



Home Matters



The newsletter for The Royal Cambridge Home

The Mission of The Royal Cambridge Home is to provide high quality and empathetic care to all our residents, with dignity and compassion in a safe and happy environment.

Hatching out and springing forward April 2026

Welcome

If ever there was a month that defined pure joy then March was it.

At the start of the month we had the fantastic Liam over entertaining us with some wonderful music.

On a particularly warm early spring day, a few of us headed out on the minibus to the Toby Carvery for a delicious lunch and catch up. It's always such a treat to go out and even more enjoyable to be driven in comfort. At the wheel that day was Rory, who afterwards took us on a leisurely scenic route back. Fantastic.

We had a Spring visit from Linnies Fashion. They brought along some great clothes for residents to peruse and purchase. Oooh, the reception area was just like Marks. Of course, the idea was for residents but basically folks staff and visitors spent a small fortune. Great stuff.



And the winner is....Ann with Vicky, Robert and Rory



Hamish, winner of the 2026 Best Ears Competition...we all say "ear ear"

One of the absolute highlights of the March diary was our Easter Party. Our chairman and some of our trustees came over, accompanied by partners. We kicked off the day with the **Easter Bonnet Competition**. The office was particularly pleased we weren't asked to judge. Seriously, where does one start! They were all brilliant. With all competitions there really can only be one winner. Our glamorous Ann (cover girl again this month) won the coveted prize. Third prize went to Betty C who looked absolutely incredible in purple. Runner up in second place was Audrey who at nearly 101 years of age still rocks an Easter Bonnet. Thanks to our brilliant judges Gill, Maureen and Annie.

By this stage we were ready to party. Gay plugged in the karaoke machine and off we went. Tom Jones eat your heart out. We sang, danced and laughed and eventually collapsed around the lunch tables for an absolutely deeeelish and nutritish buffet lunch. Thank you to Alain our chef and his team in the kitchen for another cracking (anyone notice the Easter pun there) celebration. We are all absolutely exhausted now!



Myra with Wanpen & Violet

Resident Birthdays

This month we will be celebrating the following residents' birthdays:

- ♥ 16th April – Myra
- ♥ 24th April – Diana (celebrating 101 years)
- ♥ 28th April – Betty C

Happy Birthday everyone.



Hairdressing Fees

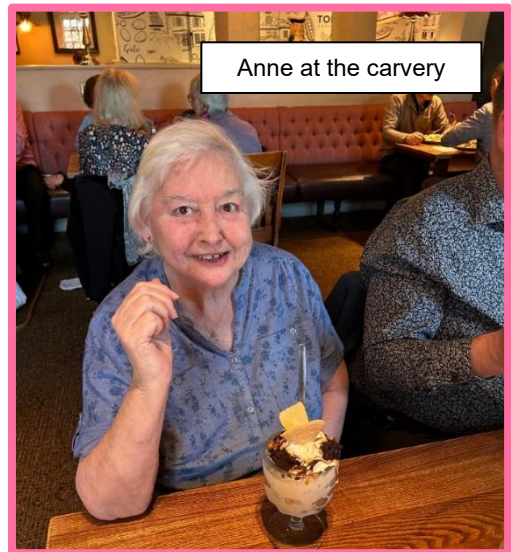
As you know we have our regular hairdresser Grace back. A couple of things to note: she will be coming in on Thursday 2nd April instead of Good Friday, so everyone will be ready to go for the Easter weekend.

Separately, please note that after many years of charging the same incredibly reasonable prices Grace will be making an increase from 1st April. Her new charges:

£20 – Wash & Set

£25 – Wash, Cut & Set

For anything extra, such as a perm or a colour, these will be priced accordingly.



Anne at the carvery



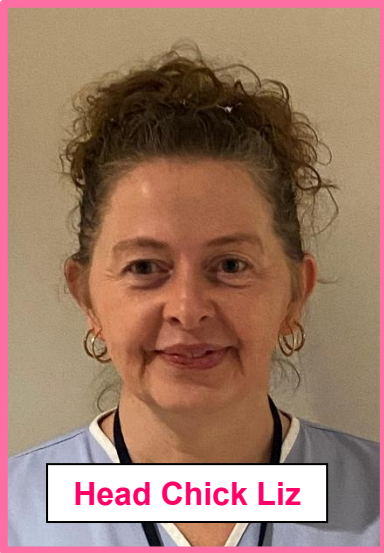
Mary at the carvery

The Gardening Club

We are delighted to announce that the gardening club has commenced for this year. Hamish has kicked things off by planting lots of vegetable seeds, including tomatoes. He currently has them on his sunny windowsill and will eventually, once all the seedlings come through, transfer them to the new raised beds which Seton and his team recently installed for us. Do spend time to check out the garden as it is a changing scene at the moment and looking lovely.

Gay and Tina, our activities team, will be doing trips with residents to the garden centre over the next few weeks so please liaise with them if you'd like to take part or have any suggestions for plants.





Head Chick Liz

Chicken Run

Our gorgeous girls were born at Easter time last year and haven't they grown! Huge thanks go out to all of the team who look after them, in particular Liz our Head Chick, who makes sure they are cleaned up regularly and our Tina, who ensures they have lots of food, treats and various activities in their coop. Tina says our hens particularly like word searches. They are a clever bunch.

Do please check out the main reception over the next couple of weeks as we will be watching our new duckling eggs hatch. How exciting. But remember folks we won't be keeping any this time around as we suspect our girls below may have something to say about that!



Hot off the press, a brand new duckling has arrived!!!!!!

There's nobody here but us chickens...



Daphne



Daisy



April



Evie



Mabel



Darcy

Usha practicing her mime art (she's ever so good at getting out of a box)



Staff Recruitment / News

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.

We are also delighted to announce that following the successful recruitment of Usha last year, to enhance the office reception team further, we have recruited Jemma to be our new Tues-Thurs receptionist. Some of you may recall that Jemma was our maternity cover hairdresser recently. She really was such a hit here and she herself loved being part of The Royal Cambridge family. Jemma will be starting the second week in April. Like Usha, her hours will be 9-2. Please give her a warm welcome when you see her. This means we now have a full 7-day reception cover.

Welcome to the team Jemma (photographic evidence will follow in next month's newsletter!).

Laundry

Just a reminder for all our relatives and friends, that if you bring in any new clothes could you please ensure they are labelled / marked up. Our laundry team have a lot of residents' clothes to launder so it really helps them enormously. Please just names and not room numbers. Also, we have a box of unnamed/unclaimed items, if you have lost anything please talk to one of the Laundry Team. Heading up the department is Julie our Housekeeper and her team in the laundry are Luca and Sahr who between them cover the 7 day week.

Sahr and Julie



Luca



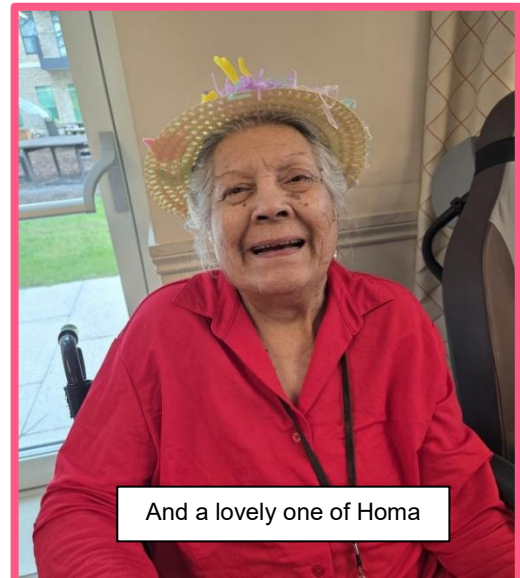
What's coming up

As ever, below are some of the items you may wish to mark in your diaries. Our first one on the list is Doris Day Dream, who is a new singer and comes highly recommended. All activities take place in the ground floor lounge unless specified. Thanks to our activities team for organising another excellent schedule. Enjoy folks!

- ♥ **Doris Day Dream** – Weds 1st at 2.15pm
- ♥ **Residents' Meeting** – Tues 7th at 11.00am
- ♥ **Sunbury Walled Garden** – Thurs 9th depart at 10.30am
- ♥ **Tony the accordion player** – Thurs 9th at 2.00pm.
- ♥ **Matthew the ukelele player** – Tues 14th at 2.00pm
- ♥ **St Paul's Coffee Stop** – Thurs 16th, late AM
- ♥ **Harry the opera singer** – Tues 21st at 11.00am
- ♥ **St Paul's Communion** – Weds 22nd – at 11.00am – Ground Floor Quiet Area
- ♥ **Peter Toth Pianist** – Thurs 23rd at 11.00am
- ♥ **Andy, the chiropodist** – Tues 28th all day
- ♥ **Garden Centre Trip** – Thurs 30th – depart AM
- ♥ **U3A Jazz Bank** – Thurs 30th at 2.00pm



Unwanted Magazines – Just a quick shout out to all. If anybody has any “read and ready to pass on magazines”, in particular to do with football, cars, golf etc., we would be grateful for any donations.



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.

April 2026 Diary

APRIL	Morning	Afternoon
Wednesday 1	10.45am - Bingo	2.15pm – Doris Day Dream
Thursday 2	Grace, the hairdresser 11.00am - Games	2.00pm – Activity Table
Friday 3	Hot Cross Buns 11.00am - Games	2.00pm – Residents' Choice
Saturday 4	Residents' Choice / One-to-Ones	
Sunday 5	Residents' Choice / One-to-Ones	
Monday 6	11.00am – Manicures	2.00pm – Residents' Choice
Tuesday 7	Luna PAT dog in 11.00am – Residents' Meeting	2.00pm – Spring Quiz
Wednesday 8	11.00am – River Walk	2.00pm – Dawn, G Fitness
Thursday 9	10.30am – Sunbury Walled Garden	2.00pm – Tony the accordion player
Friday 10	Grace, the hairdresser 11.00am – Games	2.00pm – Residents' Choice
Saturday 11	Residents' Choice / One-to-Ones	
Sunday 12	Residents' Choice / One-to-Ones	
Monday 13	11.00am – Manicures & Hand Massages	2.00pm – Manicures & Hand Massages
Tuesday 14	11.00am - Bingo	2.00pm – Matthew the ukulele player
Wednesday 15	11.00am – Residents' Shop	2.00pm – Dawn, G Fitness
Thursday 16	AM – Coffee Shop Stop at St Paul's	2.00pm – Tea and cake in the garden
Friday 17	Grace, the hairdresser 11.00am - Games	2.00pm – Residents' Choice
Saturday 18	Residents' Choice / One-to-Ones	
Sunday 19	Residents' Choice / One-to-Ones	
Monday 20	11.00am – Manicures & Hand Massages	2.00pm – Manicures & Hand Massages
Tuesday 21	AM – Luna, PAT Dog Visit 11.00am – Harry the opera singer	2.00pm – Activity Table
Wednesday 22	11.00am – Rev. Anne – Communion Gay's Singalong	2.00pm – Dawn, G Fitness
Thursday 23	11.00am – Peter Toth pianist	2.00pm – St George's Day Quiz
Friday 24	Grace, the hairdresser 11.00am - Games	2.00pm – Residents' Choice
Saturday 25	Residents' Choice / One-to-Ones	
Sunday 26	Residents' Choice / One-to-Ones	
Monday 27	11.00am – Manicures & Hand Massages	2.00pm – Manicures & Hand Massages
Tuesday 28	AM – Andy the chiroprapist 11.00am - Bingo	2.00pm – Flower Arranging
Wednesday 29	11.00am – Games Morning	2.00pm – Dawn, G Fitness
Thursday 30	10.00am – Garden Centre Trip	2.00pm – U3A Jazz Band