

Taunton Heritage Trust

NEWSLETTER NO 26

Dear Residents

What a summer and what a treat to be able to issue such a positive newsletter showcasing some of the events that have taken place at the Trust! We are lucky that we all have some outside space to enjoy. Thank you to those of you who attended the Satisfaction Survey feedback sessions and I hope by now you have all had a chance to read your copy of the full document. Feel free to contact me if you have any serious concerns, but otherwise, liaise with your Warden in the normal way.

Karen White

Chief Officer

Grays Almshouses Heritage open day



Saturday 17th September

Morning Session: 10am - 12pm

Afternoon session: 2pm - 4pm

Pop along and learn a little about the history of Grays Almshouses. You are invited to have a look inside the Chapel and a wander around the gardens and even a sneak peek into one of the flats.



BBQ Weather



Our Residents have been making the most of the recent heatwave and have been arranging lots of social events in the gardens. Leycroft Close & Bernard Taylor Homes site have recently had BBQ and Pimm's afternoons with many of our Residents attending. There will be more events in the coming weeks with everyone making the most of the sunshine.



Our Patron The Mayor Cllr Sue Lees



Sue was born in Devon but moved to Somerset in her late teens. Sue is visually impaired with a small degree of useful vision. She went to mainstream school and then went to a College for the Blind where she trained as an audio shorthand typist. She met her husband Richard there who is totally blind. They married in 1976 and moved to Taunton. Sue and Richard have two daughters and two lovely granddaughters.

Sue worked for several years in her trained occupation, for the County Council and Lloyds Bank, before taking a complete career change and becoming a Support Worker for Mencap working with adults with learning disabilities – a job she very much enjoyed.

Sue is very involved with her local church of St Georges, Wilton. She is a Welcomer, Reader and a member of the Choir. She also helps at the Day Centre run there for adults with learning difficulties which she has done for almost 20

years.

Sue enjoys reading large print books, music, listening to sport on the radio and looking after her daughter's dog Disney! She also loves having her granddaughters to stay. Sue and Richard enjoy taking holidays in the Channel Islands.

Sue was first elected to Taunton Deane Borough Council in 2007 and is always willing to help her constituents.

"From my time as Deputy Mayor and also being the wife of a past Mayor of Taunton Deane, I fully appreciate the responsibility this role holds so I feel very honoured to be elected to represent Taunton as Mayor, the town which I love. I will undertake the role to the very best of my ability and look forward to meeting many people during my term as Mayor of Taunton".



Sidmouth Summer Trip



After a long three year wait we were so excited to finally be able to arrange a Summer outing for our Residents.

We decided to return to Sidmouth again (we were due to go in 2020) after having such a lovely time on the last trip there in 2019.



We were lucky with the weather and the rain held off for us. We arrived at the seafront hotel – The Hotel Riviera at 10.30am for refreshments. After this some of us had a wander across the seafront and through the town for a bit of shopping. We then returned to the hotel for a delicious two course lunch with views overlooking the sea.



Once lunch had finished there was still time to enjoy the rest of the Sidmouth sights before the coach came promptly to pick us up.

Residents & staff all had a lovely time. We have received many thank you messages and cards in the office and we are so pleased that everyone enjoyed the trip. We cannot wait for next year's Summer trip!

Please use the suggestions boxes for any future Summer trip ideas!



Double choc & coconut traybake



Method:

STEP 1

Line a 22 x 28cm rectangular cake tin with baking parchment. Heat the oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4.

STEP 2

First, prepare the topping. Put the milk or dark chocolate pieces in a large heatproof bowl. Heat the double cream in a medium pan until just steaming, then slowly

pour over the chocolate, whisking until the chocolate has melted and the mix is smooth. Leave to cool slightly, then chill for 1 hr 30 mins until soft, but still spoonable.

STEP 3

Beat the butter, sugars and $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp salt together in a stand mixer or using an electric whisk for 5 mins, or until light and fluffy. Add the eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition. Add the desiccated coconut, flour, yogurt and coconut flavouring, if using, and briefly beat until just combined. Spoon the mix into the tin, smooth the surface using the back of a spoon, then bake for 30 mins until golden and firm to the touch. Leave in the tin to cool completely.

STEP 4

When fully cool, spread over the chocolate topping, then drizzle with the white chocolate and scatter over the toasted coconut flakes. Chill for around 15 mins until the topping is set. Cut into 12 squares, then serve.

Ingredients:

- 200g unsalted butter, softened
- 100g golden caster sugar
- 100g light brown soft sugar
- 3 large eggs
- 60g desiccated coconut
- 200g self-raising flour
- 100g Greek yogurt
- $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp coconut flavouring (optional, see tip below)

For the topping

- 200g milk or dark chocolate, chopped into small pieces
- 200ml double cream
- 40g white chocolate, melted
- handful of coconut flakes, toasted, or desiccated coconut or sprinkles

www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/double-choc-coconut-traybake

New bike shed

The new bike shed has been a great addition to Leycroft Close. Here are a few reminders when using the bike shed:

- Residents should use this shed as their first choice.
- Residents front door key will open the new bike shed.
- There is no specific allocation of spaces.
- The bike shed by the Bungalow is to be used as an overflow only.



Site security

Please be extra careful in the warmer weather as it can encourage opportunists who can more easily enter properties through windows and doors left open.

The police have advised us to continue to be vigilant when it comes to site security.

