

# Crossways Newsletter

December 2025

## December Highlights

Christmas at Crossways is always a very special time of year. From December 1<sup>st</sup> when the decorations are put up the whole home becomes full of the festive spirit. The staff & families worked hard decorating it & lighting up the home for everyone to enjoy.

One of the highlights was when Karens Pets & Ponies visited & everyone was able to have a cuddle with the rabbits, guinea pigs, ducks & not forgetting seeing Dotty the pony walk around the home including the lift!

We went to Chessington Garden centre for our minibus trip, where we wandered around the magical displays & met Santa; after we enjoyed some tea & cakes together.

Lisa invited families to join her for Crossways Companions Christmas lunch & was delighted by how many who came. It was lovely to spend time together, enjoy lunch & a few drinks in the pub!

The residents Christmas party was a fantastic day, we encouraged all residents to join us, & it was wonderful to share such a special time with them & their families. Zara & the staff worked so hard in ensuring everyone had a wonderful time. Our Christmas raffle was held & we raised £340, which will go towards items for Activities. A big thank you to everyone who kindly donated to the raffle and bought tickets.

Dave, Richard and Denny separately entertained us with musical afternoons that we all thoroughly enjoyed, waving our tambourines and singing together.

## Local Schools and Care Homes

We enjoyed lots of Christmas visits from local schools & nursery schools. The little ones sang Christmas Carols with us & Brookways School joined us for afternoons of Christmas singalongs..

The residents from Grasmere planned to come for a Christmas karaoke but sadly due to the wet weather this was cancelled, so we held our own karaoke, the staff also sang beautifully & even some families sang too.

Tesco's in Cheam donated items for our Christmas raffle & we were delighted to meet the students from Greenshaw School who very kindly donated gifts for the residents

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## Karens Pets and Ponies

This is always such a special time for the residents, seeing Dotty the pony & all the furry animals. Everyone can give them a cuddle & Karen even took Dotty in the lift so those in their rooms could see them. It was lovely to be joined by families who enjoyed seeing the animals with their loved ones.



## Our Christmas Grotto

Our garden room was transformed into a Christmas Grotto for our residents to visit throughout December. Lisa's husband kindly joined us one Sunday and became Father Christmas for the day. Residents were greeted by the elf's ( Zara, Lisa, Natalya & Ebenezer ) and guided to the grotto where they met Santa & were given a little Christmas gift. This was a magical afternoon, the grotto looked so beautiful & it was wonderful to see so many smiles from everyone; with some residents even sitting on his knee!





## Activities

The activity schedule was full of festive activities throughout December...we enjoyed many visits from local schools and nurseries. The Christmas church service was held, where we sang, prayed & reflected on Christmas's past & spoke about being thankful for our families. The resident's party was a wonderful day & it was made extra special by the number of families who joined us.

Lisa organised a varied & lively Christmas schedule with a wide range of activities from entertainers, bingo, arts & crafts, board games, flower arranging & lots of other festive activities including karaoke, where Sarah & Alex even had a go on the microphone!

Crossways Companions lunch was a great success & Lisa would like to extend her thanks to all the families who joined her.

Also, a big thanks to all the families who throughout December have helped with activities. We feel incredibly lucky that so many are always happy to be involved & become part of the Crossways family.

And finally, thank you to all the staff for working so hard over Christmas & throughout the year; ensuring it was such magical time for our residents.





## Birthdays in December

There were no birthdays

## Facebook, Website & Instagram

Please follow us on Facebook to stay updated on all the wonderful activities, events heartwarming moments from our home. If you have Facebook, please look us up: **CrosswaysSutton** and Instagram @crosswaysnursinghome. Lisa regularly posts updates on both platforms and it's a great way for the extended families to connect and keep updated.

We have a website: [crosswayssutton.co.uk](http://crosswayssutton.co.uk). 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.

### January dates for the diary:

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> 2pm – Richards Musical Memories

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> 2pm – Denny's afternoon singalong

**Wishing you all a very happy & healthy new year**

**From Sarah, Alex & all the staff at Crossways**

# Happy New Year