Easter is a very special time. God is love – Jesus Lives - Halleluiah

Welcome to news from MHA in relation to our District.

MHA’s mission
MHA exists to improve the quality of life for older people, inspired by Christian concern

Events
It would great see you at the ‘Surprised by Age’ events being held on

Tuesday 3rd June 2014 at Cathays Methodist Church, Crwys Road/Fanny Street, Cardiff CF24 4NE and

In our own District on Thursday 5th June Ladyfield Evangelical Church, Hungerdown Lane, Chippenham SN14 0BA

Each event starts with registration at 9.30am and ends at 1pm with lunch.

These gatherings are to explore how ageing, spirituality and faith are at the heart of the Church’s mission, based around MHA’s own story.

The events are free and will be led by Rev Dr Keith Albans, MHA’s Director of Chaplaincy & Spirituality. We will include two breakout sessions to explore a variety of relevant topics, including Dementia, Spirituality and Later Life, Dying and Death and Serving Older People in the Community. If you would like to join us please contact Rachel Walker on 0113 272 8471 or Rachel.walker@mha.org.uk

Developments
MHA has been providing care in Swindon since 1987 when Epworth Court sheltered housing scheme opened. In 2005 MHA developed the care community currently consisting of Fitzwarren House, a specialist dementia care home, and Stanton Lodge, an independent living complex for couples where one partner is living with dementia. We are now extending this care community with the development of a new assisted living scheme on the same site. The new scheme will consist of 37 apartments for sale, offering daily care and support to care home levels for up to 74 older people. The development will include significant additional communal facilities to benefit all the residents on the site and allow for more collective gatherings and social activities. In addition, there will be a very large landscaped and sensory garden.

As MHA continues to extend our support to more older people each year, we are also increasing the number of partnership schemes, where a developer invests in the project and takes the risk on sales and then MHA takes over the freehold and provides on-site care when residents move in. This is the model for the new development at Adlington House, Slade Road, Portishead BS20 6BB. Gladman, the developer, are now on site and due to complete in November. MHA
have been appointed to provide management, care and support services to the residents of the 50 apartments. I visited this site recently when attending a Discipleship event at Portishead Methodist Church. The development will have views of this lovely town and countryside and with it being situated just one street away from the town centre it will be ideal for shopping, attending events that happen in a variety of Halls and of course access to the Parish and Methodist Churches, as well as other places of worship.

This is also the model for the new development at Corsham Retirement Village which is being built in partnership with Rangeford, with MHA appointed to provide management care and support services. The development will consist of a main village central facility (restaurant, shop, library/games room, private dining, wellbeing suite-beauty therapy/gym/swimming pool, offices, laundry, kitchen and staff room), 52 assisted living apartments above and next to the main village central facility and 10 independent apartment blocks providing a total of 215 independent apartments. There are also plans for a secure sensory garden. This will be a phased build taking up to 4-5 years to complete. Works are due to start on site in March with Phase 1 completed by September 2015.

Following the completion of the new care home The Fairways, in Chippenham, residents are now moving in to the adjoining apartments. These include a number of larger care suites where couples can stay together, even if only one partner has care needs.

The first phase of apartments, adjacent to the care home, are now complete offering 1,2 and three bedrooms for sale through Freeman Retirement Living. MHA have been commissioned to provide 24 hour care, where it is required. These luxury apartments will share the atrium that leads into a wonderful café/restaurant. There will also be facilities including a cinema, swimming pool and jacuzzi, gym, library with an IT area, a snooker room, bowls, a hair and beauty salon and so much more. Both the care home and the apartments for over 55’s overlook the Chippenham Golf Club.

The Fairways also has a Live at Home Scheme. This scheme offers befriending in many forms, keen to ensure that older people who may feel isolated, but live in their own homes, in Chippenham feel supported. This Live at Home Scheme is still in its development stages as it is the members or service users who will guide it. Currently there is a monthly lunch club and weekly activities. If you would like to assist as a volunteer or know someone who might enjoy the friendship please contact Anne Blackwell on 01249 461239

**MHA’s New Website**

Read about the new Chief Executive's first 30 days, Adrian Bagg talks about his apprehension and his excitement in taking on this new role.

There is access to download and order resources such as worship booklets and books collated from MHA residents, an e-prayer letter, volunteering opportunities and so much more. For information on all MHA services and latest news check out the new website [www.mha.org.uk](http://www.mha.org.uk) the new site also now offers the facility to enter a postcode and find the nearest services available.
Methodist Homes Sunday

MHA have Sunday 8th June as their designated day when the Methodist community hold special services to remember the work of the charity and support it through gifting money. However if this date is not convenient to your church please set your own date to celebrate and remember MHA’s work.

This year’s appeal is entitled ‘…In the moment’

The Worship Resources offer a perspective that those living with dementia have a lot to teach us in experiencing the world in which we live, moment by moment. We owe immense gratitude to our supporters and by holding a Methodist Sunday Service, your church helps us to do practical things that help people with dementia not just to survive, but to thrive.

You can download the special service from the MHA website www.mha.org.uk then click on Appeals or ring Lesley France on 0113 2728466

Your support for MHA is much appreciated and can make a real difference. Please ask your Minister or Worship Consultation Group to set a date for an MHA Service if you haven’t got one planned. Thank you.

Last year the Bristol District raised a total of £8,294.63.
Can we do even better this year?

Fundraising

Money raised from all kinds of fundraising activities are used for a number of support activities within MHA Homes, Schemes and Projects eg Music Therapy, supporting activities that grow friendship, new worship materials in large print, and so much more.

If you are undertaking a sponsored event for MHA do use www.justgiving.com or contact MHA for sponsorship forms call 0113 272 8482 or email fundraising@mha.org.uk

Finally you are welcome to contact me by email: mgt.s@blueyonder.co.uk or by telephone 0117 907 9523.

I am happy to come and talk about MHA’s work.

Your comments and suggestions to help Bristol Methodist District increase its support for MHA are welcome. Thank you. Margaret.

Margaret Slucutt – Bristol District Acting MHA Representative

A list of Homes and Schemes in our District are listed below. More information can be found at www.mha.org.uk
MHA Homes, Schemes and Projects in our Bristol District

**Care Homes**
**Nursing Care**
Hartcliffe Nursing Home, Bristol

**Nursing, or Residential and Dementia Care**
Fitzwarren House, Swindon
Horfield Lodge, Bristol
Torrwood, Wells
The Fairways, Chippenham

**Dementia Care**
Brockworth House, Brockworth near Gloucester

**Residential Care**
Stratton House, Bath

**Retirement Living Schemes**
**Sheltered Housing**
Church Court, Midsomer Norton
Derham Court, Yatton
Epworth Court, Swindon
Willcox Court, Glastonbury

**Housing with Care**
Walcot Court, Bath

**Retirement Housing**
Abona Court, Sea Mills, Bristol
Terrill Court, Clifton, Bristol
The Fairways, Chippenham

**Specialist Housing for couples where one person has dementia**
The Fairways, Chippenham
Stanton Lodge, Swindon

**Live at Home Schemes**
Chippenham Live at Home Scheme, Chippenham
Shrivenham and Uffington Live at Home Scheme, Swindon