



Russettings

Residential Care Home Newsletter

MARCH AT RUSSETTINGS

Spring has sprung at Russettings!

As we look forward to longer days, with more sunshine and the arrival of Blossom and spring flowers.

With this in mind, our visit this month was to the British Garden centre, which was a great success! We managed two trips to the centre, enabling us to take eight residents out in the day. Some family members were able to meet us at the garden centre and enjoyed refreshments and a little shopping as well. For some of us, the art of shopping has been forgotten. For others it was like 'Super Market Sweep'!

We took the opportunity to buy bedding plants and seeds with a prize voucher Russettings won for an Autumnal door wreath design.

Within a week, we had a special Spring Garden planting afternoon, with all the memories and expertise of gardening in residents' former homes. This gave some much needed colour for our patio area. We continued the theme with flower arranging, which took place in individual residents' rooms and the lounge area. Lovely floral displays decorated the home.





ST. PATRICK'S DAY

In preparation for our themed lunches for April, the residents created arts and crafts for the St Patrick's Day celebrations. Shamrocks adorned the tables and pots of gold decorated the walls. Fun leprechauns with the residents faces, hung up as garlands in the centre of the dining room. Residents, family and friends, enjoyed the ambiance, with modern Irish music in the background. In the afternoon, we were treated to a performance by Roxy of Irish songs and popular hits of the 50's and 60's.



PET THERAPY

To usher in the season of Spring, we were joined by a delightful guest named Bloom, a playful and tender five-week-old lamb from Pet Therapy. Alongside Bloom, we had a lively group of Malaysian chicks who brought their mischievous antics to our gathering. These feathery friends hopped and perched on the shoulders and laps of our residents, spreading joy with their playful nature. The residents were thrilled as they stroked the soft feathers of the Malaysian chicks and showered them with affection. Additionally, Blossom the lamb made her way to individual rooms, bringing delight to everyone with her adorable presence. It was a heartwarming and memorable occasion with our special guests from Pet Therapy.





SPECIAL GUESTS

The talented children of Balcombe Primary School visited us and treated us to a special performance of the Gingerbread Man, complete with a delightful twist ending! The children created their own stage outfits and props! They entertained us by acting, singing and dancing. After their performance, the children enjoyed some refreshments and mingled with some of the residents. We are very much looking forward to seeing the Balcombe Primary school again in the Summer for a new production.

EASTER SERVICE

We were also fortunate to welcome Balcombe St Mary's Church for an early Easter service led by Rev. David King. The service was filled with beloved hymns, a homily, and heartfelt prayers. The service was followed by an afternoon tea for all with lovely conversations by fellow villagers and our residents... some of whom knew each other from living in Balcombe in the past! Rev David shared plans to restart the Dementia Cafes and Men in sheds clubs in he's parish and will let us know when they start and will kindly invite our residents to join the groups. This will be a great way for Russettings to create further outreach in the community!



MOTHERING DAY

Mothering Sunday celebrations took place with invitations to family and friends to join the Special lunch or afternoon tea, with their loved one. Our chef created Spring cupcakes in bright colours as part of the afternoon tea. The dining room had a centre piece of a Memory Tree, with messages to residents Mothers.



BIRTHDAYS

Russettings was filled with joyous birthday celebrations throughout the month, as our residents shared special moments with their beloved family and friends. To mark each occasion in style, every birthday was complete with a delicious cake!



WHAT'S TO COME

Russettings is looking forward to visiting a variety of venues more frequently. We look forward to seeing family and friends on occasion and our bi-monthly Specialty luncheons and afternoon teas! Forth coming attractions for April are:

6th April - Spring musical performance by Andy fresh from the cruise ships.

8th April - Special Easter lunch and afternoon tea with invitations to family and friends.

20th April - the Residents and Relatives Meeting in the conservatory at 4pm.

7th April - Good Friday celebrations making a Seminal cake and the creation of the Garden of Gethsemane.

10th April - Easter egg 'hunt' via games of Bingo!

22nd April - sees our second invitation Lunch to celebrate St Georges Day.

27th April - Marco the Magician visits.