



NEWSROUND NOVEMBER 2020

Welcome to the November newsletter for the almshouses.

CORONAVIRUS: We must be positive and remind ourselves that Coronavirus restrictions will not be around forever but sadly no one can yet tell us when they will be coming to an end. Please continue to take care of yourself and wash your hands often. You are allowed to have visitors to your home at the moment as long as you distance properly so no more than 2 at a time and they must be from the same household. Cases in Thanet are rising quite fast and if we move to Tier 2 of Government Regulations then visitors are not allowed to come indoors. Just think of the wonderful time we will have when it is under control and restrictions are lifted.

CHRISTMAS: If you are going to be alone on Christmas Day, we are hoping that we will be permitted to provide Christmas dinner at Yoakley in the conservatory with social distancing measures in place. Please let Julie the warden know if you would be interested in attending.

It is unlikely that we will be able to have our usual Christmas Party although we are planning a very special surprise in the grounds on Wednesday 16th December at around 5pm within government guidelines and with food involved. Please keep the date free!

NEW EMERGENCY CALL SYSTEM: We are planning for the new almshouse alarm system to be fitted to replace the old one starting on 16th November (excluding Drapers Close). This will mean the engineers having access to each property for an hour or so. We hope to be able to let you know in advance when they will get round to you. The system is costing over £30,000 and we are very grateful to the grant funding organisations, League of Friends and other donors over the past 2 years that have made it possible. We hope it will improve contact with Yoakley if you are in trouble.

Shirley Cox wishes to thank all those who send cards and messages on condolence on the loss of dear Bert. She has been comforted by them all.

If you are in receipt of the **Winter Fuel Allowance** and feel able to donate some or all of it to the Charity, it would be very much appreciated to help with high gas costs. Cheques payable to Michael Yoakley's Charity. Please take care that you don't leave your heating on and then open the windows and doors. We can't afford to warm the garden.

PTO

NEWS FROM YOAKLEY HOUSE:

STAFF: Melissa has been working with us for so long as an agency worker that she has agreed to stay and we are very pleased to have her. With Coronavirus, some of those with small children have been struggling to work and to find childcare so Jamie, Chelsea and Kaye have decided to give up their jobs here. We wish them all well. We will be welcoming another new member of care staff this month.

RESIDENTS: We have recently welcomed Ethel Tumber who is 105 and (Beatrice) Betty Thompson who is 100. Rita Hall (who is a mere youngster in her 90s) will be joining us later this month.

The **League of Friends** committee are frustrated that they have not been able to host any events this year but have agreed that as soon as they are able to we will have plenty of activity to entertain us and raise funds for the Charity. They have supported Yoakley this year by buying a facebook portal so residents can talk to relatives on the screen, a bath when the one we have was out of action, and a new rotary iron.