

HALE PLACE NEWS

ISSUE 08/21

AUGUST 2021

Dear Friends of Hale Place

100% Fully Vaccinated!

If people wish to remain employed, within social care, they are required to be fully vaccinated by 11th November 2021. We are delighted to inform everyone that our staff team are all fully vaccinated and agree with our position that care workers have a legal 'duty of care' to keep those people we support safe and protected, from our own actions.

9% Vacancies within Social Care?

Significant numbers of care workers, within our sector, have signalled their intention to resign, following the government decision to make Covid-19 vaccinations mandatory, which could bring the total vacancies within social care to 140,000 or around 9% of the workforce. Without a clear strategy to fast track foreign workers into our sector, there will inevitably be demand and supply pressures.

The largest survey of home care providers ever conducted has found the sector is facing its worst staffing crisis in history, with thousands of vulnerable people going without care, as a result.

Some 78% of providers, who responded, said recruiting carers is the hardest it has ever been. Many describe being at "breaking point".

Due to the staffing crisis, 30% of the 843 providers surveyed said they are handing back some, or all, of their care to local authorities because they can no longer fulfil their contracts.

If we have employment vacancies and endure a third wave, or/and a stronger variant during the winter, I will do everything possible to ensure our carers, who have committed every ounce of energy over the past 18 months to supporting others, many at the detriment of their own family, are not overstretched.

Hale Place will continue to be proactive and consider all avenues for our exceptional team. We have witnessed extraordinary commitment, loyalty and dedication to our service users over the past 18 months.

Welcome Home Rebecca!

We will be welcoming Rebecca back to the team shortly, after enjoying the early months with daughter Delilah. A lovely lady and wonderful team member.

Welcome to New Residents



A big warm welcome to Patricia Castle who receives our care support service at 40 The Freehold.

Although Patricia has only been with us since Monday 13th September she was soon taking advantage of our activities programme, seen here taking the helm on the river Medway!



Patricia (Paddy) Coates moved into 77 Old Road in June and is a quiet lady who enjoys individual conversation but particularly enjoys the animals and the enjoyment derived from petting them, as seen [here](#).

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Employee Achievements

Kent Integrated Care Alliance Awards



Congratulations to Leigh Reece on being short listed for the Community Homecare Champion at the KICA Awards.

Leigh and her colleagues will be attending the presentation evening on Friday 17th September 2021, starting at 6.30pm, at The Great Danes Hotel, Maidstone.

This is deserved recognition for the outstanding and consistent care provided throughout her 10 years service at Hale Place. Leigh's happy and warm demeanour has touched all of those who have worked with her and those she has supported through the years, I am delighted for this very special lady and that we are all rooting for our friend and colleague.

National Care Awards



Danielle Cave has been short listed for the Registered Manager award which is a monumental achievement recognising her special qualities. The presentation evening is being held on the 19th November at the Hilton Metropole, London and we will have a team cheering her on!

I have worked and trained managers in our sector for over 30 years and Danielle stands out because of her unwaning commitment to the delivery of quality outcomes for individuals we support. Danielle's drive and determination is inspirational and she has been instrumental in keeping the team together and motivated throughout the past challenging 18 months.

Danielle has been at Hale Place for nearly 12 years, she has demonstrated great integrity, honesty and professionalism throughout her career, someone we are all immensely proud and special friend.

Social Activities

We are currently budgeting for a new electric mini-bus, which will be followed by an EV people carrier to align with our commitment to reducing our carbon footprint.

It has always been our philosophy to encourage active lives for people and we want to create even more opportunities to enjoy life outside the home in the local community. Our people are already regularly engaged with the local salvation army, village café, pubs, garden centres, WI groups, boat trips on the Medway, and they go to the seaside, animal parks etc but we are determined to fill our calendar through the spring and summer of 2022 with additional events.

We will publish our events calendar for 2022 for all to view which will contain all inhouse activities as well as opportunities to attend events and outings.

Improvements

After 18 months of continuous improvements: roof renovation; landscaping two gardens; pet area; activities lodge; pod and various other smaller projects, it is time for a rest.

Apart from decorating and general maintenance, we will not be considering any major improvements until after April 2022.