**Summer 2019:** Welcome to our Summer Newsletter. The summer of 2019 has been an exceptionally busy time with the opening of Evanthea House in June and full occupation being achieved in July. With building work now completed it is an opportunity for consolidation and our attention will now focus on maintaining the fabric of Queen’s House. We will be having an official opening of Murray House / Evanthea House on the 30th September.

**Activities:** Here is Hazel’s up-date on what our residents have been doing since our last newsletter was published. Lots to report on this time around as you will see.

Residents enjoyed a productive day planting shrubs and bedding plants which are displayed outside their room windows.

**Craft Club.** An enthusiastic group of Ladies made beautiful necklaces (recycled from plastic bags) and entered them into the Kelso Horticultural Show. Kay Wicherik was awarded 2nd prize for her necklace. Well done Kay! Many thanks to Moira whose inspired ideas and creativity in the craft Club is enjoyed by all.
**Pimms on or off the Patio**....On a not so sunny afternoon, some of our residents enjoyed Pimms in the Roxburgh Lounge being entertained with enchanting music by Harpist Margaret Knight. Many thanks again to Mandy and her team for making this occasion special.

**The Wheels on the Bus**....Our two recent outings to the Edinburgh Woollen Mill where everyone enjoyed afternoon tea and cakes followed by a browse round the shop area – With one lady laden with bags on return !! Our second trip was to the Schloss Roxburghe Hotel, from the moment we arrived we were treated like Royalty, refreshments were served in the State room to which all enjoyed. Many thanks to our wonderful staff who give up their own time to help out with many of these trips.
**Kelso Laddie**.....Everyone was in good voice for an afternoon singing Border songs when the Kelso Laddie Mark Henderson came to visit on Tuesday 16th July. This is always a special date in the Queen’s House calendar. Many thanks to Netta Harvey for playing the Piano on the day and to Ray Jones (Chairperson Trustee) for leading the Singing. Not forgetting Mandy and her team for refreshments, especially the delicious (Also famous) strawberry tarts.

**Kelso (Border Union) Show**.....As with previous events, some of our residents provided entries for the show. The entries covered Flower arranging and Baking. Several ladies made Beautiful flower arrangements, while others enjoyed having busy hands making delicious Lemon Drizzle Loafs. The hard work was obviously worth the effort as we came up Trumps in the Floral art winning both 2nd (Ann Kelly) and 3rd (Helen Northcott). Well done to everyone.
Fayre Enough.....Our annual Summer Fayre was held Saturday 24th August. Thankfully it was a lovely summer’s day with plenty of sunshine. Opening up the afternoon was the Kelso Pipe Band which everyone enjoyed. For some residents and their families this was their first Summer Fayre and we hope they all had a good afternoon. As always, the Cake and Candy, Bric a brac and Bottle stalls were popular, we had new stalls this year being ‘Handbags and Gladrags’ ‘Nearly new’ and ‘Guess the weight of the puppy’, ‘Guess the Lambs name’ and ‘Guess the Dolls Birthday’ which all proved to be successful and the Raffle once again saw some wonderful prizes. Many thanks to all those who donated these. We greatly appreciate the support given by Families, staff members and the general Kelso Community in supporting this event so many thanks to all those that organised, attended, donated and helped out with this event. We are very happy to say the Summer Fayre raised the magnificent sum of £1700.60 which will be used to benefit the residents.
**Place and Space -**
Over the last month or so we have opened two day services at Place and Space for people within the community to come and engage in social activities. These groups meet on Mondays and Fridays and we have around 10-12 people who attend from 10am-3pm. The services we offer are very much lead by the people who attend and we have a wide variety of activities on offer and lots of ideas for future activities. We are planning to open another service on Thursdays as more people are becoming interested.
Wednesdays is still our community café day from 10am-3pm and everyone from Queen’s/Murray House and the community are welcome to come along for a cup of tea and some cake.

Our monthly art club is still very popular and recently people from the community have attended ceramic paint workshop and flower arranging which is now being run quarterly. Every second Wednesday of the month we have a tea dance 1.30pm-3.30pm which is always well attended.

Please get in touch if you are interested in volunteering with us at Place and Space.

The Place and Space facilities are available for private bookings. Contact Karina as below. A great opportunity for volunteers of any age especially for an older person who is looking to become more active in their community. Contact: Karina Wolf at karina@queenshousehome.co.uk or call 01573 224 886
Caroline and Alec tie the knot after a long engagement. Life events had hindered the couple making their wedding day happen. When Caroline’s Mum took unwell the couple decided that their only wish would be for the bride's mother to be present for the occasion. When time is short love shines through brighter than ever. All the people that matter the most in your life are there to support you and help you make your wish come true. Ironically, the venue choice could never be totally agreed, neither Caroline or Alec would have thought the Margaret Kerr Unit and hospital Chaplaincy would be where their wedding would take place, however, the location turned out to be very special indeed. All the staff at the Margaret Kerr and Chaplaincy Centre were amazing. Caroline was reminded of the importance of making memories (despite this difficult time) and did exactly that. Although tainted with sadness, joy and love shone through as family and close friends joined the couple to celebrate their marriage. Truly a day never to forget!

What does a bride wish for on her Wedding Day? NO rain! True to form the weather changed and the rain stopped at 2pm ready for the 4pm ceremony. It could have been the lucky sixpence taped inside the bride's sandal that helped or maybe that just gave her a sore foot by the end of the night! Once inside the Registry office at Eyemouth the door was locked so the bridegroom could not escape! The Bride was escorted down the aisle by her proud eldest son. A quick ceremony brought a smile to the bridegroom’s face as he thought of the wonderful buffet ahead - the way to a man’s heart is through his stomach. Joking apart, we had a lovely day to remember. Thank you to everyone for their well wishes and congratulations on our special day.

Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey

Residents Meetings for your diary:-
Queen’s House  Murray House
5th September  3rd September
3rd October  5th November
7th November