

Annual Review of the year 2022

2022 saw the full range of activities gradually resume at The Grange as the pandemic finally diminished. At the time of writing, March 2023, the wearing of masks is no longer compulsory in Victoria Care Home or Albert Retirement Home. A great relief to all.

Twice Sunnybank held an occasion for Queen Elizabeth II. The first, a joyous celebration for her Platinum Jubilee on Saturday 4th June. Members of Sunnybank Association, Riviera Lifeline and several other associations joined the happy festivities on the terrace at The Grange. The second occasion took place on receiving the very sad news of the death of Her Majesty. Sunnybank held a celebration for her long and extraordinary life on Saturday 17th September and a book of condolences was opened for members to sign.

There was an increase in the number of residents over the last year, primarily in Victoria, enlarging the anglophone community. The dedicated visiting team, led by Liz Brochet-King, continue their daily visits, either individually in the resident's room, or by proposing chat groups. The weekly Thursday coffee mornings at The Grange and Friday Apéritifs in Victoria are, as always, extremely popular. Equally so the monthly Saturday Sunnybank lunches and the quarterly Asian lunches, held outside, weather permitting, on the beautiful terrace of The Grange. The visitors also accompany residents to outside specialist appointments, and visit them if they need to spend time in hospital, which can be lonely and isolating if they have no family nearby. Some of the visitors also go to see anglophone residents in nearby care homes.

Once again Sunnybank volunteers, led by Helen Leiser, proposed, organised, cooked and served a delicious Christmas lunch in The Grange for 14 residents. Sunnybank Association also added to the Christmas festivities by inviting the Big Blaze Chorus to sing their Christmas concert in Victoria, after which refreshments were offered to all of the Victoria residents. Sunnybank continues to celebrate each anglophone resident's birthday with a personal visit to deliver a card, flowers or chocolates from us all.



Christmas Cheer!

The CIV school project was again repeated, the children and their 'elder' mutually enjoying their exchanges. Participants celebrated the success of the project in December with a small party at the CIV.

Stéphanie Demange, a teacher at the Collège Alphonse Daudet in Nice also initiated contact between a class of her 5ème students and the anglophone residents. So far this has been done via an exchange of cards and photos, with a first face to face visit arranged for April 2023.

Welfare

It was a fairly busy year with welfare issues arising concerning the legal protection measures of Tutelle, Curatelle and Curatelle Renforcée. Sunnybank was called upon to clarify and deal with all of them. Our Welfare Officer, Maggie Evans, keeps family members informed regarding the state of play concerning these issues, advising them of the best way to deal with problems they encounter. Maggie also engages in other welfare tasks such as acting as a facilitator for people considering coming to live in Victoria or Albert, and helps finding advice for residents about the law when writing a will in France.

Fund Raising

The Sunnybank Association mission is to support seniors in Retirement Homes. There are funds available, so if you do know anyone who needs our financial help, please email us at info@sunny-bank.org or call us on 04 93 47 94 20.

Sunnybank is, as always, extremely thankful for your amazing donations to us of books, bric-a-brac and clothes. Our wonderful volunteer teams led by Audrey, Carol and Jill are always happy to accept your quality donations. Please do bear in mind though we can only request financial donations for items which are in good condition, clean and unbroken! We respectfully ask that a maximum of one large bag full of books per person is donated at any one time. If you have a lot of items to donate, please try to let us know in advance. Thank You!

The Grange

The Grange is the headquarters of Sunnybank Association from where Helen, our administrator, carries out her vital role. Thank you Helen for your continued dedication and giving much of your time also as a volunteer. The recently created Grange Volunteer Catering team is looking for extra helpers who are happy to cook from time to time. If you would like to help, or know someone who might, please don't hesitate to contact us. Other associations continue to use the premises of The Grange. Riviera Lifeline (riviera-lifeline.org) fund-raises at The Grange by offering light lunches every Thursday. The Grange remains postal headquarters to The British Association of Cannes, whilst Cancer Support Group 06 and the International Women's Club of the Riviera hold monthly meetings and occasional events. The first floor studio in The Grange has again been used by family or friends visiting residents of Victoria and Albert.

Finally, an enormous THANK YOU goes out to ALL of our volunteers, without each and every one of you Sunnybank Association simply cannot operate.



Birthday Flowers and Celebratory Cupcakes!

Committee Members:

Jeremy Daynes (President), Brian Ranger (Acting Vice-President) Michael Kenington (Treasurer),
Jill Shepperd (Secretary), Maggie Evans (Welfare Officer), Liz Brochet-King (Lead Visitor),
Audrey Mortleman, Jean Harvie, Nathalie Alibert, Jennifer Worsfold - co-opted, Allan Haggerty - co-opted.

Administrator: Helen Leiser