



FOREST CARE

CARING SINCE 1981

# Newsletter

Winter 2024/25

Welcome to our latest newsletter packed with festive cheer, remarkable achievements and heartwarming activities, events and celebrations from across our Forest Care homes.

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# Activities & Events at Cedar Lodge



Christmas arts & crafts, an evening drive to visit local Christmas lights and decorating one of our trees!



On International Mens Day, our Holly Lodge & Cedar Lodge gentlemen shared an afternoon tea together.



An outdoor Christmas market experience with crafts, tombola, mince pies, delicious Bratwurst hot dogs and mulled wine, followed by a 'Countdown to Christmas' musical performance from Mini Concerts.



# Activities & Events at Cedar Lodge

Brian & John visit Steve at Frimley Park Hospital Radio for a studio tour!



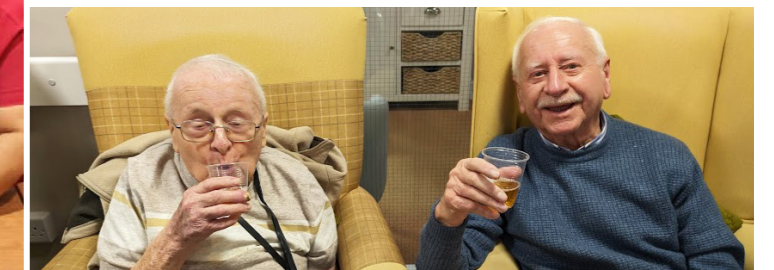
Trips out to nearby Longacres Garden Centre to look at all of their wonderful Christmas decorations.



Parlour games and New Year's Eve celebrations!



Celebrating National Mocktail Week, baking Jammie Dodgers and a visit from Mel at the Hogs Back Brewery with beer tasting!





## Activities & Events at Holly Lodge



Our Holly Jolly Christmas Fete was a great success turning our home into a winter wonderland with festive gift stalls, Santa's Grotto, Rudolph's big red raffle, Ying's homemade dips and a musical 'Countdown to Christmas' show from Mini Concerts!



Christmas Day at Holly Lodge, decorating our Christmas tree, and a wonderful brass band perform Christmas carols!



Santa's Grotto photoshoot and clay sculpting a friendship circle!



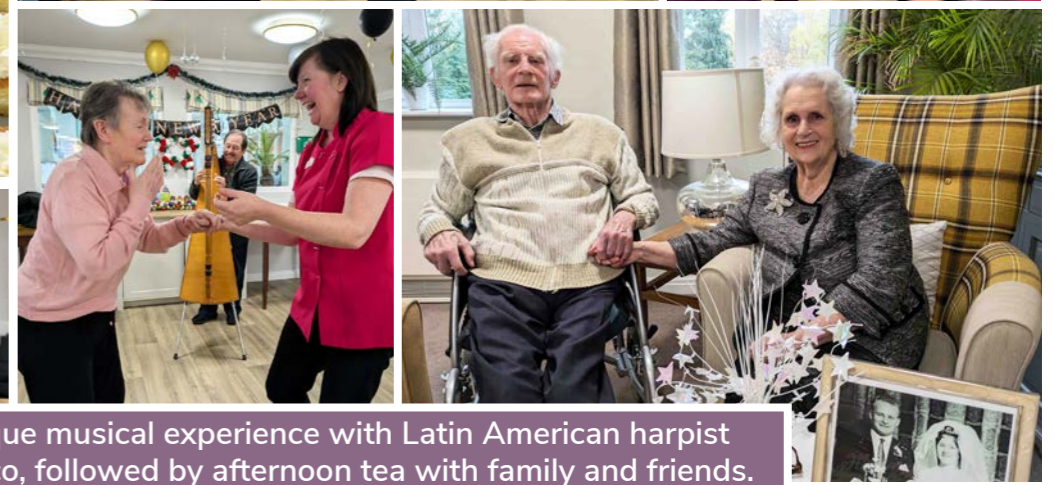
## Activities & Events at Holly Lodge



Garden walks and making dog biscuits for our furry friends!



Celebrating Elvis Presley's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday!



A unique musical experience with Latin American harpist Francisco, followed by afternoon tea with family and friends. Kenneth and his wife celebrate their 64<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary!



Knitting, flower arranging, baking a yule log and making bird feeders from orange halves and seeds for our garden!





## Activities & Events at Oak Lodge



A delicious festive lunch and get together and a fabulous performance from the Royal British Legion Band and our Oak Choir!



A special visit from Oakley Junior School and 'Elf your Boss' day!



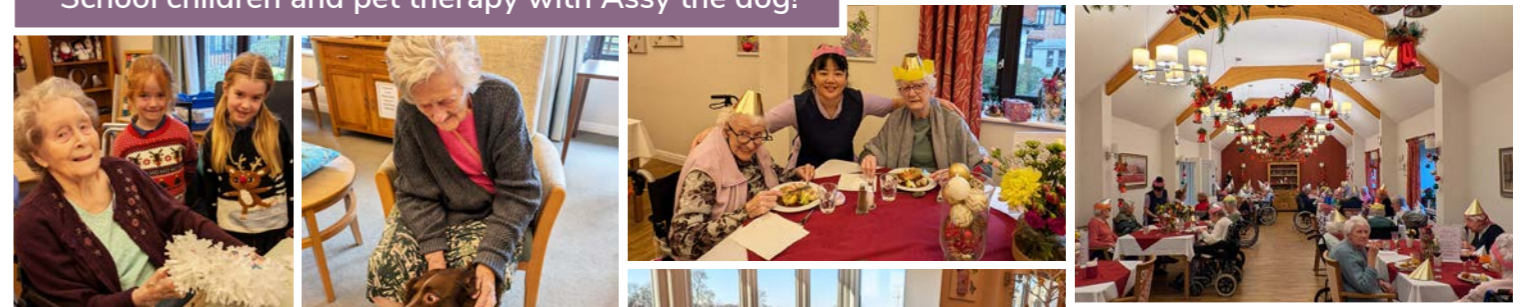
Gifts from Santa and a delicious festive buffet!



## Activities & Events at Oak Lodge



'Let's Sing' at Milestones Museum, a visit from Cheam School children and pet therapy with Assy the dog!



A catch-up with friends, a lovely meal to celebrate New Year's Day, and baking coconut truffle snowmen!



A Little Red Riding Hood Panto, a donation of toys to Spotlight UK's Christmas Toy Appeal and creating drawstring bags in Sewing Club.



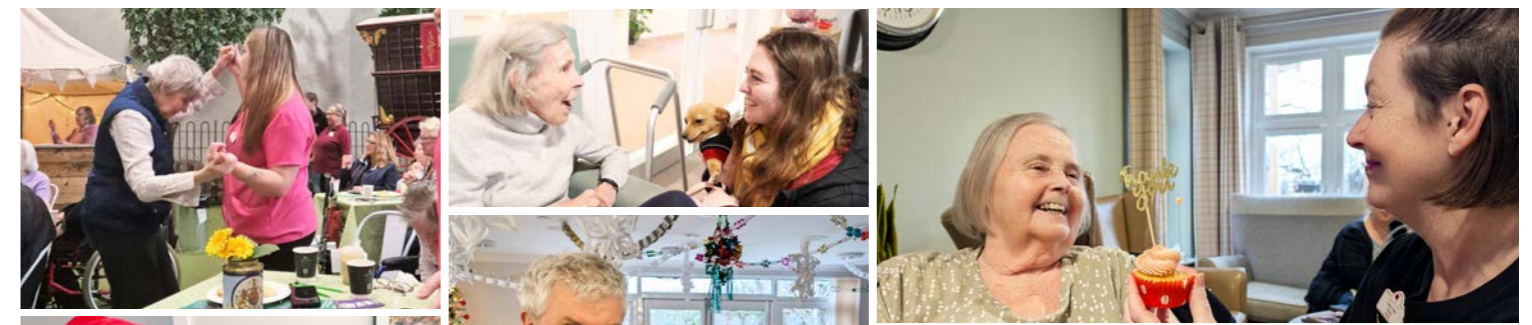
Celebrating Oak Lodge's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary with bubbly, cake and a performance from The Cambillies!



## Activities & Events at Rowan Lodge



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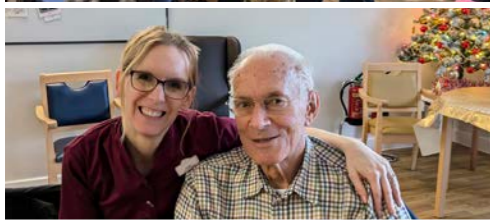
## Activities & Events at Elm Lodge



A trip out to Longacres and a talented local pianist plays for us!



Residents, staff and bakers across our homes came together at Forest Care's Christmas Cake Competition, held at Elm Lodge. A big thank you to all the bakers for your wonderful cakes and congratulations to Cedar Lodge who won the competition!



A 'Lets Sing' event at Milestones Museum.



Live music from Lucy, a trip out to the Museum of Berkshire Aviation and Mercedes Benz World.



## Staff News & Celebrations

Years of Service Awards at Holly Lodge and Rowan Lodge. We value our long-serving employees and celebrate their dedication to our care homes every year.



Jayne Marie at Head Office celebrates 5 years of service!



Happy Retirement to Alan and Philippa at Rowan Lodge!



A huge congratulations to Wendy Watmore who won the 'Lifetime Achievement Award', Terri Eakins who won the 'Leadership Award', Shelley Jouhning who received a 'Highly Commended' for the 'Rising Star Award' and Jacqui Vickery who received a 'Highly Commended' for the 'Unsung Hero Award' at the recent NAPA Activity Awards! We are so proud of you all!







9.6

## Chicken Caesar Crostini

Recipe from Chef Niranjan at Elm Lodge

### Ingredients:

1 baguette, 1 chicken breast (cooked and thinly sliced), romaine or cos lettuce (tear into small pieces), grated parmesan cheese, caesar dressing, olive oil, salt & pepper.

### Method:

1. Cut the baguette into even slices and brush both sides with olive oil.
2. Bake in the oven (175°C) for 4 minutes, flip them over and then bake for another 4 minutes until crisp. Remove from the oven and cool for 2 minutes.
3. Once cooled, top the crostinis with the torn lettuce, chicken, caesar dressing, grated parmesan cheese and salt & pepper to taste.



Forest Care Honey - created in our very own gardens and it tastes delicious!  
Available at Cedar, Holly, Oak and Rowan

Group review score on Carehome.co.uk

"You all work so hard at Cedar Lodge and do it with a smile and always have time to answer any questions or advise for family members, we as a family were so lost at the beginning of the care home journey but you've shown me personally that we took the right decision to put my mum into your care, for that I thank you so very much."

"I have enjoyed my time at Elm Lodge, the staff have been kind and always helpful. The food was lovely. I would recommend anyone to stay here."

"We wanted to make you aware of our profound gratitude for the care, kindness and respect all the staff showed mum as her dementia progressed. In the final hours of her life, the staff could not have been more professional...While it took her a little while to settle in, in all the photos we have of her at Holly Lodge she is smiling and happy which is a great comfort."

"I cannot speak highly enough of the love, care, patience and personal attention which she received during her stay. Oak Lodge itself is a home of the highest quality, very well kept, set in beautiful surroundings, offering a quality of care and kindness which is embedded in all staff, at all levels, from the top down."

"Our first impression of the home when we went to visit was how friendly the staff were, cleanliness and how well-maintained it was inside and out and had no concerns about Mum going in there... and the level of care she has experienced has been exceptional. It is extremely well-staffed, and nothing is too much trouble. On my many visits to see mum, I have only witnessed a high level of care and attention to all the residents. Thank you, Rowan Lodge, for looking after/caring for Mum."

## Some of our Upcoming Events:

- 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> Feb: Saxophonist at Oak & Holly
- 9<sup>th</sup> Mar: 'Crufts' Dog Show at Cedar
- 19<sup>th</sup> Mar: Tea Party & Ukuleles at Rowan
- 26<sup>th</sup> Mar: Aviation Talk at Elm

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