

## The College



his daughter Rachel and son Dan, three grandchildren and another one on the way. Season's greetings to Paul and his family.



**Nathan** is the newest member of the maintenance team. He is self employed and comes to the College three or four times a month and emergency call outs. He's the man who now provides the fixtures and fittings for bathrooms and kitchens in the cottages. We very much appreciate his helpful attitude and calm manner. He will spend Christmas with his wife Samantha, and children Oscar 16 and Sasha 12 over in Manton. Enjoy your holiday break.



**Terry** - The days of a daily delivery of milk to one's doorstep are long gone, but not at the College, thanks to Terry who has been delivering milk and groceries to the residents for around 18 years. When the previous milkman retired and the milkman and his float disappeared from our streets, the warden at that time asked Terry to deliver here. He works independently, collecting basic but vital foods from his suppliers including local farms near to his home base Andover. He provides residents with milk, juices, bottled water, eggs, bread, and even garden compost! He lives with his partner and has three children, Claire 29, Chris 28, and the youngest Liam who is 15. Have a good Christmas.



Many people contribute to life at the College – John Black who, for years, has been up in the mysterious world of lofts and pipes and somehow kept the old system running, and Paul Knott who installs new radiators. Roy O'Sullivan, one of our decorators, has been coming to the College for many years. Kate our Hairdresser arrives every Wednesday, and has often rescued me from a bad hair day. Jennifer, our ex Steward, is cooking and serving lunches, in the Boardroom.

Issue 7

Newsletter

December 2017

To the Duke and Duchess of Somerset, the Revd. Sandy and John Railton, our Trustees and visitors, and our Steward Laurie - all at the College wish you

 **A Merry Christmas and a Peaceful New Year** 

Christmas focuses on families and friends coming together. It is also an opportunity to thank those who do so much at the College on a daily basis and form part of our community –

**Postman Paul** occupies the main picture because he has been delivering Christmas cards to the residents at the College for an amazing 37 years! In the good old days, Paul would deliver post to the College twice a day and this was very much his fixed 'patch'. Times have changed and today he delivers letters further afield, from Bedwyn to Marlborough, and shares the role with others. Naturally, the question that comes to mind – has the College changed? Paul says that the ladies have changed, they seem younger (or maybe we just look younger!) but the College with its eternal view, hasn't changed at all. As the residents come and go Paul has carried on delivering the post to the cottage doors. He says he loves coming here and with his humour and cheery demeanour, he is very much part of the daily life - in fact for all of us there hasn't been another postman at the College! He will, sometime, over the next few years retire, but until then thank you Paul. He will be spending Christmas with his wife,

Chantal ensures that the Duchess of Somerset's web site is accessible and updated. John Offer has been coming to the College to fit carpets and lino on 400-year-old floors for as long as I can remember. And thank you to the newsagent who comes in the early morning to deliver the newspapers.



**Tony** has been working for the College these past seventeen years and every Saturday, and sometimes Sunday, his white van is parked outside the garage workshop. I am not sure what we would do without Tony who provides a sort of jack-of-all-trades service and can turn his carpenter's hands to most things. Tony still works fulltime for our local landowner on the maintenance of his numerous properties; and when Tony is not working he likes to fish, speedway and banger racing, which sounds a bit like trying to get in and then out of Tesco's car park at Christmas! Have a peaceful one Tony.

**Emma**, our Warden, and **Ginge** our groundsman make a great team. For the past seven years, the days have come and gone but for them not one day has been the same. A myriad of concerns, questions, the odd problem (!) deliveries, queries **and** a hundred other things all have to be dealt with and moved along to the pages of 'resolved'. It is a busy day for Emma; she seems to glide around the quad quietly and, without ado, sorts out the issue at hand. Ginge, as always, goes beyond the call of duty and between them, the daily life at the College runs smoothly and efficiently. Enjoy your break with your family including Bob the Dog who was not available for this photo shoot – he doesn't get off the sofa for anything less than a large bone or a two-hour walk!



*We thank you and wish you all a Happy Christmas & Peaceful New Year*



### In Remembrance – Jaqueline Lundie Gourlay 1946 -2017

"Let me introduce you to the charismatic Jaqueline Lundie Gourlay.

Jaqui was immensely proud of her Scottish origins and golf, and rugby and Andy Murray. But she was never "the wee Scottish lassie from Glasgow" as she would have you believe. She used her many talents and rose to unimaginable heights in The City. Jaqui broke through that glass ceiling that kept women from top jobs in this the financial capital of the world. A gifted musician (violin) Jaqui turned down a scholarship to the Yehudi Menuhin School to take an Economics Degree at Strathclyde. This achieved, she became a financial assistant with BP. On to working as a financial analyst with Trust House Forte. Moving swiftly upwards to work for Willis & Faber where Jaqui moved through the ranks to being appointed the Corporate Treasurer. Simultaneously taking on several board directorships - virtually unheard of for women in the 70s. Minet was the next port of call where as Corporate Treasurer she worked alongside the Serious Fraud Squad to trace the funds distributed round the world by the murdered Calvi, a huge international scandal at the time. Time then seemed right to setup her own investment company, also investing the assets of Lloyds underwriters (where she was a working name) as well as global companies such as IKEA. Jaqui, ever astute, then sold her company to Aberdeen Asset Management only to buy it back and sell on to Gerrard & National. Also a director of Hambros Bank, her last full time job was with Investec. Around all this, she packed in several quangos, the DCMS and was a Trustee of The Royal Armouries alongside HM the Queen, Richard Whitely and Kriss Akabusi. I have scarcely scratched the surface of a great achiever. Her personal life was precisely that - both personal and very private. Married twice, her two much loved children, Claire and Catriona, were given the best of everything. Various lovely homes, education at Cheltenham Ladies College, the Courtauld Institute, Goldsmiths, horses and holidays. Both they and their friends were always welcomed, indulged and loved. The world is a poorer place without her and I have lost a wonderful, charismatic, and argumentative friend."

By Hilary Laidlaw-Thomson