

Over Day Centre Association

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CENTRE MANAGER'S REPORT

HAYLEY SMITH

Over Day Centre continues to provide a high quality of care to our clients from Over and surrounding villages. This year we have had the privilege of welcoming older people from twelve towns and villages across Cambridgeshire.

In order to cater to the varied tastes and interests of our clients, we have booked a wide range of entertainers. There have been singers, guest speakers, craft activities, visits from local community groups, as well as chair-based exercises and informal services held by local pastors. Talks have ranged from the history of the Great Fen Flood of 1947, to the history of Fireworks and how professional displays are staged, to a photographic tour of the Antarctic, and a presentation on the archaeology conducted during the widening of the A14 (with a display of excavated artefacts).

Staff also provided social, daily activities: quizzes, bingo, puzzles, crosswords, scrabble, and mini Olympics involving props (such as balls) to encourage clients to move and stretch.

Our 30th Anniversary was a major event in the autumn of 2019 that, not only involved our clients, but also our volunteers and people from community groups and associations that support our charity (such as Parish Councils, WI groups, and local British Legion branches). I know that I speak on behalf of the Day Centre staff when I say that we are very proud of our charity, and that we hope it continues to grow from strength to strength.

Although Covid-19 prevented the annual 5 Pub Challenge and Bike Ride fundraisers to take place (due to concerns over social distancing), other events were held prior to lockdown. These included – to name but a few - our annual Quiz Night, a Swishing Evening, and our Christmas Raffle that raised over £1,000 due to the fabulous prizes donated by local businesses. A big thank you to the donors, organisers and everyone who took part in the events.

Over the years our charity has been incredibly lucky to be supported by many volunteers who perform a variety of tasks. It would be impossible to name everyone, but I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all for their dedication. I would also like to extend my thanks to all the staff who continue to show such commitment to our clients.