



# Oakleigh Lodge Newsletter

## October 2015

IN THIS ISSUE

## Welcome.....

A warm welcome to our first newsletter for Oakleigh Lodge Care Home.

We are hoping to put together a newsletter for the home every 3 months to share news, previous and up and coming events and what's happening at Oakleigh Lodge.

### Management Changes

Due to some restructuring of the Management team at Oakleigh Lodge we have had the good fortune to have had the services of an experienced manager in Ann Wynn who joined us in April and introduced many new ideas. Unfortunately owing to unforeseen personal matters, Ann had to leave us.

We would like to introduce you all to the newest member of the Management team; Sarah Owen. Sarah comes to us from a 32 bed nursing home in Birmingham, she has extensive experience in care home management, both residential and community based care. This includes successfully managing a small home for younger adults with learning difficulties and challenging behaviors.

Sarah has worked in the care industry for nearly 20 years and started her career as a support worker working with adults with

learning disabilities and was soon promoted to the role of senior support worker.

Sarah then moved onto the role of home manager where she project managed the building of a new care home for adults with learning difficulties.

Sarah will be introducing a managers coffee meeting that will take place at the home every other month. Families will be able to arrange a time to sit down and meet with Sarah to chat and to ask her any questions or discuss any concerns they may be having. The first meeting will be taking place on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November. A sign-up sheet will be located in the reception area of the home, if you are unavailable to sign up in person please call the home on 01384 232482 or your preferred times or email Sarah at sarah\_owen@oakleigh-healthcare.co.uk.



### Deputy Manager - Michelle Ashmore

Deputy Manager; Michelle Ashmore is still in place and has been dealing with the day to day running of the home during the short term absence of a registered manager. Michelle has proved to be a person who is able to take on responsibility in urgent and ongoing situations. The service users and staff at Oakleigh Lodge have benefited from her knowledge and expertise in working with people with a learning difficulty.



### Past & future outings - page 2

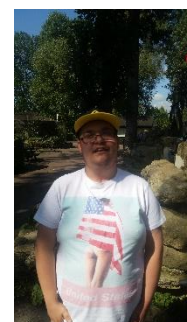
## Days out.....

Staff and service users at Oakleigh Lodge have had some enjoyable days out over the past few months. They had a fantastic day out to Bourton on the Water last month, the weather was fantastic and a great day was had by all.

We have also had a trip to Cosford Air Museum, we were not as lucky with the weather so luckily it was mainly indoors. Even so the day was really interesting and was thoroughly enjoyed by all that went.

We are looking forward to a day out at the seaside. Staff will be taking some of the residents to Weston Super Mare on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October, weather permitting.

We will also be holding a Halloween Party for the residents on the 30<sup>th</sup> October. This is for service users only but we will be sure to provide you with some brilliant photos in the next newsletter.



## Specialist training....

Oakleigh Lodge have recently arranged for staff to take part in bespoke specialist training tailored to our service users and is provided by Dudley MBC.

We received Safeguarding – responding to and preventing abuse, which was provided by Dudley MBC Safeguarding team. The aims of this course are to ensure that all staff recognize they have a role to play in reducing the likelihood of abuse happening to the people they support, their responsibilities when responding to concerns of neglect or abuse and being able to identify specific areas of vulnerability for the people they support and ways they can help to minimize risk.

Staff are taking part in Autism Awareness training this month on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of October. Again this training is tailored to our service users. The course is split into three modules:

- Characteristics and individuality.
- Effective communication with individuals on the Autistic spectrum
- Behaviour and person centred support.

The aim of this course is for it's participants to reflect on their current work practices and to consider how this would influence their practice when supporting adults who are on the autistic spectrum.

### AUTISM AWARENESS TRAINING

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2015

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2015

9.00AM – 5.00PM





## Macmillan Coffee Morning

Staff and service users took part in the Macmillan Cancer Support "World's Biggest Coffee Morning".

The guess the spots on the cake competition was won by our housekeeper, Dawn Barnett. She won £16 and thoughtfully donated her winnings back to macmillan cancer support.

We managed to raise over £130 for a fantastic cause. A massive thanks to all who participated!!!!



## Christmas...

This year, instead of a Christmas party we will be holding a carol service for the service users and their families. Over the past few years we have noticed that the parties are causing distress and unrest to some. We will also be taking the service users out for a Christmas dinner and to the Pantomime. We will keep you informed of dates and any further details nearer the time and would like to thank you for your understanding in this matter.



*We would like to thank you all for all your continued support and understanding during a year of transition and change at Oakleigh Lodge and take this opportunity to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*

*Best wishes.....*

*The team at Oakleigh Lodge*

# Events Diary



**Staff Autism Awareness Training**  
Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October

**Weston Super Mare**  
Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October



**Staff Autism Awareness Training**  
Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> October

**Halloween Party**  
Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October

**Managers Coffee Morning**  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November



**Bonfire Night**

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November – Date & location to be confirmed

**Christmas Carol Service**  
December – Date to be confirmed

**Christmas Dinner & Pantomime**  
December – Date to be confirmed



*For further information on events held in the home please contact our activities coordinators. Please also confirm dates and times of events scheduled within the home prior to attending as they may be subject to change.*

*If there is any information you would like us to include or anything that you would like us to feature in our next newsletter please feel free to let us know.*

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