



Housing with Care

LACE Matters

Christmas Edition

Wishing you and your family peace, health, happiness, and prosperity in 2023.

Following the previous edition of both financially and emotionally, our LACE Matters Newsletter, I have However, I am reminded that very much valued the opportunity to Christmas is not about what we eat meet with both staff and residents or the gifts we receive, but it is a from across the Association. Despite time of joy, a time to be spent with the challenges we face, I have been friends and family, a time to reflect overwhelmed by the level of support upon the past with renewed hope and understanding. I am grateful to for the future.

everyone who has taken the time to On behalf of the Association, I wish write, suggesting ways in which we to take this opportunity to most can optimise our income, reduce our expenditure, and seek efficient ways sincerely thank you for all your of working. These are undoubtably support over the past year and to difficult times, but I am aware that wish you and your family peace, by working together they can be health, happiness, and prosperity overcome and that as we approach in 2023.

our 60th year, we will continue to provide great places to live and work. A Very Merry Christmas

With the festive season now upon us, I am aware that for some this can also be a difficult time of the year,

Nick Chambers

Chief Executive Officer



Nick Chambers, Chief Executive Officer

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In memory of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

On the 8th of September 2022, the palace announced The Queen had died peacefully at her home in Balmoral.

Together, we mourned the loss and celebrated a most remarkable reign. A reign in which Her Majesty was driven by duty, uniting a kingdom with dignity, honour and grace.

We were and continue to be grateful for the support members of the Royal family have shown towards the work of the Association, and at the time, we sent our most deepest condolences to His Majesty King Charles III and the family.

On Monday the 19th September, the day of the State Funeral, our residents and staff members joined together at

their respective schemes and marked the day by watching the televised State Funeral.

During this time, members of our hospitality team laid out afternoon tea for the residents to share so that they could reminisce about The Queen as her coffin made its final journey through London, from Westminster Abbey to her resting place at Windsor.

Residents were very happy with the hospitality and although it was a sombre time, it was an occasion to celebrate a remarkable reign.



How to contact us over the festive period

LACE House, home to our central services team, will be closed over the festive period from 1:00pm on Friday 23rd December 2022, and will re-open at 9:00am on Tuesday 3rd January 2023.

If you are a resident and wish to report a property maintenance emergency during this time, please activate your emergency call system, or call 01522 514 444, pressing option 1 to speak to our emergency on-call member of staff.

All non-emergency repairs can be reported via our website. Please use the yellow 'Request a repair' button found on the top right page of our website www.lacehousing.org.



LACE Housing Calendar 2023

A massive thank you to Grahame Dunkin and members of the Dunholme Camera Club who have provided beautiful images for our 2023 calendar.

Members of the camera club were invited to take part in a competition using their photography skills to showcase the best views from in and around Lincolnshire. It was then up to us at LACE to shortlist all of the stunning entries, before picking the final twelve.

As in previous years, the calendar is sent out to every one of our residents at LACE. We would love to hear what you think about this year's calendar, even if it's just to tell us your favourite image.

Winning photos: January (Graham Halliday), February (Michael Hughes), March (Graham Halliday), April (Grahame Dunkin), May (Alan Crossland), June (Bob Mould), July (Jill Guest), August (Peter Currey), September (Keith Markillie), October (Graham Halliday), November (Jill Guest), December (Grahame Dunkin).



Bonfire night at Brighton Place

Residents at Brighton Place, Washingborough enjoyed a fish and chip supper on bonfire night, followed by some homemade chocolate chip muffins that were kindly made by members of the hospitality team.

Unfortunately, everyone was so busy enjoying the fish and chips that they forgot to take any photographs. However, resident feedback was good and everyone who attended said they had a lovely time.





Counting down to 60...

Did you know LACE Housing celebrates its 60th anniversary in 2024? Here at LACE, we've been thinking about all the ways we can mark the special occasion.

Back in October, we asked our staff to come up with ideas about how they would like to see LACE celebrate its diamond jubilee. As you can imagine, the ideas ranged from the great (creating a time capsule containing 60 items), to the greater still (for us) – having our very own Nick Chambers volunteer 60 hours of his time to help in the kitchens, gardens, and wherever else we could dream up.

But as we all know, LACE Housing could not have made it this far without its residents, and so we want to know what celebrations YOU would love to see or be part of in 2024. Please email any suggestions or ideas to pa@lacehousing.org for the attention of Tracy Casebere.



Raising the roof

Our soon-to-be-completed Roman Gate Court development, which consists of 24 affordable apartments for over 55s, has been 'topped off' with the completion of its roof. With the building now watertight, internal works are now underway and it is firmly on-track for completion by Easter.

Nick Chambers, Chief Executive of LACE Housing, said:

"Situated at the gateway into the historic City of Lincoln, Roman Gate Court is becoming increasingly visible and it's generating much interest."

"Providing 24 apartments for over 55s at an affordable rent, I am delighted to confirm that Lindum Group is progressing well with works and completion remains on schedule."

"Once completed, Roman Gate Court will provide much-needed affordable homes that support independent living, enabling people to stay in their local community as they grow older."

"Our homes are designed to be future proof for our

residents, as they can take advantage of enhanced services as and when they need them. The building itself will be energy efficient and built to a very high standard to ensure it stands the test of time."

Properties at Roman Gate Court will be available at an affordable rent and will be advertised through West Lindsey District Council's choice-based letting system at a later stage. Residents will be required to meet certain criteria, including having a connection to the local area.

For more information on the Roman Gate Court development, or to register interest in the scheme, please visit the LACE website, or contact the Housing and Support team on 01522 514444 or enquiries@lacehousing.org



We need you

Back in October and in the interests of openness – one of our six values, we as an Association strive for, Nick Chambers wrote to all residents about the increasing concerns associated with the impact of the current economic uncertainty upon our services, both now and in the future.

One of the many challenges we face is the rising cost of energy. In his letter, Nick provided some context about the electricity costs for the entire Association, currently £90,000 per annum. However, we had been advised that once our fixed-rate electricity contract came to an end in December 2022, this number would increase to an estimated £366,000 per annum (a rise of 407% or £276,000).

Nick welcomed residents to share their ideas and suggestions about how we could minimise the rising cost of providing services without adversely affecting the health, safety, and wellbeing of residents, visitors and staff.

We were extremely encouraged by the thoughtful responses we received from our residents. Reducing our energy usage was a popular suggestion across all of our schemes, and it is something we are now looking into as a priority whilst

ensuring the health and safety of our residents remains paramount.

Similarly, during two Staff Away Days held in October, Nick asked staff for their views and ideas about how the Association could make efficiencies to minimise the rising cost of providing services to our residents. As before, reducing our energy usage was a popular suggestion, however, staff also identified ways to improve our use of information technology, increasing productivity and reducing our costs without compromising on our service.

We would like to thank all residents, including their friends and family, as well all of our staff members, who gave their time and suggestions in support of making LACE the best it can be.

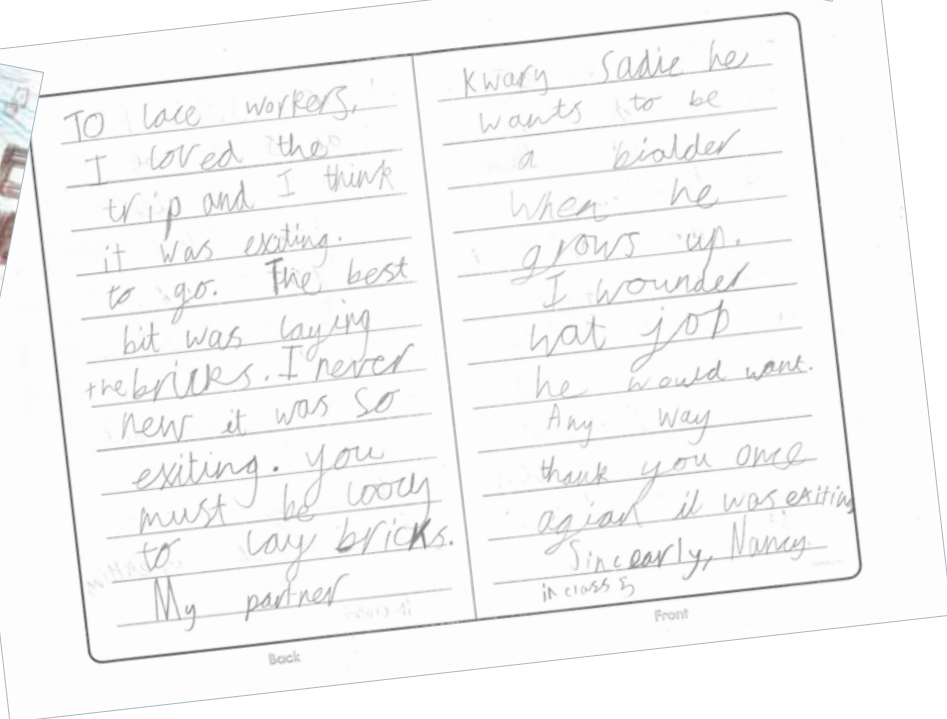
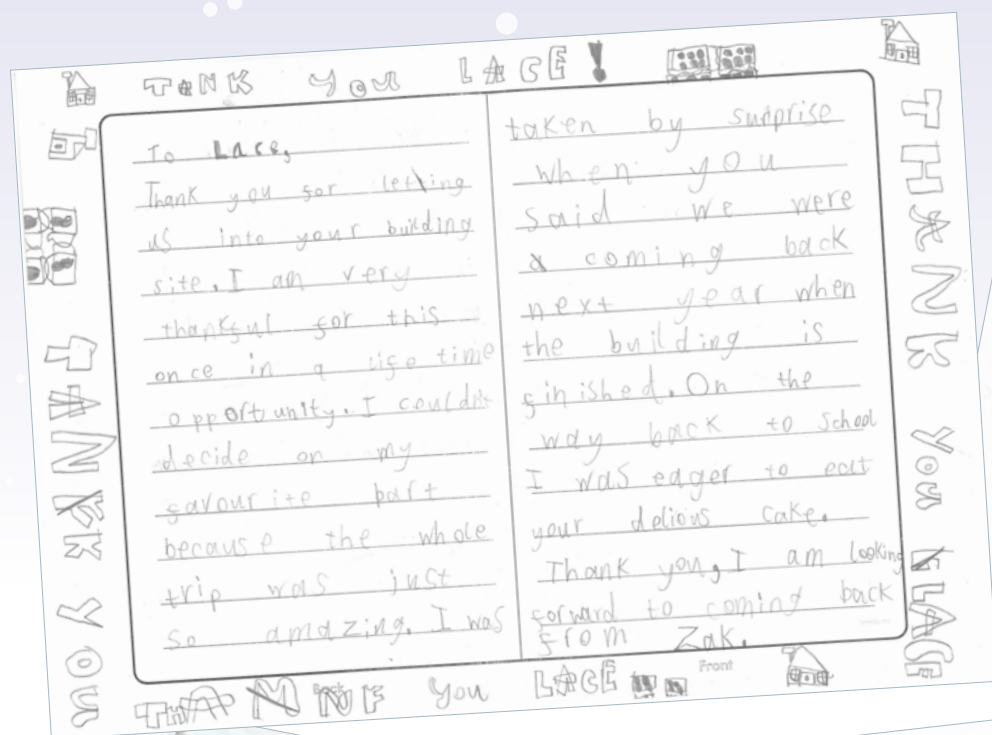


A picture says a thousand words

Back in July, children from Ermine Primary Academy visited the construction site at what will soon be our new development at Roman Gate Court, Lincoln. The children were made aware of the dangers of a construction site, the skills needed to construct a building such as Roman Gate Court, and also turned their hand to bricklaying.

Following their visit, the children reflected on their time at the construction site, writing and drawing about what they enjoyed most whilst there, and what they learnt. The children very kindly sent us their drawings and we would love to display some of them at Roman Gate Court for residents to view and enjoy when it opens next spring.

The children will be returning to the site in the new year when the building is near completion and we look forward to welcoming them back soon.





Dates for your diary

December is a busy month across our Extra Schemes as we run a number of events for our residents, welcoming in visitors, and making good use of our hospitality team who provide great food and refreshments throughout.

OLSEN COURT

Date / Time	Event
Thursday 1st December 10:30 am	Decorating the tree
Friday 2nd December 10:00 am	Just My Look
Saturday 3rd December 3:30 pm	Ukulele Band
Sunday 11th December 3:00 pm	Christmas Party
Monday 12th December 10:00 am	Carlton Academy Children's Carols
Monday 19th December 10:30 am	Pet Therapy
Thursday 22nd December 2:00 pm	Church Service
Sunday 25th December 12:00 pm	Christmas Dinner
Monday 26th December 12:00 pm	Boxing Day Dinner
Sunday 1st January 12:00 pm	New Year's Meal

WORTH COURT

Date / Time	Event
Every Tuesday 1:00 pm	Sound Lincs (music event)
Wednesday 21st December 5:00 pm	Christmas Party with Steve Carmel singing

BRICK KILN PLACE

Date / Time	Event
Every Monday 10:00 am	Coffee Morning Mondays
Every Thursday 2:00 pm	Bingo
Every Friday 11:00 am	Upbeat Singing Fridays
Friday 2nd December 6:00 pm	Country and Western Singer, Rodeo Jo
Thursday 8th December 10:00 am	Grantham Preparatory International School, Choir and Band, Carol Singing
Thursday 8th December 1:30 pm	Christmas Dinner for Support Staff and Carers
Friday 9th December 09:00 am	Christmas Fayre
Saturday 17th December 6:00 pm	Shaun James (Singer)
Sunday 1st January	Steve Carmel (Singer)

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