

CITIZENS news

CHRISTMAS 2023

LOOKING BACK AT 2023

Memorable moments from this year

CHRISTMAS QUIZ

Take part in our festive quiz



Bedford Citizens
HOUSING ASSOCIATION



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WELCOME

Welcome to our Christmas 2023 Special Edition.



The festive season is already upon us and so it's time for me to welcome you to our special Christmas edition of Citizen's News for 2023.

As ever 2023 has been a busy year with change and celebrations too. In May we all came together to celebrate the Coronation of Kings Charles III with lots of you getting together and marking the occasion with each other and with us.

In the Autumn here at BCHA, we launched our new and improved website that makes it easier to find information about our services and catch up on all our latest publications.

With the arrival of winter we have been working hard on arranging vaccinations to help keep us all as well as possible. Once again, we have been able to support residents to make sure as many of you as possible have had Covid boosters, as well as flu vaccines too.

Finally, we'd like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Marie Taylor Chief Executive



LOOKING BACK AT

2023

Here are some of the highlights and memorable moments from this year:

BCHA LAUNCHED OUR NEW WEBSITE!

We were very excited that our new website went live in October. The new site makes it easier for you to find publications like Citizens News and useful information about our services as well as providing news articles and regular updates. Visit our new website at www.bchal.org

GETTING ACTIVE

This year we've been working with Public Health and other partner organisations so that we can offer more activity programmes. We've been lucky enough to receive some funding from Sport England and the Connolly Foundation and this has meant we've been able to offer some great new sessions including 'Dancing with Dementia'

BCHA VALUES

We launched our new values this year and they were developed through consultation with our customers, stakeholders and employees. We were lucky enough to get

lots of ideas and suggestions and we have used this to update BCHA's values:

INTEGRITY

We will act with honesty, integrity and transparency in all that we do.

LISTENING

We listen to what people say and seek innovative and workable ways to continuously improve.

CARING

It matters to us that you feel supported by us.

QUALITY

We aim for high standards so you can feel confident in what we do.

WORKING TOGETHER

We work with customers and their networks, our communities and colleagues to achieve the best results.

PEOPLE FOCUSED

We recognise everyone is different and we will support people to live the life they choose.



HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY CHRISTMAS A COUPLE OF THINGS TO REMEMBER

We want everyone to have a safe, as well as a happy, Christmas so please be fire safety aware with your Christmas decorations.

Here's a quick fire safety checklist to help:

Lights - Check Christmas lights are in good working order. All lights, new and used, should carry the British Safety Standard sign. If yours don't, buy some that do and recycle your old ones. Any lights not working properly need to be replaced.

Decorations - Never place candles or a heat source near your decorations or any other materials that can catch light easily. And don't attach decorations to lights or heaters as they can burn easily. Never leave a lit candle unattended.

Christmas trees - Whether your tree is artificial or real, it can be a fire hazard. Keep it away from heat sources and keep a fresh tree watered so it does not dry out, making it more of a fire risk.

Electricity - Don't overload electric plug sockets and always switch lights and appliances off at the wall before you go to bed.





CHRISTMAS QUIZ

Here's our Christmas Quiz - just for fun (the answers are below)

1. Which band had a Christmas number one in 1973 with 'Merry Xmas Everybody'?
2. In the film 'It's a Wonderful Life' which actor plays the character George Bailey?
3. In Charles Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol' what was Scrooge's first name?
4. What birds are traditionally popular on Christmas cards?
5. What gifts were given to Jesus by the Three Wise Men?
6. What was the first carol broadcast from space?
7. What is Father Christmas called in France?
8. Which character is best known for 'stealing Christmas'?
9. What words follow 'Silent Night' in the song?
10. How many of Father Christmas' reindeers begin with the letter D?
11. In the 12 Days of Christmas song, what were the 10 lords doing?
12. Christmas Island is located in which ocean?
13. Two of the reindeer are named after weather phenomena. Name the reindeer
14. Which famous puppets starred alongside Michael Caine in a film that was an adaptation of the novel "A Christmas Carol"?
15. Who plays the Prime Minister in the 2003 film "Love Actually"?

Answers: 1. Slade; 2. James Stewart; 3. Ebenezer; 4. Robins; 5. Gold, Myrrh, and Frankincense; 6. Jingle bells; 7. Pere Noel; 8. The Grinch; 9. Holy Night; 10. 3; 11. Leaping; 12. The Indian Ocean; 13. Donner, meaning thunder in German, and Blitzen, meaning lightning; 14. The Muppets; 15. Hugh Grant

CHRISTMAS WORDSEARCH

N R N K U Z P R N S B O H
F E T I P R A N C E R I A
D I Z S C U P I D R M E P
O N D T O H P Y D E H N P
N D M I M O C H I M N E Y
D E S C E L L L A S S G C
E E Z H T U B D A C L J H
R R Z R V I X E N S E P R
V P I V I K C I D A I Q I
S T N I C H O L A S G D S
U F K D A N C E R G H A T
P D A S H E R C I B B A M
I J T Y M S A E T A C E A
D B L I T Z E N C O J Z S



CHIMNEY
ST. NICHOLAS
VIXEN
DONDER
BLITZEN
COMET
CUPID
DASHER
DANCER
REINDEER
SLEIGH
PRANCER
HAPPY CHRISTMAS

Looking forward to 2024, our next full edition of Citizens News will be with you in the spring and we will have lots more news to share with you.

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