

Home Matters

The newsletter for The Royal Cambridge Home

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

Ringling in the New Year for January 2025



Happy New Year 2025 !!!



Man of the month with some of his team

Another year down folks...can you believe it!

We held our first ever Christmas in our amazing new home and to mark this unique time Father Christmas turned up on Christmas morning with presents for everyone. Well, come on, it was a rather special Christmas. With the North Pole delayed for a few hours, he spent the morning with all of us at No. 84, not quite as chilly as home and there was a constant supply of carrots for the reindeer, who, it turned out, were not very good about standing still on the roof of the activity lounge!

Seriously folks, who is that mystery man behind the beard...?

And talking of elves...our Annual Elf Gathering was a success. Resident and Staff Elves gathered from all around the local area and it certainly got us into the swing of things for Christmas.

We had some rather wonderful musical entertainment during the build up to the big day. Professional Entertainer Becky came over, in another stunning sequined outfit and sang for us. As back up, we all joined in with the musical accompaniment, which was a huge relief for her. Yes folks, maracas were handed out and we provided a touch of class to proceedings.

We had the Christmas Party, headed up by Liam, who, despite being poorly, managed to belt out some terrific numbers.

We then enjoyed Gay's Christmas Carol Concert on Christmas Eve. Overseen by Gay, staff on duty sang their hearts out to many a festive tune. We do love a sing song and sorry for any broken windows!



Wanpen, Bob & Rojina

What a Knit...

Huge thanks yet again, to the brilliant Louise, friend of the Home and who can only be described as Champion Knitter Extraordinaire.

Each resident received one of these stunning little fellas, complete with a gold chocolate coin at the back.

We are not sure how she does it but when the box arrives each year we all gasp when the lid opens to reveal the stunning contents. A lot of work and patience goes into these, and they are a great Christmas keepsake.



Congratulations to Rojina, Jenny and Rodica who all enjoyed delicious festive wins on the Christmas Raffle.

Congratulations to Marjorie the Border Terrier for winner of the four-legged friend in a Christmas Jumper category. And the only one who stood still long enough!





Resident Birthdays

New Year Birthday wishes to:

Merrill on the 3rd and Alma on the 19th.

Hope you both enjoy your special days with love from all of us.

Bon Voyage

We bid a very fond farewell to our Gladys, who has now hung up her tunic for one last time as she commences the very exciting prospect of retirement. She has some cracking plans lined up. Thank you Gladys and we will certainly all miss you.

Chinese New Year

The Lunar New Year in 2025 welcomes the Year of the Snake, according to the Chinese lunar calendar. Celebrated by millions around the world, this is a time for cultural traditions, family reunions and hopes for good fortune in the coming year.

In 2025, Lunar New Year falls on **Wednesday 29th January**, kicking off the start of the 16-day Spring Festival.

The snake symbolises wisdom and transformation, offering opportunities for personal growth and change.

Snake is a cautious, introverted observer, cool and mysterious in behaviour owing to their suspicious and insecure nature, yet their armour conceals abundant sensitivity, wisdom and passion that will surely surprise their few confidants!



The festival is celebrated worldwide, particularly in Asian countries like China. Festivities include red decorations, elaborate meals, thorough cleaning of homes and visiting family.

A major tradition involves lighting firecrackers, originating from the legend of the monster Nian.

According to legend, Nian was a terrifying beast with sharp teeth and horns, living deep in the sea. Every Lunar New Year's Eve, Nian would come ashore to wreak havoc in the villages.

Cripes!



And finally...what's coming up?

- **Pantomime at Richmond Theatre (matinee)** – depart late morning on Thursday 2nd Jan
- **Residents' Meeting** – Tuesday 7th Jan at 11.00am in the Main Lounge
- **Liam, professional singer** – Wednesday 15th Jan at 11.00am in the Main Lounge
- **Harry, professional opera singer** – Tuesday 28th Jan at 11.00am in Main Lounge
- **Chinese New Year** – Wednesday 29th Jan

Above are just a selection of highlights but please refer to the main diary at the back of the newsletter for what is on every day.



Manu, Wanpen, Beryl & John (with Eileen & Hilka in the background)

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.

IF

Rudyard Kipling

If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,
Or being hated, don't give way to hating,
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:

If you can dream—and not make dreams your master;
If you can think—and not make thoughts your aim;
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
And treat those two impostors just the same;
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,
And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools:

If you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breathe a word about your loss;
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: 'Hold on!'

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with Kings—nor lose the common touch,
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men count with you, but none too much;
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
And—which is more—you'll be a Man, my son!

January 2025 Diary

January	Morning	Afternoon
Wednesday 1	11.00am – Board Games	2.00pm - Quiz
Thursday 2	Panto – matinee performance at Richmond Theatre	
Friday 3	Grace, the hairdresser	2.00pm – Residents' Choice
Saturday 4		
Sunday 5		
Monday 6	11.00am – Keep Fit with pom poms	2.00pm – Decorations down
Tuesday 7	11.00am – Residents' Meeting	2.00pm – Decorations down
Wednesday 8	11.00am – Games	2.00pm – Dawn, G Fitness
Thursday 9	11.00am – Knitting Club	2.00pm – Making Sweets
Friday 10	Grace, the hairdresser	2.00pm – Residents' Choice
Saturday 11		
Sunday 12		
Monday 13	11.00am – Bingo	2.00pm – Board Games
Tuesday 14	11.00am – Indoor Parachuting	2.00pm – Flower Crafting
Wednesday 15	11.00am – Liam, professional singer	2.00pm – Dawn, G Fitness
Thursday 16	Coffee morning at St Paul's	2.00pm – Hand Massages
Friday 17	Grace, the hairdresser	2.00pm – Residents' Choice
Saturday 18		
Sunday 19		
Monday 20	11.00am – One-to-Ones	2.00pm – Residents' Choice
Tuesday 21	11.00am – Keep Fit	2.00pm – Word Games
Wednesday 22	11.00am – Bingo	2.00pm – Dawn, G Fitness
Thursday 23	11.00am – Residents & Staff Competition	2.00pm – Hand Massages
Friday 24	Grace, the hairdresser	
Saturday 25		
Sunday 26		
Monday 27	11.00am – Chopstick Challenge	2.00pm – Higher / Lower Game
Tuesday 28	11.00am – Harry, the opera singer	2.00pm – Pick up Sticks Game
Wednesday 29	11.00am – Chinese NY – Lantern Making	2.00pm – Dawn, G Fitness
Thursday 30	11.00am – Singalong with Gay	2.00pm – Chinese Food Tasting
Friday 31	Grace, the hairdresser	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!

**Happy New Year
Peace, love and good health in 2025**