

# THE WHITE HOUSE WEEKLY

*But it's more likely to be quarterly*



## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT THE WHITE HOUSE?



Winter is finally here and the White House is filled with the buzz of Christmas but we cannot ignore what a superb Autumn we have had!

We have wrapped up warm and discovered a new pastime, Geocaching! This is where you use satellite navigation to track a hidden cache by following some co-ordinates and some often tricky clues. Betty and Marion were our first explorers to go on this modern day treasure hunt. We found the location of the Cache in Hartburn but unfortunately we did not locate the prize, we still had fun though and got some good exercise in the process.

We had a fantastic Halloween and Bonfire night party. We all gathered in the conservatory and crowded round a table for some exciting indoor fireworks set to spooky music in an even spookier setting. Then we all enjoyed a compilation video of the White House staff getting scared by the butler statue. There was an amazing turn out from friends and families and Jed did a fantastic job of entertaining us all whilst he set off the main fireworks.

As Christmas draws closer our resident housekeepers have been teaching people to Waltz in preparation for our Christmas tea dance on December the 17<sup>th</sup>. This is a first for us at The White House and everyone is looking forward to it ... even though most of us have two left feet.

Pie face has been making the rounds again lately in activities and is drawing big numbers ... funny how people never want to go first though! Pat can be seen pictured right after a hilarious shot on the nose.

We have also had a great run of reminiscing where we have learned all about Stockton's dance halls, the Maison de Dance and the Palais de Dance. We have had great fun debating which one had the best band and which one had the best dance floor.



## SNOW IS FALLING

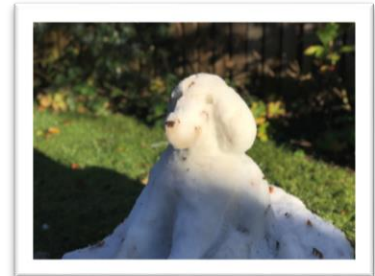


We had a surprise flurry of snow last week which lasted all of one day! We made the most of it however as we built a giant snowman in the garden before lunch. Unfortunately, as we were eating and admiring our work, his head fell off!

The snow had pretty much melted away by the next morning leaving us with a half melted snowman. It was Jed to the rescue again as he skillfully carved the block of ice into a snow dog!

If it snows again this year we plan to rebuild our snow man and hopefully get a few snowball fights in too!

The local Brownie group braved the cold and walked down to The White House to give us all Christmas cards and to sing us some carols. It was brilliant!



## UPCOMING EVENTS AND FUTURE PLANS

We have some exciting events over the festive period and into the new year.

Kicking things off on the 11<sup>th</sup> of December is the excellent Christmas Panto brought to us by North East Producers.

We have the aforementioned Tea Dance hosted by Julie Welford on the 17<sup>th</sup> of December.

Henry James Walker will be returning on the 18<sup>th</sup> of December with his Christmas spectacular.

Our resident crooner Jed will be singing carols around the tree on the 21<sup>st</sup> of December.

Finally, before the big day we have the Christmas party on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of December.

In the new year we are rolling out a new reminiscing project called The Big Reminisce which will eventually lead to us producing an old map of Stockton with details of where we all lived, worked and played. This map will continue to expand over the year and will be the basis of future reminiscing sessions.



The White House Care Home  
76a Darlington Road  
Hartburn  
Stockton on Tees  
TS18 5ET  
01642 582291

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See us at:  
[http://www.sslhealthcare.com/  
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