

# Home Matters



The newsletter for The Royal Cambridge Home

May 2024

*Celebrating inclusiveness in all that we do*



## Welcome

Hello folks. Like a butterfly emerging from its chrysalis shell, our brand-new home is slowly emerging. The majority of the scaffolding has been removed and The Great Reveal is now on. Some windows are in (there's a lot to go in) and without the grand coat of scaffolding the bricks are now on show and looking fabulous.

During May we have scheduled in staff tours once a week. There will be more planned over the next couple of months so that all staff can become familiar before we all move in. Some of the team have already been over and it really is incredible and that is in its current building state, so we can only imagine how wonderful it will look when it is complete. Obviously as time proceeds and it is safe to do so, there will be the opportunity for residents and relatives to view.

Rory our manager and Robert our chairman, recently had a meeting with the interior designer and we had a glimpse of some of the fabrics and chairs that will adorn the rooms, which has really helped to visualize how it may all look.



It feels quite fitting that as the building is starting to come into its own this coincides with Spring.

The picture on the left is the back garden. You can just make out the activities / lounge / dining area which flows from the back of the home, almost as a separate building, with windows overlooking the garden. What a light and inspiring area this will be whatever the season.

# Looking back...

Stella, Audrey, Tina, Gay, Maggie, Patricia & John arrive at Bocketts Farm



We tried something different last month and headed off to Bocketts Farm Park in Leatherhead.

What a fantastic day out. A lovely place to walk around to meet all the beautiful farm animals and we even got to see baby goats enter the world. How incredible. They didn't need baby steps and straight away were walking, albeit with a few wobbles.

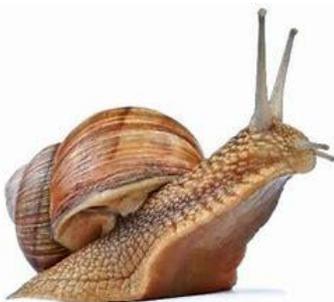
And of course, with all that fresh air we worked up healthy appetites and found the restaurant for a delicious lunch.



Vicky, John & Stella are seduced by a rather lovely ram.



Audrey hand feeds the sheep



Earlier in the month we had our dear friends at Zoolab visit. We are bowled over by the knowledge of the handlers. Again, we met another incredible female spider (funny, they are always female....wonder what happens to the males), a snazzy sand snake, rather large African snail (still slow) and some super springy large gerbils. We are always mesmerised by these exotic creatures and can see that they are so well looked after by the lovely folk at Zoolab. Very welcome visitors indeed.

Did you know garden snails (*Helix aspersa*) reach a top speed of 50 yards per hour; this is about 0.5 inches per second. While they don't move fast, they do move at a very steady pace. Snails are one of the slowest creatures on the Earth.

## Resident News

We have a new gentleman called John who has moved in permanently with us. On behalf of The Royal Cambridge Home a very warm welcome John and we hope you enjoy home life. What a good time to join as the new building takes shape and we can all enjoy the excitement of moving together and be the first residents of number 84!



Mary & Patricia with the African Snail (he does get around a bit)



Peter and the African Snail share a joke



Hilkka who recently celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday and looking amazing

## Resident Birthdays

Happy birthday to the following with love from all of us:

1<sup>st</sup> May – Patricia C

10<sup>th</sup> May – John

12<sup>th</sup> May – Joyce

## Staff News

Following a recent recruitment campaign we are delighted to announce we have recruited the following to our permanent team:

- Rupali – Care Team Leader
- Josephine – Senior Care Assistant
- Manu – Care Assistant

Also joining our existing Bank Team will be the following:

- Andrew – Bank Care Assistant
- Arin – Bank Care Assistant
- Iulian – Bank General Assistant

Welcome everyone to the team at this very exciting team.

# What's coming up...

Dependent on the weather we will be either taking the minibus out or taking a stroll to the river for refreshments. We also have our passes to Hampton Court, so again we will be doing plenty of ad hoc visits to the Palace, as this remains an extremely popular excursion. Both Tina and Gay are trained representatives of Hampton Court and are building up their visitor knowledge.

If you are able to, please pop along to our monthly Residents' Meeting as this is an opportunity for Rory to update everyone on the very latest news on our new building. However, do not worry if you cannot as Melissa circulates minutes to all.

Please refer to the main diary at the back of the newsletter for the full schedule but below are some key items to note.

- **Carol, Singer** – Tues 7<sup>th</sup> May at 11.00am
- **Residents' Meeting** – Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> May at 11.00am.
- **Liliana, Floristry**– Tues 14<sup>th</sup> May at 2.00pm
- **Bees Talk** – Mon 20<sup>th</sup> May at 2.00pm
- **Stella, Chiropodist** – Mon 27<sup>th</sup> May
- **Liam, Singer** – Weds 29<sup>th</sup> May at 11.00am



Peter, Gay & Pat at the garden centre (is that a magic carpet...)



Patricia looking beautiful as the winner of our Grand National sweepstake

## Social media

Follow us on Instagram for all the latest photos and news as well as our website [www.royalcambridgehome.org](http://www.royalcambridgehome.org)

### Useful Telephone Contacts

We are a proud equal opportunities employer and Living Wage Employer. We value and respect every single member of our team and equally we expect that in return. Thank you.

*Welcoming everyone, regardless of disability, pregnancy, age, sex, gender reassignment, marital status, race, sexual orientation or religion*

**LGBTQ+** (Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals, Transgender, Queer (or sometimes questioning) and others) **Switchboard** – 0300 330 0630  
**Citizens Advice Bureau** – 01932 248660  
**Alzheimer's Society** – 01372 729988  
**Safeguarding Advisor** – 07968 834157  
**Mental Health Services** – 01372 203400

*A more extensive list of our local advocacy services is in the hallway and main office should you need them.*

# A Day in May

What I wanted to say  
So a spring day in May is like no other day  
Everthing is greening and pushing and gleaming  
So what can I say about this one day in May

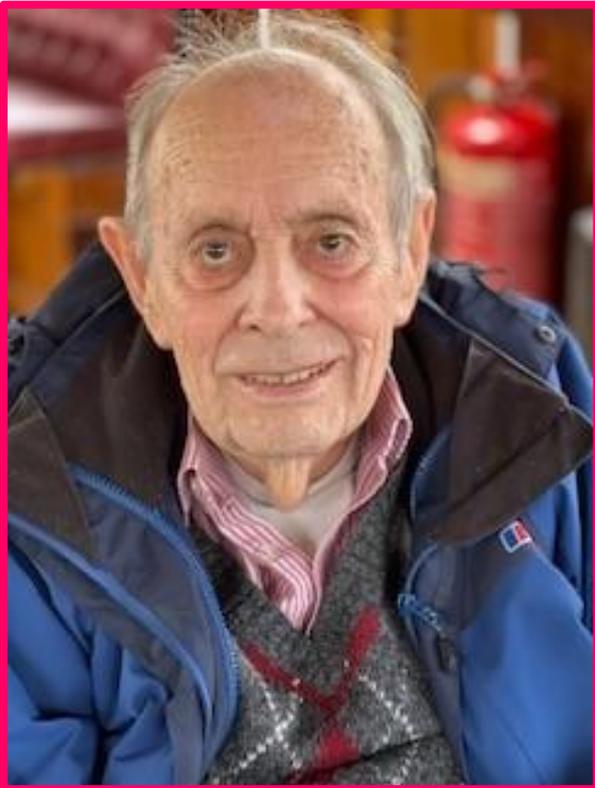
I am walking on sunshine I'm breathing spring air  
I look at the flowers they bloom everywhere  
I wonder and marvel at the things that I see  
Have a song on my lips and I sing and feel free

Singing is freedom that we all can hear  
Singing and laughing draws happiness near  
Singing awakes you and cleans out your brain  
Warding of stuff that drives one nuts or insane

So help us rejoice look around and chime in  
Celebrate singing or humming give in  
Go out for a day in the spring month of May  
And clear out the cobwebs that's all I can say



# In Loving Memory



## David

8<sup>th</sup> December 1931 to 4<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Our condolences go out to the family of David. He leaves behind his devoted wife Hilkka, daughter, son in law, grandchildren and recently a new great granddaughter.

You will be missed by us all David.

RIP dear David

## Lynne

9<sup>th</sup> July 1949 to 4<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Our condolences go out to the family of Lynne. She leaves behind a brother and extended family.

You will be missed by us all Lynne.

RIP dear Lynne



# OBITUARY

## Major John Tatham

26<sup>th</sup> April 1933-11<sup>th</sup> April 2024

We are very sad to report the passing of John, a valuable and loyal Trustee of The Royal Cambridge Home since 1995.

Prior to retiring and joining the board of Trustees, John served in the Army for 19 years, followed by 10 years in business and a further 13 years as the Estates Bursar at a school in Surrey. In 1992 he was invited to serve as a Captain of Invalids at The Royal Hospital Chelsea where he stayed for 12 years.

John joined the Home as a Trustee in 1995 and was an integral part of the charity, contributing to the key decisions that help with the day-to-day running of the home. In particular, his work in sourcing funding for our minibus. A regular visitor to the Home he would often arrive early to ensure he spoke to as many staff and residents as possible.

John was a true gentleman and his kindness and care shone through. He will be missed by us all.

John leaves behind his beloved wife Annie, a son, daughter and grandchildren.

RIP dear John.



# May 2024 Diary

May	Morning	Afternoon
Wednesday 1	11.00am – Residents' Choice	2.00pm – Dawn, G Fitness
Thursday 2	11.00am – Kits Knits	2.00pm – Residents' Choice
Friday 3	<b>Grace, the hairdresser</b>	2.00pm - Residents' Choice
<b>Saturday 4</b>		
<b>Sunday 5</b>		
Monday 6	11.00am – Keep Fit	2.00pm – Residents' Choice
Tuesday 7	<b>11.00am – Carol, Singer</b>	2.00pm – Skittles
Wednesday 8	11.00am – Games	2.00pm – Dawn, G Fitness
Thursday 9	11.00am – Residents' Meeting	2.00pm – Memory Ball
Friday 10	<b>Grace, the hairdresser</b>	2.00pm – Residents' Choice
<b>Saturday 11</b>		
<b>Sunday 12</b>		
Monday 13	11.00am – Bingo	2.00pm – Tea & Cake in the garden
Tuesday 14	11.00am – Residents' Choice	2.00pm – Liliana, Floristry Class
Wednesday 15	11.00am – Minibus Trip Out	2.00pm – Dawn, G Fitness
Thursday 16	11.00am – Kits Knits	2.00pm – Poetry
Friday 17	<b>Grace, the hairdresser</b>	2.00pm – Residents' Choice
<b>Saturday 18</b>		
<b>Sunday 19</b>		
Monday 20	11.00am – Residents' Shop	2.00pm – Bees Talk by Louise
Tuesday 21	11.00am – Bingo	2.00pm – Tea in the Garden
Wednesday 22	11.00am – River Walk	2.00pm – Dawn, G Fitness
Thursday 23	11.00am – Kits Knits	2.00pm – Quiz / Puzzles
Friday 24	<b>Grace, the hairdresser</b>	2.00pm – Residents' Choice
<b>Saturday 25</b>		
<b>Sunday 26</b>		
Monday 27	<b>Stella, the chiropodist</b>	2.00pm – Word Quiz
Tuesday 28	11.00am – Bingo	2.00pm – Flower Crafting
Wednesday 29	<b>11.00am – Liam, Singer</b>	2.00pm – Dawn, G Fitness
Thursday 30	11.00am – Residents' Shop	2.00pm – Time in the Garden
Friday 31	<b>Grace, the hairdresser</b>	2.00pm – Residents' Choice

*Please note, all activities may be subject to last minute changes and the great British weather. If you would like anything added or suggestions for forthcoming activities, please do let us know and we will see what we can do!*

*Don't forget there will be ad-hoc trips out if we get some good weather.*

**We hope to have our first BBQ of the summer this month!**