come along and voice any concerns, offer suggestions, improvements or compliments and feedback. Starts at 6pm

Christmas Party:



The BriarGate Christmas party was a huge success with a fantastic turnout thanks to all the entertainers, families and friends that came along to spread the Christmas cheer.

The lunch spread was delicious and well-prepared by our kitchen staff and was definitely enjoyed by everyone





And who could forget our very own jolly Santa Claus who gave out presents to the residents.



The karaoke singers were absolutely delightful and lifted everyone's spirits with their festive songs.



Pam giving Jack a present and Michael with his gift



New Staff :

We would like to welcome Ting Ting, Ifo, Vijay, Theresa and Joanna to the BriarGate team, if you see them around please say hi ☺

January Birthdays:



A very happy birthday to all the following residents who have celebrated or will be celebrating a birthday.

- Robin Megsen- 1st Jan
- Bruce Stewart- 17th Jan
- Jean Olive Dove- 29th Jan
- Elma Lawrence- 30th Jan

Staff Performance:

DECEMBER 08

- Best Caregiver- Kobie Roberts
- Best Duty Leader- Chris Simpson
- Employee of the Month- Num Wentford

JANUARY 09

- Best Caregiver- Aaron Cordy
- Best Duty Leader- Coralyn Cruz
- Employee of the Month- Donna Knowles

Have you heard this one? :



A man is at the family doctor. "Doc, I think my wife's going deaf." The doctor answers, "Here's something you can try to test her hearing. Stand some distance away from her and ask her a question. If she doesn't answer, move a little closer and ask again. Keep repeating this until she answers. Then you'll be able to tell just how hard of hearing she really is."

The man goes home and tries it out. He walks in the door and says, "Honey, what's for dinner?" He doesn't hear an answer, so he moves closer to her. "Honey, what's for dinner?" Still no answer. He repeats this several times, until he's standing just a few feet away from her.

Finally, she answers, "For the tenth time, I said we're having MEATLOAF!"

Wishing you all the best for the new year, Don, Lidija, Pam & the staff at BriarGate

