### Bethesda Eventide Times September 1965

www.bethesdaeventidehomes.co.uk

Issue 62

Hello and welcome to our newsletter for September 2025!

This a 60th anniversary special addition, following on from our 60th anniversary celebrations on Sunday 7th September. We were delighted to be joined by so many, celebrating the history of the Homes.

We hope you enjoy looking at the history of our home, and seeing how it has continued to develop over the last 60 years. It all started after Bethesda Baptist Church purchased "the Poplars" - and the rest is history!

There were of course been lots of other activities taking place throughout August, and we will include these photos in a bumper October newsletter!

We hope you enjoy September's special newsletter!

From all at Bethesda Eventide Homes

#### September Dates

September 7th 60th Anniversary Celebrations

September 9th Seated Zumba

September 12th Fitness with Luke

September 15th Talk like a Pirate Day

> September 15th Kiddleydivey

> September 23rd Mini Golf Day





#### Bethesda Eventide Home Opened

AN old folks' home in Henley Road, Ipswich, was officially opened yesterday by the Mayor and Mayoress of Ipswich,
Ald. and Mrs. V. Francis.

#### Northgate Girls' G.C.E. Results

THE following girls have passed the Cambridge General Certificate of Education at Ordinary Leve (Number of subjects passed includes passes in Mathematics in 1964).

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Susan Baldry (9), Margaret Clarke (7), Manderley Connol (8), Susan Croopy (19), Youne Doberty, (9), Margaret Clarke (7), Youne Doberty, (9), Margaret Clarke (19), Youne Doberty, (9), Linda Fell (9), Dorothy Garcod (6), Carol Gibbons (10), Patricia Hammond (10), Ann Harris (8), Jill Hauswell (10), Marion Hunt (9), Susan Jay (8), Susan Josselyn (7), Wendy Knell (3) Mary Ladbrook (10), Jennifer Latham (3), Patricia Mead (8), Janice Moss (10), Sandra Orris (3), Susan Page (10), Cynthia Platt (9), Jane Roberts (10), Diana Smithson (7), Sally Tonkin (3), Gillian Turner (9), Margaret Weton (7), June White (9), Jennifer Wood (8), Brenda Bales (9).

Rosemary Bragg (7), Daphne Brown (10), Gloria Cole (5), Rhoda Cole (8), Marian Cook (5), Lorna Day (8), Susan Dodd (8), Sandra Fosker (9), Jean Fosker (10), Patricia Gloyne (3), Susan Hallday (7), Janice Healey (4), Mary Hudson (10), Veronica Johnson (4), Julia Kidd (6), Susan Leeming (1), Pamela Markwell (7), Susan Smith (9), Sandra Spinks (3), Teresa Talbott (1), Ann Tricker (2), Krystyna Wagner (6), Jacqueline Ward (5), Jean Wagner (6), Juden Wagner (6), Juden Ward (6), Elizabeth Garnham (6), Jennier Garrett (3), Jennifer Hodges (3), Wendy Johnson (1), Lesley Johnstone (3), Shila Kay (4), Janet Lee (6), Susan Lord (7), Jane Sank (2), Lennifer Rudge (3), Mendy Johnson (1), Lesley Johnstone (3), Shila Kay (4), Janet Lee (6), Susan Lord (7), Jane Sank (2), Lennifer Rudge (3), Mendy Johnson (1), Lesley Johnstone (3), Shila Kay (4), Janet Lee (6), Susan Lord (7), Janes Rash (2), Cyrthia Nevill (5), Angela Plumb (7), Jeanne Prior (1), Jennifer Rudge

The home, at 59a Henley Road, is the Bethesda Eventide Homes, sponsored by Bethesda Baptist Church, Ipswich.

Bethesda Eventide Homes, sponsored by Bethesda Baptist Church, Ipswich.

The home, which until a year ago was a private residence, was bought for £7,250. Alterations cost £6,000, towards which Ipswich Corporation made a substantial grant.

It has room for nine residents and a resident warden. Each person has a self-contained flatlet with wash-basin, electric cooker, refrigerator and store cupboards. All rooms are centrally heated

The iecretary of the Bethesda Eventide Homes, Mr. W. T. Sayer, raid there was planning permission for an extention to the home.

The opening ceremony was attended by the Minister of Bethesda Church, the Rev. G. Bird, and Mrs. Bird, the architect responsible for the alterations, Mr. J. Earwaker, a director of Sadler and Sons (Ipswich) Ltd., builders, who made the alterations, Mr. B. C. Tooke, and the Chief Welfare Officer for Ipswich, Mr. E. J. C. Harvey. Hundreds of friends and members of the church also attended the ceremony.

The Mayor and Mayoress were welcomed by Mr. Sayer and the oldest resident of the home, Mrs. B. Farthing, who is 78, presented the Mayoress with a bouquet.

#### Lifeboat Aids Yacht

After flares were reported three miles south of St. Martin's Point, southern Guernsey early this morning an aircraft spotted a yacht in need of assistance and guided the St. Peter Port lifeboat to it.

The lifeboat began towing the yacht of Guernsey.

Part of the large crowd that attended the opening ceremony of the new Bethesda Eventide Home yesterday.



Mrs. George Bird, wife of the minister, being presented with a silver key during the opening ceremony of the Bethesda Eventide Home, Henley Road, Ipswich, yesterday. Making the presentation is Mr. J. Earwaker, the architect responsible for the alterations to the home.

#### "From small acorns mighty oaks grow"

In the early 1960's Rev George Bird, Pastor of Bethesda Church received a gift of £200 from a church member as a contribution to the

provision of care for the elderly in the church.

As a result a fund was established which grew and made it possible to purchase 59a Henley Road in 1964.
Following initial conversion works the Homes were officially opened on the 1st September

1965, comprising of nine self-contained bedsits, one of which was occupied by a caretaker, and a communal lounge. The cost of purchase and conversion amounted to £14,000.



If you know of anyone who may like to receive our newsletter, please get in touch with the home so we can add them to our mailing list. Thank you!





The name of the ninth month of the year - September, comes from the Latin word "septem", meaning "seven", because in the Roman calendar it was the seventh month.

September is the only month with the same number of letters in its name as the number of the month: it is the ninth month and has nine letters.

The Romans believed that the month of September was looked after by the god of the fire and forge - Vulcan. Therefore, they expected fires, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions in this month.

In many parts of the world, September is the first month of autumn and it is associated with the beginning of school.

One Day In September, about the murder of 11 Israeli athletes at the 1972 Olympics, is the only film with September in the title to win an Oscar.

In 1752, September had only 19 days in the UK. The 3rd-13th were omitted in the change from Julian to Gregorian calendar. People living in Britain, America and other English colonies went to sleep on the night of Sept. 2, 1752, and when they woke up the next morning it was Sept. 14, 1752. Because the people thought the government was trying to cheat them out of 11 days of their lives, there were riots in villages.

September 2, 1666, was a terrible time for the city of London. A raging fire broke out within the older section of the city, completely destroying all it touched within the ancient Roman walls. What's most surprising about this tragedy is that there were only 6 recorded deaths!



We have a Homes Facebook page! We will post regular updates regarding activities within the home etc. and we hope it will enable people to have further insight into the day to days occurrences at Bethesda Eventide. Please feel free to join the page and invite others also.



Our Pastor writes:

My dear friends,

I am constantly made aware of the fact that as the minister of Bethesda I succeed a great line of godly men. Each one has left an indelible mark on the fabric and spiritual life of the fellowship. One of many precious inheritances received from my immediate predecessor, the Rev. G.E.J. Bird, is the Eventide Homes. These homes began with a vision, were founded in faith and have been maintained with loving and attentive care.

The time has now come for us to take another step of faith; a step equally as large as the original. We have discovered increasingly that as our residents become older there are two tangible fears that they face. I. What will happen to me when I can no longer look after myself? 2. What would happen if I were to have an accident in the home with no-one to help? We feel it is our duty before God to seek to meet these fears and seek to dispel them.

How can this be done? Firstly, by pledging to our residents that we will keep them and love them till the Lord calls them home. Obviously we shall not be able to support hospital cases, but we will tend the aged and infirm. We will provide residents with a main meal every day.

Secondly, by the provision of a warden, we will give that daily care and that sense of security that is so desperately needed at the moment.

Thirdly, by additional flats, we will widen and extend our caring ministry.

This will cost a great deal of money. It will necessitate sacrifice on the part of the Lord's people. 1 John 3:16—18 puts it quite plainly.

May God richly bless His people in their endeavours for Him.

# Mrs. G.E.J. Bird (wife of our former Minister) writes:

Dear friends of Bethesda,

Lount it a privilege to be identified with this appeal.

May God richly bless you as you venture out in faith to bring this extension to completion. I know that my husband would have rejoiced to see this come to pass. May the people of Bethesda and wider afield be enabled to do all that they can to further this vision of love and practical care for the glory of God.

My love to you all.





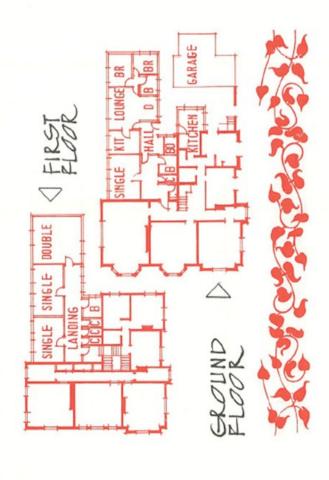
We invite you to complete the enclosed form (which will be treated in strictest confidence) and forward to the Treasurer of our Eventide Homes, Mr. M.R. Goodwin, 40 Henley Road, Ipswich.

The return of this document will be of paramount importance in planning our finances for what is very much a venture of faith.

Suggested ways of financial assistance are shown overleaf. Please refer to this list before completing the slip.

The enclosed envelope may be useful in your regular giving. Other envelopes may be found in the Church or obtained from the Treasurer.

# Plan of the Extension



In 1983, there was a significant change with the building being extended, creating a further four bedsits and Warden's accommodation. The cost for this development was £67,000.



Towards the end of the 1980's it was considered that the type of sheltered accommodation being provided was becoming outdated and after much prayer it was felt the Lord's leading to provide Residential Care at Eventide.

Extensive alterations and improvements were carried out involving the temporary rehousing of the existing residents. The works were completed in 1992 enabling 22 residents to receive professional care in a Christian environment. The cost of this development was £320,000 and involved a mortgage which was repaid earlier than originally anticipated. The Home was formally registered with the relevant authorities as a residential care home for the elderly.



Since its establishment in 1965 the Home had been registered as a Housing Association, in 1995 it was decided that this was no longer appropriate and this status was formally terminated. A new registration was then made with the Charity Commission and since 1995 the Homes have been a registered charity managed by Trustees and professional staff.



During the early years of the 21st century the ongoing financial viability of the Homes began to cause concern to the Trustees. After much prayer, debate and heartfelt concern, Trustees decided to take a real step

of faith to implement a major extension and improvement project estimated to cost about £1m.

The project was completed in 2010 at a cost of £850,000. Again, a substantial 10 year mortgage was involved. This was repaid after 5 years making the Homes financially viable for the future.





Further development to create more homes is not possible due to the restrictions of the homes location but in recent years considerable improvements have been made to improve the facilities for the residents and to make the home more efficient for the staff. The following are some of what has been achieved:-

- Redesigned kitchen.
- Accessible rear garden, including a summerhouse
- Landscaped main garden area providing a safer environment for residents.
- A sheltered pergola to provide a covered outdoor space.
- Improvements to the car parking.
- The purchase of a vehicle for residents transport.
- Improved technology for staff efficiency & resident safety.
- Complete internal redecoration over a 2-3 year period.







The Homes team now comprises of a 3 person management team, and over 70 staff members. Looking back since 1965, it is estimated that some 400 residents have benefitted from the Home.

Currently the trustees are seeking planning approval to construct a new conservatory to replace the existing structure which was built some 25 years ago and unfortunately is suffering timber defects. It is hoped subject to finance for this work to be completed in the next 12 – 18 months.

With a property as old as Eventide the basic structure is always in need of repair and providing high quality care means continuous replacement of equipment for the benefit of residents and staff. The most recent issue being the need to replace two boilers which provide the heating & hot water throughout the home, this work should be completed before the coming winter. It is interesting to think that in 1964 the property was purchased for £7,500 and after another £7,000 being spent making alterations, was opened in 1965. Now in 2025 the likely cost of a new conservatory and replacement boilers is estimated to be about £150,000, how times have changed.

Looking to the future it is hoped by the trustees that high quality care can continue to be provided in a loving Christian environment.



It is with great sadness that we include the news of the passing of John McNeil since our last newsletter. We were so glad that we were able to welcome John back to Eventide Homes, after he served as a Trustee for many years. John will be very dearly missed.

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die.

Do you believe this?" John 11 v 25 & 26

## September Quiz

We hope you enjoy our September quiz, these occurrences all happened in the month of September ~ Answers will be included in next months newsletter!

- 1. In September 1953 John F Kennedy married Jacqueline. What was Jacqueline's maiden name?
- 2. Over a three day period 13000 houses were destroyed and 6 people killed in which catastrophic September event in 1666?
- 3. In 1609, Henry Hudson was the first European to discover which densely populated New York borough?
- 4. In 1822, Brazil declared independence from which European country?
- 5. On September 11th 2001, one of the worst terrorist attacks in history was carried out against the United States. Who was the President at this time and what were they doing at the time of the attacks?



- 6. On 1st September 1939, Germany started World War II when it invaded which country?
- 7. In 1620, a small ship with 102 passengers set sail for America. The pilgrims finally set foot in Plymouth 3 months later. What was the name of the ship?
- 8. In 1810, Chile declared it's independence from which European country?
- 9. In 1893, which southern-hemisphere country was the first to grant women the vote?
- 10. In 1829 the first British police force was established in London. They became known as 'bobbies', why?
- 11. Which American Rock Band released the song "Wake me up when September ends" in 2005?



If you see a photo in our newsletter of a loved one and would like a copy of it, please get in touch with the home so we can provide you with the original.





























































Carehome.co.uk is an excellent tool for supporting people in choosing a care home. If you would be willing to leave a review on this site, this would be most welcome.

carehome.co.uk

https://www.carehome.co.uk/carehome.cfm/searchazref/10001515BETZ

We haven't had any birthdays in August - which doesn't happen often!

In September we are looking forward to celebrating with Christine and Jenny.

We look forward to sharing some birthday pictures again next month!





#### **Bethesda Eventide Homes**

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