

PENSIONERS' NEWSLETTER

News From The North

We are happy to bring you the long anticipated News from the North:

Firstly I would like to wish all of you a belated but very happy and healthy New Year. I hope everyone enjoyed the holiday period and thoroughly revelled in the food indulgences we are all entitled to at that time of year. Unfortunately we were unable to bring you our greetings at the time due to an array of circumstances, but nevertheless we are finally able to do so.

It was fantastic to see so many faces at our end of year Christmas dinner dance. To all the ladies who attended, the dresses were glamorous and the diamonds fabulous.

Our excursions and explorations throughout 2009 were hugely successful and fully booked up; so please if you would like to attend any 2010 events remember to book early to avoid disappointment. We would love to see new and familiar faces on our 2010 trips.

Unfortunately our post Christmas 5 day break to the Isle of Wight is now fully booked. For all those going I hope you have a wonderful break.

Margaret Knoblett

A New Year – Long May It Continue

For everyone in the South we also wish you a happy and healthy New Year. In your retirement we trust that you are taking every opportunity to get involved with many different clubs and organisations, so as you spend both time and energy living a full life enjoying hobbies and useful activities.

Always remember the old adage “You don’t grow old to do nothing – you get old doing nothing!”

We know that many ex-employees and their partners belong to many groups, Social and Sports Clubs, the University of the 3rd Age, Church organisations and of course, spending time with their family and friends. However should you have any spare time we would like many more of you to get involved in the Vauxhall Pensioners Association.

Norman Mcgregor

NHSFT

First of all, I thank all VPA members, who are also Luton & Dunstable Hospital NHSFT members, for voting for me in the Public Governor Elections for the Luton constituency last June 2009. I was re-elected for a further 3 years. In order to become a Luton & Dunstable Hospital NHSFT member, telephone 0845 1212 127, or e-mail ftmembership@ldh.nhs.uk. Governors appoint the Trust Chairman, Non Executive Directors and hospital auditors. Trust Members are invited to attend Clinical Lectures at the Hospital for Trust Members, which are very popular with our existing Trust Members. I am also a member of the Friends of the Hospitals of Luton & Dunstable, and wish to thank the many VPA Members that bought Christmas Cards and gave Donations during the past 3 months.

Peadar (Peter) McKenna

In Memoriam

Luton:

Albert Stanley Kelly, Div Vm Staff, Died 19/12/2009, Age 93, Ret'd 1980
Annie Burn, Div 073 Died 11/01/2010, Age 82, Ret'd 1981
Arthur McDonald Walters, Div 054, Died 08/12/2009, Age 92, Ret'd 1980
Cecil Victor O'dell, Div Vm Staff, Died 30/11/2009, Age 84, Ret'd 1986
Charles Richard (Dick) Hilton, Div 100, Died 25/11/2009, Age 70, Ret'd 2000
David Hutchinson, Div lbc, Died, 22/12/2009, Age 69, Ret'd 1998
David Lappin, Div 431, Died 26/12/2009, Age 84, Ret'd 1987
David Arthur Mobbs, Div 082, Died 08/12/2009, Age 67, Ret'd 1996
Dennis John Burton, Div Bcv Staff, Died 14/12/2009, Age 82, Ret'd 1983
Derrick Leonard Wright, Div 999, Died 07/12/2009, Age 89, Ret'd 1981
Donald Peter Dolby, Div 015, Died 15/01/2010, Age 70, Ret'd 1994
Douglas Jones, Div 135, Died 11/01/2010, Age 68, Ret'd 2002
Francis Edward Sherwood, Div Vm Staff, Died 06/12/2009, Age 88, Ret'd 1981
Frank Peter Goldspink Roberts, Div Bcv Staff, Died 22/12/2009, Age 77, Ret'd 1987
Frederick Ernest Goodman, Div 132, Died 03/12/2009, Age 84, Ret'd 1986
George Tiltman, Div 896, Died 11/12/2009, Age 85, Ret'd 1981
George Wyatt, Div 349, Died 15/12/2009, Age 75, Ret'd 1992
Gerald Woodman, Div 154, Died 06/12/2009, Age 77, Ret'd 1994
Gordon Boddy, Div Vm Staff, Died 14/12/2009, Age 82, Ret'd 1982
Gul Nawaz, Div 049, Died 28/08/2009, Age 87, Ret'd 1981
Hedley Vincent Hill, Div 870, Died 13/01/2010, Age 81, Ret'd 1986
Henry Charles Payne, Div 003, Died 11/12/2009, Age 78, Ret'd 1986
Herbert Revell, Div 051, Died 05/12/2009, Age 89, Ret'd 1981
James Jakeman, Div 874, Died 30/11/2009, Age 85, Ret'd 1981
James Anthony Costigan, Div Vm Staff, Died 29/12/2009, Age 89, Ret'd 1976
James Dominic Hogan, Div 380, Died 11/12/2009, Age 83, Ret'd 1986
Jean Hiner, Div lbc, Died 03/07/2009, Age 78, Ret'd 1988
John Leslie Hald, Div 011, Died 23/12/2009, Age 94, Ret'd 1980
John Robert Webster Tams, Div Vm Staff, Died 22/12/2009, Age 90, Ret'd 1974
Keith Derrick Strapp, Div 485, Died 07/01/2010, Age 81, Ret'd 1986
Michael McGuinness, Div 005, Died 20/01/2010, Age 89, Ret'd 1975
Michael Peter Hudson, Div 082, Died 14/11/2009, Age 75, Ret'd 1996
Nazzareno Avola, Div 041, Died 09/01/2010, Age 63, Ret'd 1997
Nicholas O'brien, Div 526, Died 16/01/2010, Age 86, Ret'd 1988
Patrick Smith, Div 001, Died 08/10/2009, Age 89, Ret'd 1981
Paul Francis Savin, Div Vm Staff, Died 25/11/2009, Age 85, Ret'd 1980
Raymond Alan Davies, Div 099, Died 07/01/2010, Age 69, Ret'd 1992
Richard George Clark, Div Vm Staff, Died 29/12/2009, Age 85, Ret'd 1981
Stanley Frederick Gearey, Div 873, Died 02/01/2010, Age 82, Ret'd 1984
Thomas Brannan, Div Vm Staff, Died 22/12/2009, Age 95, Ret'd 1974
Thomas Dolan, Div Vm Staff, Died 12/12/2009, Age 86, Ret'd 1981
Vivien Constantine Blagrove, Div 017, Died 22/09/2009, Age 81, Ret'd 1986
William Bradley, Div 891, Died 13/12/2009, Age 77, Ret'd 1987
William Stewart, Div 431, Died 14/12/2009, Age 83, Ret'd 1981
William Edward Jackson, Div Vm Staff, Died 08/01/2010, Age 95, Ret'd 1979
William Francis Jackson Richardson, Div 056, Died 16/12/2009, Age 99, Ret'd 1975
Yiannis George Zorlakk, Div 846, Died 01/01/2010, Age 86, Ret'd 1986

Ellesmere Port:

Arthur Hawksby Evans, Div 622, Died 08/12/2009, Age 92, Ret'd 1981
Charles Henry Fewtrell, Div 626, Died 08/12/2009, Age 85, Ret'd 1981
David George Thomas, Div 691, Died 03/01/2010, Age 72, Ret'd 2001
David Jones, Div 663, Died 10/12/2009, Age 82, Ret'd 1988
Denis Fegan, Div 641, Died 05/12/2009, Age 79, Ret'd 1993
Donald Edward Towers, Div 643, Died 02/12/2009, Age 80, Ret'd 1989
Ernest Robert Mayo, Div 706, Died 28/12/2009, Age 86, Ret'd 1986
Frank Clark, Div 553, Died 11/01/2010, Age 82, Ret'd 1988
George Frederick Maidment, Div 638, Died 01/12/2009, Age 73, Ret'd 2001

George Gladstone Doughty, Div 616, Died 25/12/2009, Age 82, Ret'd 1988
Graham Stanley Vivian, Div 641, Died 14/01/2010, Age 75, Ret'd 1993
Horace Kinder, Div 625, Died 21/01/2010, Age 89, Ret'd 1981
Jim Madden, Div 675, Died 24/01/2010, Age 82, Ret'd 1986
John Edward Edwards, Div 663, Died 26/11/2009, Age 78, Ret'd 1993
John Kevin Sweeney, Div 640, Died 06/12/2009, Age 65, Ret'd 2005
Kenneth James Lee, Div 670, Died 16/12/2009, Age 88, Ret'd 1982
Stanley Edward Cann, Div 621, Died 29/12/2009, Age 77, Ret'd 1988

Diary of VPA (Luton) Events - 2010

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|--|-------------|
| 16 th March | - | Wickstead Park (The Way We Were musical) | £25.50 |
| 20 th April | - | Chatham Historic Dockyards & River Medway cruise | est. £25.00 |
| 21 st May | - | Paris & Monet's Garden (4 days) | est. £180 |
| 3 rd June | - | Audley End House and Gardens | est. £16.50 |
| 19 th June | - | Day Trip Brighton | £8 - 00 |
| 20 th June | - | Ireland County Clare (6days) | est. £360 |
| 22 nd July | - | RHS Garden Wisley | £15.00pp |
| 17 th August | - | Hampton Court/ River Thames Cruise | tba |
| 9 th Sept | - | Mickies Palace (Music Hall Show) | |
| | | £21.50 | |
| 1 st Oct | - | Blackpool Illuminations (2days) | £125.00pp |
| 3 rd Dec | - | Tinsel and Turkey W/E Eastbourne | £125.00pp |
| 9 th Dec | - | Christmas Dinner Party | £18.50pp |

*For further details please contact Frances Tompkins on (01582) 427921 or UK1-100-020, Vauxhall Motors, Griffin House, Osborne Road, Luton LU1 3YT
 Please be aware cancellations 3 weeks or less prior to date of trip by members will not have a full return of money paid. Frances VPA*

Diary of VPA (Ellesmere Port) Events - 2010

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|-----------------------|---|----------------------------------|---------|
| 12 th May | - | Bodnant Gardens am, Llandudno pm | £7.00pp |
| 30 th June | - | Visit to Ironbridge | TBA |
| 14 th July | - | Visit Bury market | £5.00pp |

Tea Dances

Tea Dances have proved popular in both the North and South and regular sessions are held at both.

Ellesmere Port – held every Tuesday 1:30pm- 4:00pm, £1.50pp. Whitby Sports club, host Ernie Jones. Refreshments available. Upcoming dates; March 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th

Luton – held approximately every other Wednesday 2:00pm – 4:00pm. Riverside Suite Vauxhall recreation club. Refreshments can be purchase. Upcoming dates; March 3rd, 17th and 31st

Quiz Nights

This is a recently introduced activity but has already proved a popular and fun evening. The emphasis is very much on enjoyment with brainpower coming a distant second. Entry fee is £1.00 pp and the evening is held in the Trophy Room at the Brache Complex.

All entry fees are paid out in prizes. Refreshments may be purchased at the Balcony Bar. The questions are set and asked by Graham Walton, ably supported by his wife Pauline. Incidentally

Graham also provides the last place booby prize and as he is a keen vegetable/fruit grower the last place team usually leave with a smile on their faces. As with all our events newcomers are always made welcome so please come along and have a brilliant evening.

Speaker Events

To date we have had a married couple from Clifton showing us how to make hanging baskets (their displays were raffled off afterwards) and various Luton Borough Council Staff talking about doorstep crime, council tax, benefits fraud and the like. We always ask the speakers to mix the serious with humorous anecdotes to make the event less stuffy. Meetings are held in the Trophy Room from 2.00pm through 4.00 pm with a admission fee of £1.00 including tea/coffee and biscuits. Currently we are in the process of firming up speakers for this year. We do publish information on the Clubs and Societies page of the Luton News. *Details can also be obtained from the VPA office (phone 01582 427921).*

Useful Telephone and Contact Information

VPA South

VPA Office Telephone Number 01582 427921 and email frances.tompkins@uk.gm.com

Cherie Denton, Vauxhall Welfare Officer 01582 427204 and email cherie.denton@uk.gm.com

Vauxhall Pensions Department 01582 721122 or email marion.mcdonald@uk.gm.com

VPA North

Anne Atherall 01244 325891

If anyone has a story you would like to tell then please get in touch as I am sure others would be delighted to hear it. Contact Hannah Burton:

Griffin House, UK1-103-340, Osborne Road, Luton, LU1 3YT, email: hannah.burton@gm.com

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the company.