

Letter from Home

The British Home in California, Ltd.

Jane Adams - Nursing Supervisor

Jane was born in Whittier, California, and was adopted at 3 weeks old by her Mom and Dad. She will be forever grateful for the wonderful life of unconditional love they have provided for her. Jane has an older brother who lives in Indiana.

Jane met her husband, David, at the church they were both attending and they married in 1986. Jane declares that they thoroughly enjoy this adventure of life together. David works at World Vision as the help desk administrator and, for his achievements, he was awarded a trip (with his family) to Thailand, Singapore, and India in 2000. Jane and David have one son,



Jonathan, who is 21 years old. He works as an assistant manager at Nordstrom and has just accepted a promotion with that company in Spokane, Washington. Jonathan will continue his education in marketing merchandise at Eastern Washington University.

In her spare time, Jane enjoys reading, cooking, gardening, and training Dayzee, their 6 month old black Labrador puppy. Jane and David are very much involved with the various minis-



tries of their church.

Jane grew up in Glendora, California, and it continues to be her home town. She attended Glendora High School and then Citrus College where she studied to become a LVN (Licensed Vocational Nurse). She knew from a very early age that she wanted to pursue a career in nursing. She loves working with people of all ages and has now been employed as a nurse for over 20 years. Her nursing experience includes work in a private family practice in Sierra Madre; also working in pediatrics and an urgent care center. She considers herself honored to work with the staff at the British Home and loves serving the Residents. In just 7 months, Jane has earned much respect and affection from Residents, staff, and volunteers alike!



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Forthcoming Events at the British Home:

DINNER/DANCE



Saturday, May 8th

Contact:

Pat Nobrega
(626) 355-7240

JUNE FAIRE



Saturday, June 5th

Contact:

Rhona
(818) 980-7291

Dorothy Murphy - Resident



Dorothy was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan. She was an only child. Her mother was a stay at home Mum and her father was an insurance broker. They divorced when Dorothy was 5 years old. Dorothy attended school in Grand Rapids until she was 11 when her mother moved to California to take a religious science class. They went to live near Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles.

Whilst Mum was taking the class, Dorothy attended local high school traveling there by bicycle. Outside of school hours, Dorothy took craft classes.

For a while they lived in Long Beach. Mum took care of some boys in Sierra Madre and really liked the area so, after a while, they moved there. Dorothy's mother met and married a local con-

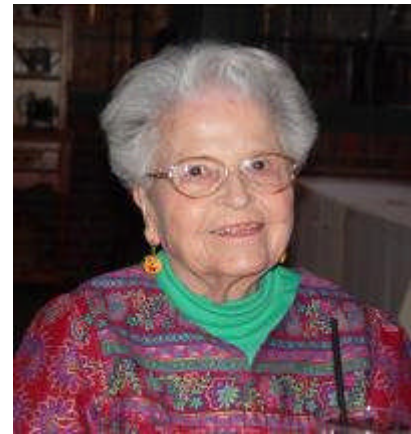


tractor. Dorothy continued her education at Pasadena High School and also took a part-time job as a waitress. After High School she attended business college and then went to work for the Van de Kamp Company.

Dorothy got married when she was 21. Her husband, Joe, worked at Robert's Market in Sierra Madre. They had two children, a son, Patrick Joseph, and a daughter, Mary Anne, who sadly died 17 years ago. When her children were small, Dorothy's mother lived close and took care of them while Dorothy went out to work 4 days a week. She sold real estate and prepared escrow and deeds of trust documents. Later, Dorothy worked in the Water Department at City Hall. During her married life, Dorothy went on camping vacations and also visited Las Vegas. In later years she very much enjoyed cruising vacations. Her husband passed

away after 49 years of marriage. Dorothy has two handsome grandsons, Nicolas and Casey.

She likes most foods but particularly enjoys Italian. Dorothy has loved to play bridge for the last 40 years. Since coming to live at the Home, she regularly invites her friends over for lunch and a bridge afternoon. She still enjoys reading, particularly



biographies, and watches sports on TV, especially golf and baseball. She gets much pleasure from musicals and loved 'Chicago'. Her favorite music is western. Dorothy likes stage plays and attends the local playhouse when she can.

When she lived in Sierra Madre, Dorothy used to visit the June Faire at the British Home. She liked what she saw and eventually joined us. She has been a resident for a year now and is very contented with our lovely Home.

Mary Beadle - Corresponding Secretary



Mary was born and raised in Lois Weedon, a small village in South Northamptonshire. At 18, she spread her wings and traveled to London to study medicine at the Royal Free Hospital. After qualifying, she decided to specialize in pathology and microbiology in particular. Whilst at university, she met Bromley and they married in 1977. Then followed many house moves around Southern England as they relocated for work. Mary had lived in Oxfordshire, Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, East Sussex and Essex before moving to California in 1999. California was initially a temporary arrangement but the family soon decided that they wanted to stay.

Mary has three sons, Alan, Jon, and David, who were 16, 14, and 11 years old when they came to the USA. Dealing with high school and college applications for her two older

sons was, at times, a daunting task. By the third one, it was easy! Alan attended Laguna Beach Art College and works in graphic design. He now lives in Houston with his wife and 9 month old son. They are eager to move back to the Los Angeles area and Mary hopes it will be soon as she loves being a grandma. Jon graduated from UCSB and David will graduate this summer from UCLA. Getting three children through college seemed a never ending task but there's light at the end of the tunnel now.

When they first came to Los Angeles, the family settled in La Canada and has remained there since. It's a perfect location for getting downtown, going to Dodgers' games, and escaping to the mountains. Last year's Station Fire meant a quick evacuation from their home but fortunately, due to the hard work of the firefighters, only a section of



the back yard hedge was burnt.

Mary has not worked in medicine since moving to the USA. She spent 3 years working part time in a local library which was a great way to meet people. For 5 years she was an active member



of the La Canada Guild of Huntington Hospital volunteering in a Gift Shop and being involved with putting on a 3 day children's horse show as a fund raiser.

In 2008, about the time Mary decided to apply for American citizenship, she joined the DBE "to maintain her Britishness". She is currently the Recording Secretary for Caernarvon Chapter and joined the Home Executive Board in December 2009 as Corresponding Secretary. Mary's hobbies include hiking, reading mystery novels, crossword puzzles, jigsaws and philately. She has an extensive Great Britain stamp collection and has started a United States collection in the last couple of years. Mary is also a Clippers fan which goes to show that she has an optimistic outlook on life!

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Residents' Activities

Valentine's Day

The usual Valentine's Day celebrations took place with the dining room suitably decorated for the occasion. Some of the Residents had invited family and friends. The centre piece of the special lunch was a beautiful heart shaped dessert filled with strawberries.

St. Patrick's Day

The Residents celebrated St. Patrick's Day and "Paddy's Bar" was opened to serve the ever popular Bailey's Irish Cream. The party started with a delightful buffet lunch prepared by the kitchen staff.

The staff also like these events, their pleasure being the sight of the Residents enjoying themselves. Residents were encouraged to invite family and friends again. Margaret Cleary's Irish Dancers entertained us during the afternoon.



These young girls, in their beautiful costumes, impressed everyone. They had recently returned from competing in Ireland where they had won silver medals. After the dance program, refreshments were served and the girls willingly answered questions from the Residents. They left us to perform

again that evening at Staples Center. If you visit the June Faire this year (on June 5th), you will have another opportunity of seeing these wonderful Irish Dancers perform in the Home grounds.

Easter

The Residents participated in the Easter celebrations that were held on Good Friday. They took part in the annual egg hunt, the eggs having been distributed round the grounds by Arturo and Con-



nie. This event is always greatly anticipated because the eggs contain money! This year's major winner was Dan McIntyre and the runner-up was Jean Bruning. Which is the real "EasterBunny"?

