Carlingwark House in the snow

Here are some of the photo’s taken in December and January of Carlingwark in the snow. We are going to turn them into Christmas cards for 2010 to raise some money for trips out and entertainment.

We would like you to pick which one’s you think would make good Christmas cards.

There are enlarged photo’s in the panel lounge for you to view.
January

We would like to welcome Mrs Sybil Gray and Mrs Greta Niven to Carlingwark

January saw the sad passing away of Kenneth Apps and Quintin Lawson

February Birthdays
Jean Gillespie 2nd
Charlotte Kirby 16th
Zona Scott 24th

To my dear late friend Kenneth Apps

What can I say? I miss you very much. We had some good laughs, we had some fun, we also had our serious times when we talked about Carlingwark. You were a good, kind man, a thorough gentleman. You had a kind work for everybody.

This year on Burns night I missed you and thought of the fun time we had a year ago dancing with Mandy.

Goodbye my friend

I think of you often, Charlotte.

Our Rural Reflections

The Big Freeze 1949 - 1950

It all began on the last day in November. The council had been laying water pipes and had just finished the job. I remember clearly because one of the workmen had been knocked down by a passing car that day.

My father Hayton Couttard would hammer mil oats for the hungry ducks and geese on the farm; the local birds would come to feed on them too.

In January during the shooting season Frank Copperthwaite would have to save his dog from the river Dee. This was the result of having shot a wild goose which fell on the now icy river. Naturally he dog would retrieve the kill but became stranded as ice broke away. Frank had to take his clothes off and brave the cold water in order to save his dog.

The snow started to thaw on the 1st of March, and I was able to start ploughing the fields and sowing seeds. Mr Crosby our neighbour helped to clear snow from the roads using his horse and harrow to break up the snow.
Church services are held every second Monday.
By the Reverend Mr Malloch
In the panel lounge at 2:00 pm and all are most welcome

Mystic Maggie’s Horoscope
Capricorn
Tighten your belt’s after the festive spending spree. Also watch how you tread as the path may be slippery underfoot. Keep your eye open for a special someone who will walk into your life.

Come and have a go on the computer
Anthony a volunteer has recently joined us at Carlingwark. Anthony has a great range of computer skills and has offered to assist residents on the computer to write letter’s write life story’s or any new letter article that residents may want to write. Anthony is also interested in teaching residents computer skills and explaining computers and how it all works to residents so if you would like to have a go please see Mandy who will arrange this!!

Bill Anderson remember a tradition
Scottish Hogmanay in Glasgow
Bill could remember Hogmanay as a boy and with his family all gathered around, his father who worked on the railways all his life took the lead and gave everyone a song. (now we know where bill gets his singing from) Everyone joined in singing tradition Scottish songs Auld Land Syne and “Roamin in the gloamin” and many more. We looked forward to a visit from a first footer usually a neighbour tall dark and handsome carrying a lump o coal, a giant supper was then served with tatties, neeps and haggis.
The lights were lowered on the peel aw the bells and time appeared to stand still for a short while., everyone linked hands and enjoyed all the fun, we had a great time some of which will never be repeated but I now take each year as it comes.
Happy 2010 to everyone
Regards
Bill Anderson

Special Thank you to the friend of Carlingwark and .
Also a very special thanks to all the staff for a wonderful Christmas for making it feel just like home
New Year in Latvia

Do you celebrate new year in Latvia?

Yes we usually go out to the city and at midnight Fireworks and Champagne, we do not hold hand or sing Auld Langs Sygne. We do kiss each other and wish each other Happy New Year. normal have party’s and dance.

What do you do on New years day?

Eat a lot we have a meal like Christmas. We do have a tradition on new years eve till 12 we cook brown peas (peas bacon onion) you have to eat all you are given before 12o’clock or the tradition is you do not find money that year and you will be poor.****** on new years day another tradition is we buy small bit of metal and melt it (solder) then cool it in cold water from the shape that is left you look at it to see what the New Year will bring some people see a house or children ect ect. A long long time ago you could not buy this metal but now some of the shops in Latvia sell this metal. They sell them, in the shape of a horse shoe some times they sell the metal in shop’s that are home made and contain wishes.

Interview by C Kirby

New Year in Germany

My memories of New Year and how we would spend it in Germany it was usually lots of eating and drinking big celebrations there are no real superstition that I remember we would just wish each other all the best for the New Year, shake hands and kiss, we never song Auld Langs Sygne like you do here in Scotland, on new years eve we also open presents and get together has a family to do this very fond memories in Germany. I don’t remember people getting as drunk as here in Scotland, But there again we didn’t have that much money.☺

Interview by C Kirby

Manager update

Throughout Dumfries and Galloway early on a Monday morning 30th November 2009 various managers, care staff and resident Charlotte Kirby started their journey for a 2 night stay in the heart of Liverpool for the CIC Special Awards Ceremony right from the start we had a laugh at Dumfries station we were 3 managers short they had gone for a coffee at Tesco and missed the train!. We laughed all the way to Liverpool to the amusement of everyone on the train the hotel was lovely and comfortable and in between workshops we managed to sight see a little of Liverpool Charlotte had a wonderful time seeing her home town meeting up with relatives, shopping, wining and dining.

The conference was held at the magnificent St George’s Hall everything was beautifully decorated for Christmas after the awards (some of which were so amazing) we enjoyed dinner and danced the night away charlotte was serenaded by a Paul McCartney look alike. The only low was the freezing cold weather but our high was receiving our award for a special commendation for Teamwork.

Thanks to everyone for this.

Helen