

## 21 rooms in new wing - NOW OPEN

**D**onisthorpe's new 21 bedded wing is now open and is the latest development to be built at Donisthorpe Hall. Included in the wing will be a state of the art, innovative, dementia unit.

The project has been designed with the special needs of Donisthorpe's residents in mind. Architect Michael Marks has ensured that the unit will be at the cutting edge of modern design.



The new wing at Donisthorpe Hall.

## A cut above the rest



The DH hair dressing team, Alex Kusak, Pam Taylor and Susan Buller.

**P**am Taylor has been a volunteer at Donisthorpe Hall for over 6 years, starting back in 2003 when her mother was a resident.

A qualified hairdresser, Pam helps out in the salon every Thursday and even comes to help out when Alex and Susan are on holiday. Pam says, "I get a lot of satisfaction from doing the residents hair, chatting to them and befriending them, I also enjoy working as part of a team with Susan and Alex.

Resident Carol Mason commented, "Pam is a wonderful friend, she takes me shopping every week then we go for lunch. As a volunteer, she works every Thursday in the Salon and if they are very busy she will help if she can, she works at St James's Hospital in the Café for out patients once a week, she helps to care for her 3 grandchildren when necessary, she is very special and the best friend I have ever had. She is always cheerful and never grumbles."

## We need your stories & pictures!

If you would like to contribute any stories or pictures, please email to: [john.fisher7@virgin.net](mailto:john.fisher7@virgin.net).

# Recipe for success

In these days of economic gloom Carol Mason can recommend a good business venture.

"I can recall in my young days in North Street, Mr Alexander, who ran a sweet shop near the Golden Cross public house. My sister made a tidy sum from an offer he had on chocolate- she bought 4 bars for five-pence-half-penny, took them to work and resold them for two pence each!"

When Carol was a pre-teenager she used to go to Smucklers at the end of North Street near Sheepscar.

"My mother sent me there every Sunday morning to buy a pound of pickled meat for the sum of half-a-crown. Times were hard but we all pulled together, which you do in bad times."

Carol is a remarkable artist having executed scores of beautiful illustrations that she has preserved for over 50 years. She used to contribute designs for Donisthorpe's New Year and greetings cards. It was on a visit to Holland that Carol decided to paint when she was 45.

"I saw a picture postcard of a man in a hat and it made me laugh, so I said to myself when I get home I'm going to start painting. It's been a lovely hobby and some people claimed I should have turned to it professionally"

Carol says she is happy and contented at Donisthorpe.

"The staff and volunteers are just wonderful and nothing is too much trouble."

## Flower power



Residents and volunteer enjoying the flower arranging class, one of our most popular activities at Donisthorpe.

# Dreidels and Doughnuts

A fundraising sale in the reception area organised by two of our stalwart volunteers helped fund an in house Chanukah party and helped provide gifts for residents and staff.

This is the second event in which volunteers Fenella Conway and Myra Taylor have joined forces.

"We were delighted with our first effort some time ago which raised enough money to purchase a 42" Television set for one Unit," said Fenella who also runs the weekly Book Club on a Friday.

Fenella and Myra made a fantastic Chanukah party with lots of flashing lights, hats and rings, Chanukah lights and music, of course, provided by the wonderful Hymie Cohen.

Were there dreidels and doughnuts?

"Of course," laughed Fenella, "I'm the dreidel!"

"And I'm the doughnut!" added Myra.



Myra, Teddy, Fenella and Ada Brostoff

## Day Tripping



Phyllis Salomon enjoying a trip to Strikes Garden Centre, outings are very popular and recent trips include York Designer Outlet, Calcutt Garden Centre, Golden Acre Park, Leeds Museum, Pantomime at the Carriageworks, Owlcoates & Crown Point Shopping Centre. These trips are possible thanks to the support of our volunteer drivers and escorts Lewis Mack, Clive Sullivan, Roger Lawford, Anthony Vincent and Fenella Conway. We wish Lewis all the best with his move to a new life in Israel and thank him for all his help.

## Cha, cha, cha

Residents enjoyed a tea dance at Donisthorpe Hall in December, the highlight being a demonstration of the waltz, cha cha, rumba, foxtrot, tango & jive by Maria Dunderdale former Yorkshire Ballroom champion and Mark Altman whose late father and grandfather had the famous Altman School of Dancing on Great George Street. Maria also happens to be the Nurse Manager at the home!



# Community mourn respected philanthropist

**T**he Leeds community mourned the loss of a great leader with the sudden death of Sam Goldman. Synonymous with Donisthorpe Hall, he was a generous and staunch supporter of many charities, particularly in Israel. At one time he virtually ran JNF in Leeds, its many committees and its functions.

Mr Goldman died on Tuesday January 13, ten days after celebrating his 85th birthday. His death, from a heart attack, occurred at the Moor Allerton Golf Club.

A member of the United Hebrew Congregation Mr Goldman retired as Chairman of Donisthorpe Hall in 2006 where, under his leadership the state-of-the-art care home was mapped out to become one of the finest in the country. With his guidance the older ward areas were converted into single rooms and a new building of Silver

Lodge, a forty-room unit was built.

Over the years Mr Goldman served the community with great energy, vitality and vision and gave enormous support as Chairman of Leeds JNF as well as to Leeds JPA and his beloved Donisthorpe Hall, where on retirement he was made the care-home's Honorary President.



Sam with wife Pamela

Geoff Caplan, JNF and Donisthorpe Hall Chairman said, "I personally feel I have lost my mentor - the man who not only guided me through Donisthorpe Hall but the JNF as well. His style of management was superb. He fiercely believed that one could get things done by kindness and kindness alone, and he led by example. Sam earned enormous respect not only from his colleagues but volunteers and residents alike. His letter writing to families, residents and supporters was beautiful in tone and deed. He was the engine room of Donisthorpe Hall and we will miss him terribly."

He is survived by his wife Pam and his two daughters Liz Cohen and Linda Lever, his brother Bob and 5 grandchildren.

Some 400 people attended his funeral at the UHC Cemetery, Gelderd Road.

## Gala dinner and cabaret raises 24k

**C**harity worker Regina Waldman has raised £24K for sensory gardens that will surround the new dementia wing at Donisthorpe Hall.

In announcing the result at the care-home's gala dinner and cabaret, Chairman Geoff Caplan paid tribute to Regina's unique style of fundraising and her tireless work for the home. Geoff had much praise for her sterling efforts in raising the money through the doom and gloom of the current recession.

"Her efforts in organising the souvenir brochure, which brought in this substantial sum of money, were exemplary," he said.

One of the gardens surrounding the new dementia wing at Donisthorpe Hall will be dedicated to the late Audrey Manning, who was the care-home's head of volunteers.

Addressing over 90 dinner guests charity stalwart Regina praised the work of Mrs Manning, who died last year.

"Audrey was a dear and wonderful person who worked tirelessly for the home and gave many years' service and devotion to our residents. Audrey loved nature and we feel this is a

fitting way to remember her. She will be with us always."

The commemoration will take place in May and other areas surrounding the new wing will be turned into further beautiful sensory gardens leaving residents to enjoy the wonders of nature.



Guests dined and wined to the songs of international singer Cole Page; enjoying also the infectious humour of comedian Howard Lee. The home's cinema was transformed into a night club along with atmospheric lighting and guests danced away into the early hours of the morning.

Cissie and Allan Baskind, who

celebrated 59 years of marriage, were presented with an anniversary cake.

The new state-of-the-art dementia wing will be opened in April and Geoff extended an invitation to the community to go along and have a look once it was launched.

He said he was proud to see another momentous year and the expansion and modernisation of the home. A new laundry was commissioned, he said, and the home acquired a new electricity sub-station, which had to be built to cope with the new 23-bedded unit. A new six-bedded section was also added in the body of the home where the senior management team were previously sited. The cost of these improvements was in excess of £3million.

"I look forward to seeing the senior management team shortly to be housed in new quarters, after more than a year in either very cold or very hot temporary offices which were situated in the grounds of the home."

Attending the event were Leslie and Sheila Silver and Marcia and Andrew Brown MBE. Mr Brown has recently joined the board as its new director and trustee.

# Choir visit raises residents spirits

The Shabbaton Choir paid a whistle stop visit to Donisthorpe Hall recently to entertain over 80 residents. The choir's visit to Leeds included a concert at the University of Leeds and a visit to the community centre and Donisthorpe Hall.

Leader Rabbi Lionel Rosenfeld along with Chazan Jonny Turgel and 13-year-old soloist Eli Baigel lifted the spirits of the residents, with one female resident commenting that the singing 'made me

feel good inside'.

There was a surprise for resident Elvina Greenstone whose daughter Linda Black accompanied the choir from London. Linda headed straight for her mother, who was patiently waiting in the reception area. Linda's husband Maurice is the Co-Chair of the Shabbaton Choir.

In the audience was Rev Michael Saville, who has just celebrated 50 years service at the Beth Hamidrash Hagadol Synagogue and who formed the BHH choir in 1970.

Rabbi Rosenfeld congratulated him on keeping Jewish choral singing alive in Leeds and encouraged Michael to join in a rousing finale.

Rabbi Rosenfeld, who was born into a Jerusalem family of rabbis and cantors and is Rabbi and Chazan of Western Marble Arch Synagogue, said it was always a pleasure to come to Leeds and was delighted with the joyous response from Donisthorpe residents.



The Shabbaton Choir in full swing at the reception area of Donisthorpe Hall.

## David gives Donisthorpe lift

David King, theatre impresario and producer of last year's smash hit Donisthorpe Hall fundraiser *Spirit of the Dance*, returned to the home for a ride in a lift he helped provide.

David, whose blockbuster show *Spirit of the Dance* was miraculously staged in the home's car park last summer, visited Donisthorpe to view the new lift that was funded by the £27,000 raised from his sell-out production.

The lift is dedicated to David's late father, entertainer Stanley King who died some 15 years ago. Known as the Ukulele King, Stanley toured the nation's theatres in the 1930s, 40s and 50s with his famous act.

David unveiled the plaque, situated by the side of the lift and which has been dedicated in Stanley's memory by his three children Wendy King, David King and Linda Goldberg.

Attending the launch were members

of Stanley's close family, including his wife Trudy King and daughter Linda Goldberg. Wendy King was unable to join the family for the dedication.

After unveiling the plaque David said his father's love of entertainment inspired the whole family.

"Dad was originally a barber. It was on a visit to Manchester that Dad came across a music shop and in the window was a fabulous Ludwig ukulele-banjo, the Rolls Royce of ukuleles. Ludwig's ukuleles were prized by musicians and Dad went inside and bought it and liked the instrument so much he went back and bought another. That passion got him started in the profession. He died aged 82 after bringing a lot of music and song into our lives which will stay with us forever."

Geoff Caplan said "We are so indebted to David for his generosity in enabling us to provide an urgently needed lift which is now completed and in full use by the residents."



In memory of a wonderful father: Trudy King, David King and Linda Goldberg.