

Crossways Newsletter

April 2026

April Highlights

April began with an Easter extravaganza at Crossways The home was filled with the colourful easter bonnets that the residents created, and we enjoyed a fabulous easter weekend with tasty lunches, lots of easter eggs and surprise visit from the easter bunny.

Our first church service was held with Christ Church Sutton, and the little children joined us for an easter visit where they made every resident a card and sang nursery rhymes.

Karen's Pets and Ponies was one of the very special days during April. They came with baby chicks, rabbits, lambs, guinea pigs and of course Dotty the pony.

We held two live music afternoons when Denny and Dave joined us, the weather was sunny, so we were able to enjoy the music in the garden.

Lisa organised a World Parkinsons Day afternoon tea and invited our Crossways Parkies, neighbouring Nursing Homes, representatives from the local council and Parkinson's UK.

We've enjoyed weekly bingo and brain busting quiz's that really get the residents thinking. We also had quiet time for sensory, small group reminiscence and one-one's.

We continue with monthly Brain and Body exercises provided by an external provider and our regular movement to music exercises.

Local Schools, Care Homes, Community

We always appreciate and enjoy seeing the little children from the local nursery; this is always such a special visit for our residents. The little ones often sing nursery rhymes and then walk around the communal rooms to say 'hello'. This has become a monthly visit which we all look forward to.

Supporting students with their work experience programme is something we encourage, and we now have three students who join us weekly.

Lisa is currently arranging our next visit to Grasmere Nursing Home in May, and we hope to arrange our annual summer picnic with them and neighbouring nursing homes soon.

World Parkinsons Day

Lisa attended the World Parkinsons Day event in Sutton and returned with information and leaflets to share with our 'Parkies'. We then marked WPD with an afternoon tea and were delighted that residents from neighbouring nursing homes who have Parkinson's joined us, as well as representatives from the local authority and members of Parkinson's UK. This was a beneficial event for all that attended, and we appreciated the opportunity to learn more about continuing support and care for our 'Parkies' and enjoy refreshments together. As this was so successful, Lisa is hoping to continue these get togethers.

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Easter

Easter was so special this year and it's difficult to highlight all the wonderful activities we did together. Leading up to Easter we created colourful easter bonnets together and held group discussions and quiz's all about Easter. The staff worked hard in decorating the home and the whole weekend was filled with delicious lunches on Good Friday, Easter Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday. On Easter Sunday the big surprise came when Crossways easter bunny (Lisa's husband) arrived to hand out an easter egg to every resident. There were gasps of surprise and delight when he joined us in the dining room just before lunch and then 'hopped' around the home greeting the residents.

When Karens Pets and Ponies visit, we always feel so blessed to see the reaction on our residents faces when they see the animals. Karen and her sister came with baby lambs, baby chicks, rabbits, guinea pigs, Lyla the dog and not forgetting Dotty the pony. We held this gathering in the dining room so those who were able to had the opportunity to see them, have a cuddle and hear Karen tell us about their care. The weather was so pleasant we were able to sit in the garden and the lambs enjoyed having a little nibble on the flowers.



Activities

April was a busy month for activities, and we enjoyed spending sunny afternoons in the garden. We are planning on visiting the local garden centre this week to buy plants and flowers that we can plant together. We were delighted to have our first church service with Christ Church Sutton and are hopeful this can become a monthly service alongside our regular church service.

Our brain and body exercises continue once a month, we encourage all residents to participate. As a team we have learnt from the sessions and continue to hold regular exercises ourselves, often theming them to different genres of music

Denny and Dave joined us for two fabulous afternoons of live music, the weather was good, so we all sat in the garden to enjoy the entertainment. St George's day was commemorated with arts and crafts and a themed quiz

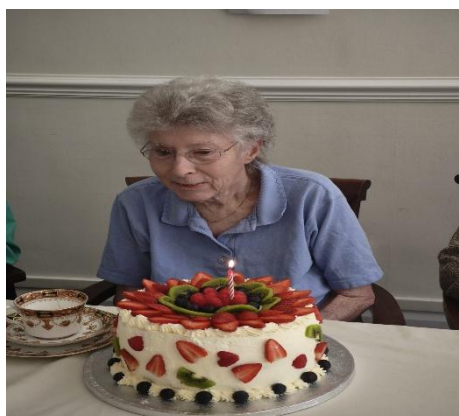
The local nursery school joined us, and we look forward to their next visit in May. Rudy our therapy dog and Liz his owner has made a welcome return. We have also enjoyed many afternoons of quiz's, bingo, reminiscence, movement to music which all provide regular mental and physical stimulation as well as lots of laughter. We celebrated eight birthdays in May including Dorothy's who has reached the age of 102.

We have also focused on one-one's and small groups with our new residents and those in their rooms. This is so valuable for us and the residents where we chat together and they can share their experiences, values & memories.

As May arrives, we're looking forward to spending time in the garden ; where we can expand our activities appreciating the sunny days together.

Birthdays in April

We celebrated Maureen's, Suzanne's, Dorothy's, David's, Clara, Shirley's, Rita's and Edith's birthdays.



May dates for the diary:

Tuesday 5th May 2pm – Richards' Musical Memories

Wednesday 6th May 2pm – Church Service

Friday 8th May- VE Day Reminiscence

Monday 18th May 10:30am – Nursery School Visit

Wednesday 20th May 3pm – Church Service from Christchurch Sutton

Tuesday 26th May– Mini Bus trips (Tuesday-Thursday)

Thursday 28th May 2pm – Brain and Body Exercises

Friday 29th May 2pm – Denny Musical Afternoon



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: crosswaysutton.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.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sarah, Alex & Staff

Crossways Companions

Lisa is inviting you to our next Crossways Companions get together on – Wednesday 3rd June at 3pm

Please let Lisa know if you can join her or email:

activities@crosswaysutton.co.uk

If you haven't received the invite by email, please let Lisa know so she can add you to the Crossways Companions group email

Summer Date for the Diary

Crossways Summer BBQ:

Saturday August 15th from 12pm – Surrey Jive will be joining us at 12:30pm