

- Residents' contributions
- Creative flare
- Puzzles by Anya
- Sybil's quiz
- Notices
- Bertie

**Suggestions for newsletter name:**

1. Rockdale Life
2. Rockdale Times
3. Amusement Weekly
4. Happy Hour
5. News & Views of Rockdale Residents
6. Rockdale Connections

Please email [denise.tucker@rockdale.org.uk](mailto:denise.tucker@rockdale.org.uk) or post into the Lodge, your chosen newsletter name.

Issue

**Twenty-One**

18/09/2020

**Thank you for your lovely emails about this in-house newsletter and your contributions to it.**

This is a fortnightly newsletter to bring our community together. Please send anything for this newsletter to [denise.tucker@rockdale.org.uk](mailto:denise.tucker@rockdale.org.uk) or post to The Lodge, labelled 'For Newsletter'. The material you send for the newsletter is very much appreciated – thank you.

# ROCKDALE

## Have you seen her????

A very weird thing has happened. A strange old lady has moved into my house. I have no idea who she is, where she came from, or how she got in. I certainly did not invite her. All I know is that one day she wasn't there, and the next day she was. She is a clever old lady and manages to keep out of sight for the most part, but whenever I pass a mirror, I catch a glimpse of her. And, whenever I look in the mirror to check my appearance, there she is hogging the whole thing, completely obliterating my gorgeous face and body. This is very rude! I have tried screaming at her, but she just screams back.

The least she could do is offer to pay part of the rent, but no. Every once in a while, I find a £5 note stuck in a coat pocket, or some loose change under a sofa cushion, but it is not nearly enough. I don't want to jump to conclusions, but I think she is stealing money from me. I go to the ATM and withdraw £100, and a few days later, it's all gone! I certainly don't spend money that fast, so I can only conclude the old lady is pilfering from me. You'd think she would spend some of that money to buy wrinkle cream. And money isn't the only thing I think she is stealing. Food seems to disappear at an alarming rate-especially the good stuff like ice cream, biscuits, and sweets. She must have a real sweet tooth, but she'd better watch it, because she is really packing on the pounds. I suspect she realises this, and to make herself feel better, she is tampering with my scale to make me think I am putting on weight, too.

For an old lady, she is quite childish. She likes to play nasty games, like going into my wardrobes when I'm not home and altering my clothes so they don't fit. And she messes with my files and papers so I can't find anything. This is particularly annoying since I am extremely neat and organised.

She has found other imaginative ways to annoy me. She gets into my mail, newspapers, and magazines before I do and blurs the print so I can't read it. And she has done something really sinister to the volume controls on my TV, radio, and telephone. Now, all I hear are mumbles and whispers. She has done other things-like make my stairs steeper, my vacuum heavier and all the knob and taps harder to turn. She even made my bed higher so that getting into and out of it is a real challenge. Old woman takes over body. Lately, she has been fooling with my groceries before I put them away, applying glue to the lids, making it almost impossible for me to open the jars. She has taken the fun out of shopping for clothes. When I try something on, she stands in front of the dressing room mirror and monopolises it. She looks totally ridiculous in some of those outfits, plus, she keeps me from seeing how great they look on me. Just when I thought she couldn't get any meaner, she proved me wrong. She came along when I went to get my picture taken for my driver's license, and just as the camera shutter clicked, she jumped in front of me! I hope she never finds out where you live.

(provided by Janet C)

## Newsletter

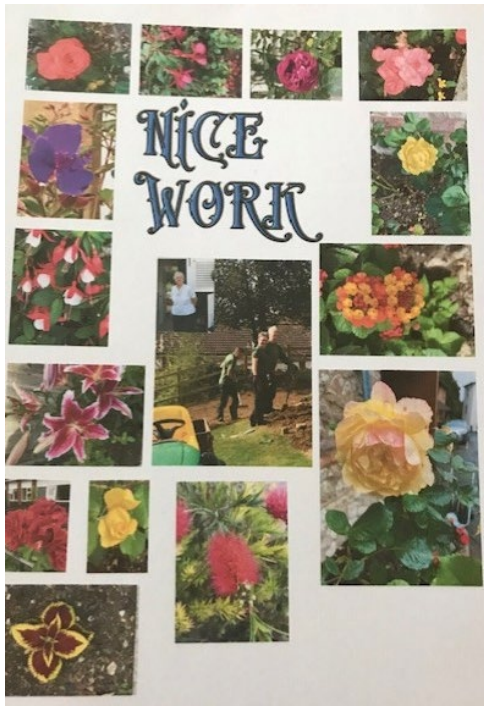
How it has saved us, How much it meant.  
Oh what a Blessing, to everyone sent.  
Please do remember, how great was the need,  
Madness without it, yes yes indeed.  
Our eyes we would raise from a desperate inertia  
To smile and to laugh, as our hearts just beat  
faster.  
So now we must Thank You for keeping us SANE  
And lightening our spirits again and again.

E Fisher

## Message to Sandie

Oh to see you again!  
To enjoy all the dancing &  
memory training.  
Here's to your health, &  
to that of us all,

N Cheeseman, copied to Sandie



The card (above left) was given to Annette by a resident as a thank you to the gardening team for all their hard work this Summer. The photos were taken by the resident and made into a thank you card. Lovely!



Birds by J Cook





## Puzzles by volunteer, Anya

I hope you enjoyed the last puzzle page, here are some more puzzles for you.

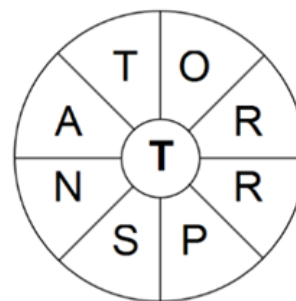
### Sudoku

		1	9			7		3
5	3		6				9	
6	9			8				
3						1		
	7		4		2		3	
		9						2
				9			5	1
	4				8		2	7
1		2			6	8		

Can you fill out the grid below so that each row, column and square is filled with the numbers 1-9, without repeating any numbers?

### The Word Wheel

Use all the letters in the wheel to make as many words as you can with three or more letters. The only rule is that every word you make must include the letter in the middle. Give yourself 5 minutes and see how many you can find. *Can you decipher the 9-letter word?*



### Riddle time

What can you hold in your right hand, but not in your left?

### Last weeks' Answers

Logic puzzle: flick the 1<sup>st</sup> switch, wait a few minutes, flick the 2<sup>nd</sup> switch and open the door.

If the light is on the it is the 2<sup>nd</sup> switch, if not then, if the bulb is warm it's the 2<sup>nd</sup> switch and if not it's the 3<sup>rd</sup> switch.

Word wheel: the 9-letter word is Attention.

1<sup>st</sup> riddle: a glove

2<sup>nd</sup> riddle: wind

3<sup>rd</sup> riddle: echo

### A VIEW FROM MY WINDOW

I go to the window, yawning.  
Now what can I see this morning?  
Draw back the curtains and look far away  
To see what nature has brought me today.  
A seagull suddenly dips and swoops,  
Changing direction with swirls and loops.  
Below, on the ground, a squirrel hurries.  
'Where are those nuts?' Is one of his worries.  
Three magpies gather in a little huddle,  
Pecking each other to get near a puddle.  
Somewhere a fox passes stealthy by-  
The birds all around him scatter and fly.  
I am so lucky to have this wonderful view.  
I wish I could share it with all of you.

### BOOKS

I do like to go to bed with a book.  
I peak at the end and have a quick look.  
But I mustn't do that, it would spoil the story.  
Will it be sad, or happy or gory?  
I'd like to choose one that makes me smile.  
It's hard to know which from my varied pile.  
What if it's boring, lengthy or sad?  
So who are the authors I like the best?  
All Mills and Boon I simply detest.  
I like the ones that involve lots of travel,  
Or fiction with mystery for me to unravel.  
I look forward now to going to bed-  
A book in my hand, pillow under my head.  
I then settle down to have a good read.  
Now, that, at my age, is all that I need!

## This week's Quiz – What Animal

1. Is largest land mammal
2. Largest Lizard in world
3. Only animal to sleep on its back
4. Has fingerprints
5. Which marine animal has largest brain
6. The only mammal that can fly
7. Largest bird in the world
8. Apparently the slowest animal
9. Which cat can retract its claws
10. What do Americans call Reindeer

## Answers to 'Boats' Quiz

- |             |                 |
|-------------|-----------------|
| 1. Coaster  | 11. Minesweeper |
| 2. Clippers | 12. Houseboat   |
| 3. Tug      | 13. Tender      |
| 4. Junk     | 14. Smack       |
| 5. Cutter   | 15. Barge       |
| 6. Skull    | 16. Pontoon     |
| 7. Ark      | 17. Lifeboat    |
| 8. Lighter  | 18. Drifter     |
| 9. Launch   | 19. Car Ferry   |
| 10. Ketch   | 20. Paddle boat |

*A weekly Quiz kindly provided by Sybil (answers in the next newsletter)*

## Why is it important to keep Fire Doors shut?

Following a number of recent inspections, it has been noted that some residents have been leaving their flat front door open and we have politely asked residents to refrain from doing this.

This is because fire doors are specially designed to prevent the spread of fire and smoke through a building so people can evacuate safely and the building is protected from damage. A wedge prevents a door from closing, which means fire can spread, putting all occupants in danger.

Kitchen fire doors have also been installed for residents within their properties and it is important that these are not removed to ensure that any potential spread of fire is contained. Whilst we understand the reasoning behind the removal, we ask residents to contact us to make arrangements for reinstatement.

If you have any further questions relating to this article, please contact either Leanne Waters or Claire Billis.

## On a lighter note – Bertie's Chicken Castle!



During lockdown, Bertie, the magician who entertained us last Christmas - has built this Chicken Castle for his eight chickens. They are all named after Dickens characters and living in Beak House!