

Crossways Newsletter

June 2024



June Highlights

We began June with an energetic performance from Dave with his accordion entertaining us and Natalya dressing up in her inflatable costume, which delighted the residents and had us all in stitches! Following this we spent time reminiscing and reflecting as we commemorated D-Day together

One afternoon we were treated to our very talented staff (Ebenezer, Maria, Ivy & Natalya) singing songs from their heritage which was a treat for all of us, they also explained the meaning behind their song choice, and we plan to continue this next month – once we've persuaded them

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Activities in June have also been busy with a mini bus trip to Court Farm Garden Centre, and our "Let's get together" was held at Grasmere Care Home. We've held many afternoon activities enjoying the beautiful warm June sunshine in our garden. Our sensory projector has been used a lot this month and we have also acquired a new sensory tool - RITA. RITA is an all-in-one touch Screen digital therapy system which is a relatively new tool in the fields of nursing and healthcare; it encompasses the use of user-friendly interactive screens and tablets to blend entertainment with therapy.

Local Schools and Care Homes

We were kindly invited to Grasmere Care Home for our 'Let's get together' where we were treated to a lively singalong with their residents and staff and then an opportunity to chat to them, whilst enjoying a cup of tea and homemade biscuits. We are thoroughly enjoying these occasions, where we meet neighbouring care home residents and connect with one another and share our activities with one another.

The pupils from Brookways specialist school join us every Tuesday morning. Brookways is an independent specialist day school in North Cheam, designed with a state-of-the-art learning environment which has been created to meet the needs of young people with autism. It is a pleasure to welcome the pupils to Crossways, where they engage with the residents, play games, arts and crafts and when we usually finish our morning with a singalong together.

We have also been joined by Panchami from Nonsuch High School, for her work experience programme. Panchami is familiar with Crossways as she chose to join us again after her first work experience here last October. We wish Panchami good luck with her exams and continuing studies in the field of medicine The little ones from a local nursery school came to visit and entertained us with their nursery rhymes and stories. It's a joy to see them engage and connect together.



D-Day Commemorations

D-Day is a very important and significant date in our activities calendar. We were mindful in ensuring the residents were able to commemorate it in their own personal way, some preferring to reflect on their private thoughts and memories; whilst others choosing to embrace the singalongs, arts and crafts and group discussions. We held many arts and crafts sessions as well as one-one's and enjoyed watching all the varied programmes on the TV and were pleased to welcome families who joined their loved ones to share the day with them.

Minibus Trip

Court Farm Garden Centre in Tolworth was the venue for our minibus trip. We enjoyed a wonderful morning, seeing all the beautiful flowers and walking around the garden shop, then having a cup of tea and cake together.

The staff at the centre were very kind and caring, they spent time talking about the different varieties of flowers, how they are cared for and reserved a lovely big table in the café.

Our next trip is to Overton Park on Thursday 4th July, where we'll enjoy a delicious picnic together and play games. Our aim is to take as many residents as possible – weather permitting.

Activities

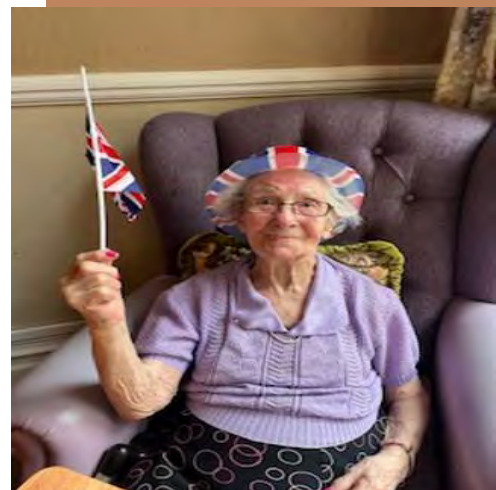
Throughout June we've spent many afternoons in the garden, holding group and 1-1 activities. Arts and crafts have been a firm favourite, and our theme has been D-Day and celebrating 'Summer'. We celebrated Father's Day and Denny entertained us with his afternoon of 'Singalong with Denny'. Dave entertained us with his accordion; he is a bundle of energy, and his presence can be felt around the home. Natalya interrupted Lisa's movement to music class when she surprised everyone and danced around the lounge, wearing an inflatable fancy dress costume, The echoes of laughter at seeing her all 'blown up' filled the home, it's safe to say many residents enjoyed giving her a squeeze

The students from Overton Grange continue to join us every Wednesday, we say farewell to them soon and wish them all the best for the future and look forward to a new cohort of students joining us in September.

We also had our monthly church service, where we sang hymns, listened to readings from the Bible and prayed together.

Rudy the Therapy dog and her owner Liz join us every Thursday with the Rudy and her owner, Liz.

As always, we are ensuring we spend time with those residents who are in their rooms, with personalised activities whether it be creative, reading or simply a good chat with a cup of tea. We are committed to delivering personalised care to our residents, ensuring they have fulfilling lives.





Birthdays In June

We celebrated June's, Anna's and Pat's Birthdays



Looking Ahead...July

Church Service – 3rd July

Picnic in the park – 4th July

Relatives Meeting – 4th July 6pm

Richard's Musical Memories – 9th July

Denny's Singalong – 23rd July

Let's Get Together with Grasmere Care Home joining us – 30th July

Stay In Touch & Participate

A message from Lisa – 'Getting to know me' - Please speak to Lisa or the office about this initiative. We feel it is beneficial for both residents, staff and families and is a short meeting where we get to know your loved ones.

If you would like to arrange a meeting with your family members key worker and the activities team for an informal chat about them and their well-being, please let Lisa or the office know. We have found this to be very beneficial and this has led to some great conversations and very funny stories! It also gives you the opportunity to get to know us better and for us to get to know the residents better. Alternatively, please email Lisa on – activities@crosswaysutton.co.uk to arrange this or if you have any ideas/suggestions or would like to volunteer in activities.

Facebook & Website

If you have Facebook please look us up: **CrosswaysSutton**, Lisa regularly posts updates and it is a useful platform for us to keep you involved in all the activities and updates at Crossways.

We have a website: crosswaysutton.co.uk. Which has recently been updated. We post photographs of what we are doing in the home and any upcoming events so you and your families can follow it. We do need consent to put photographs on these platforms, the forms are in the office. Please let Sarah or Alex know if you do not want your relative's photographs published at all and we can make sure that they do not get uploaded.

Summer BBQ

Please join us for our annual Summer Barbecue, which will be held on Saturday 17th August from 12pm.

Surrey Jive will be performing at 1pm
Please let the office know if you can come.

Crossways Olympics

The Olympics come to Crossways on Thursday 8th August. The residents will be in teams and compete against each other, Crossways staff will also be competing!!

Weather permitting this will be held in the Garden.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sarah, Alex & Staff