

Home Matters

The newsletter for The Royal Cambridge Home

*A great place to live, work and visit...
Celebrating inclusiveness in all that we do*

Ho Ho Ho - December 2025

Welcome

Before we commence with the December newsletter we thought it best to ask if anybody recognises the gentleman on the right. He was spotted recently attempting to scale the building. We heard him muttering something about it being an absolute nuisance there weren't any chimneys (or something along those lines; he did seem a little cross). The strangest thing is there appeared to be a reindeer, some kind of sledge and a sack nearby. Whether they are related we do not know. Very odd. Please help if you can.

Well, what with the man in the red suit, what an eventful month November was and that's before we break open the December diary. We had a spectacular fire work display on Bonfire Night and huge thanks go out to our Shane for pulling off a successful event. We did not have to call The Fire Brigade once!

A few of us attended the matinee performance of The Festival of Remembrance at The Albert Hall on Saturday 8th November. We are extremely blessed as the event organisers each year donate a box to us containing 12 seats. We try and make sure each year different residents and staff attend so that most people can enjoy. As ever, it was a very special day out as you will see in some of the photos we have published. Thanks to Rory, for driving us all there in the minibus.



As you know, we have our lovely activities team (Gay and Tina) who provide some great day-to-day sessions, but we also pay for professional entertainers to come in. We recently booked a marvellous group called The Revelaires who performed an evening of song and dance. What a treat. So many of us came down into the main lounge and it was rather like an evening out in the West End (without the travel). What a toe tapping fun evening we all had. Absolutely terrific.





As well as all the above mentioned, we enjoyed entertainment from pianist Peter, singer Liam and accordionist Tony.

We had a very special visit from Luna, the beautiful Pets as Therapy dog.

And finally, a most enjoyable drive out on the minibus to Whiteley Village for a delicious lunch.

No time to rest though folks as December promises to be full of fun!



A well-deserved MBE

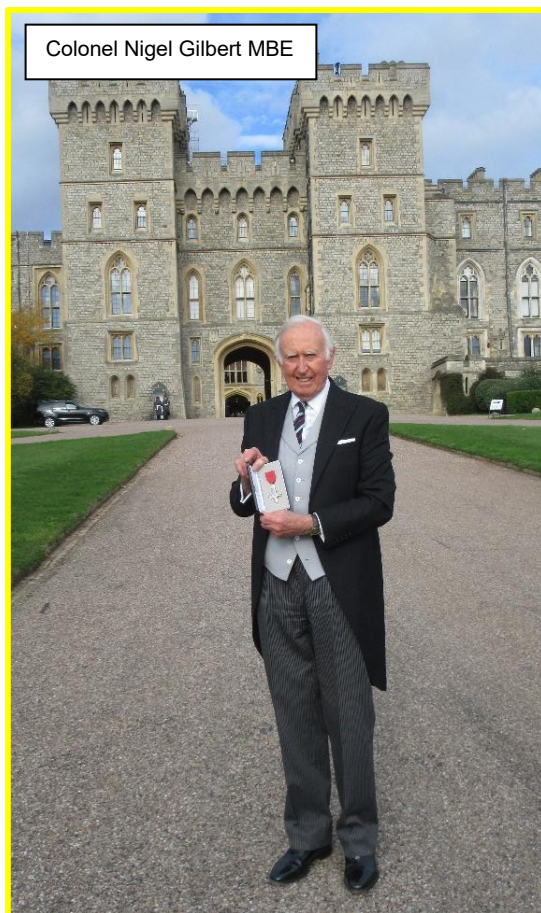
We are absolutely delighted to announce that our dear friend and trustee Colonel Nigel Gilbert recently attended his investiture at Windsor Castle and he is now an official member of the MBE community. This is so well deserved.

Nigel has been a loyal trustee of The Royal Cambridge since 2011 and has helped us enormously over the years. Nigel carries out a huge amount of charitable work and in particular to note he is currently Chairman of his Regimental Association which involves a lot of travelling throughout the UK to meet veterans.

Nigel was accompanied on this special occasion by his wife Maureen and family. The investiture was carried out by The Princess Royal.

We are very proud to have someone as kind as Nigel as one of our trustees. Of course, he is in very good company as our chairman Robert is also an MBE.

On behalf of all at The Royal Cambridge Home huge congratulations **Colonel Nigel Gilbert MBE**



Donations

Just a reminder to visitors that we are an independent not-for-profit charity. All activities and entertainment are provided by the home. Should anybody wish to make any donations we would be very grateful [The Royal Cambridge Home | Please Support Us](https://www.royalcambridgehome.org) We also have a donations box by the hot drinks machine and reception. All donations are spent solely on entertainment for our residents.

Also, as you may be aware, we have a rather nice, all singing, all dancing hot drinks machine on the ground floor lounge, offering anything from a cappuccino to a hot chocolate. This is a free service that we offer, although as you can appreciate, it has become extremely popular. If anyone would like to make any donations that would be most kind.

Thank you everyone for your support of this special place.



Lesley & Brian at The Festival of Remembrance



Staff Recruitment

We are recruiting for the following positions:

- Experienced and qualified **Day Care Assistants** (part-time and full-time)
- **Senior Night Care Assistant** (part-time)
- Experienced and qualified part-time **Night Care Assistant**
- **Bank Minibus Driver** – Various hours and days on a casual basis

Come and be part of our fabulous team at No. 84.



Beautiful Grace our hairdresser, departs for her maternity leave



Tony the accordion player



"Hello, hello, hello what's going on here madam." Ann outside The Albert Hall



Hamish enjoys a lunch out



The Christmas Song



*Chestnuts roasting on an open fire
Jack Frost nipping on your nose
Yuletide carols being sung by a choir
And folks dressed up like Eskimos*

*Everybody knows a turkey and some mistletoe
Help to make the season bright
Tiny tots with their eyes all aglow
Will find it hard to sleep tonight*

*They know that Santa's on his way
He's loaded lots of toys and goodies on his sleigh
And every mother's child is going to spy
To see if reindeer really know how to fly*

*And so I'm offering this simple phrase
To kinds from one to ninety-two
Although it's been said many times, many ways
A very Merry Christmas to you!*





What's coming up?

Where do we start? Well folks, it would not be Christmas at The Royal Cambridge without an absolutely jam-packed diary. A few highlights below but please do refer to the main one at the back for the full list of activities.

- ★ **Residents Meeting** – Monday 1st December at 11.00am in the Main Lounge
- ★ **Brooklands Christmas Shopping** – Tuesday 2nd December – depart late morning
- ★ **Communion with Rev Anne** – Wednesday 3rd December at 11.00am in Ground Floor quiet area
- ★ **Harry the opera singer** – Monday 8th December at 11.00am in the Main Lounge
- ★ **Mole Sing Choir** – Tuesday 9th December at 2.00pm in the Main Lounge
- ★ **St Lawrence Choir** – Wednesday 10th December at 10.45 in the Main Lounge
- ★ **Christmas Meal (venue TBC)** – Thursday 11th December – depart late morning
- ★ **Matthew the ukelele player** – Thursday 11th December at 3.30pm
- ★ **Andy the chiropodist** – Friday 12th December
- ★ **Various Schools singing carols** – Throughout Monday 13th December
- ★ **Liam professional singer and Christmas Party** – Wednesday 17th December
- ★ **Nigel Hall Media Talk** – Thursday 18th at 6.30pm in the Main Lounge
- ★ **Gay's Christmas Carol Concert** (not to be missed) – Gather in the Main Lounge for late morning.

Peace, Love, Good Health and Brussel Sprouts



Social Media

Follow us on Instagram for all the latest photos and news as well as our website 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.

December 2025 Diary

December	Morning	Afternoon
Monday 1	11.00am – Residents' Meeting	2.00pm – Knit & Natter
Tuesday 2	AM – Christmas Shopping at Brooklands Manicures	2.00pm – Residents' Choice 6.30-7.30pm – Relatives & Friends Meeting
Wednesday 3	Jemma the hairdresser 11.00am – Rev Anne - Communion	2.00pm – Dawn G Fitness
Thursday 4	AM – Shopping Trolley	2.00pm – Festive Baking
Friday 5	AM – Residents' Choice	2.00pm – Residents' Choice
Saturday 6	Resident Choices / One-to-Ones	
Sunday 7	Resident Choices / One-to-Ones	
Monday 8	11.00am – Harry the opera singer	2.00pm – Christmas Decorating
Tuesday 9	11.00am – Luna pets as therapy dog visit	2.00pm – Mole Sing Choir
Wednesday 10	Jemma the hairdresser 10.45 – St Lawrence Choir	2.00pm – Dawn G Fitness 6.00pm – Police Cadets
Thursday 11	Late AM – Christmas Meal (venue TBC)	3.30pm – Matthew ukelele player
Friday 12	Andy, the chiropodist 11.00am – Residents' Choice	2.00pm – Residents' Choice
Saturday 13	Resident Choices / One-to-Ones	
Sunday 14	Resident Choices / One-to-Ones	
Monday 15	11.00am – Residents' Choice	1.30pm – Hurst Park School Carols 3.30pm – Sunshine Childcare Carols
Tuesday 16	Jemma the hairdresser 11.00am – Christmas Tree Challenge	PM - Manicures
Wednesday 17	11.00am - Residents' Christmas Party with Liam the professional singer	2.00pm – Dawn G Fitness
Thursday 18	11.00am – Shopping Trolley	6.30pm – Nigel Hall Media Fun
Friday 19	11.00am – Games	2.00pm – Residents' Choice
Saturday 20	Resident Choices / One-to-Ones	
Sunday 21	Resident Choices / One-to-Ones	
Monday 22	11.00am – Luna pets as therapy dog visit AM - Manicures	2.00pm - Manicures
Tuesday 23	Jemma the hairdresser 11.00am – Christmas Bingo	2.00pm – Residents' Choice
Christmas Eve	11.00am – Gay's Christmas Carol Service	
Christmas Day		
Boxing Day		
Saturday 27	Resident Choices / One-to-Ones	
Sunday 28	Resident Choices / One-to-Ones	
Monday 29	11.00am – Residents' Choice	2.00pm – Residents' Choice
Tuesday 30	11.00am – Old Time Film	2.00pm – Residents' Choice
New Year's Eve	New Year's Eve Quiz	2.00pm – Residents' Choice

Festive Greetings to Everyone xxxx