

Home Matters



The newsletter for The Royal Cambridge Home

*A great place to live, work and visit...
Celebrating inclusiveness in all that we do*



Sleigh bells ring at No. 84! The December 2024 Issue



Head Christmas Elves Gay & Tina

Welcome

Welcome folks to our December 2024 issue of Home Matters and more importantly, our very first Christmas in No. 84!!! What a milestone event.

In true Royal Cambridge spirit, we have already started decorating our beautiful home, however, it has taken a trip to the garden centre to purchase a few more Christmas trees, as we have so much more space to place festive decorations!

Thanks to Gay and Tina for their work so far. Apparently, there is more to go up, but this will be a group task with residents and staff during the first week of December. Ooh how exciting...we can already hear the sound of a cracker being pulled.

There are even two elves who keep hiding in the reception area – see if you can spot them.



A brief look back



What a wonderful November we had. We enjoyed another fantastic trip to The Royal Albert Hall to watch the matinee performance of The Festival of Remembrance. Our thanks as ever to the lovely team of organisers there. Each year, they very generously give The Royal Cambridge our own box, so we can take 12 residents and staff along!

In November we introduced weekly “Competition Time” for residents and staff. It’s been a huge success and if you happen to venture to the first floor area during one of these sessions, you will more than likely encounter whoops of joy and the occasional shout out of “you cheat”. The long hallway was turned into a bowling alley can you believe!



John & Pat depart for The Albert Hall



Edna at 103

Our eldest resident Edna, celebrated her 103 birthday. We think you will all agree she is looking utterly fabulous!

Our last memorable date in the November diary was our annual Stirring The Christmas Pudding. It's tradition here for Alain, our chef, to prepare the Christmas Pudding (no holding back on that sherry) and every resident, staff member and guests have a stir and a wish. The event was a huge success and our thanks this year to our Guest of Honour Sir Jeremy McKenzie for opening the first ever Stirring in No. 84. Thank you also to all our guests who arrived to make it a very special morning.

We had another successful evening at Magical Molesey. Each year Gay organises The Royal Cambridge stand at this very popular event. She was joined by Rory and Tina plus her good friend Gill. Thanks also for Shane for staying on and driving the contents of the stand and team in the minibus. They raised a whopping £420 for the residents entertainment fund. Simply amazing!

New residents

Since moving in we are delighted to welcome to the home the following new residents:

- Merrill
- Bob
- Frances
- Jill
- Myra
- Peter T



Jenny, Joyce & Janet at The Albert Hall

A huge Royal Cambridge welcome to you all. Hope you enjoy home life with us and what a fantastic time to move in.

Building and home update

Now that we are becoming more settled and familiar in the home and as we become closer to full occupancy could we please ask everyone to observe the following:

- We welcome all visitors but if we could please ask that small children and pets are supervised when visiting.
- When entering and leaving the building please do not let others in unless there is a member of staff to greet them and sign them in. Also please do not let others out of the building.
- Please could you be patient when visiting or telephoning out of hours, i.e. before 8am or after 5pm Monday to Fridays and weekends. When visiting out of hours there is also a large grey button next to the entry call system at the front entrance. This is part of our call aid system and if you press this out of hours the bell will sound throughout the building and a member of staff will arrive to let you in.

Thank you everyone for your assistance on this. If you have any suggestions or ideas we would very much like to hear from you.

As mentioned last month a professional photographer came in and took some beautiful shots of No. 84, which will be used for various marketing materials. We just love the photo below of our rather special back garden. With all our lounges looking onto this it can be enjoyed all year round. Special thanks to Seton our gardener and his amazing team from Garden Rescue. Next time you happen to be in the back garden do walk along the path to the side towards the back of the garden and you will see a beautiful new olive tree that has been planted. It's quite a few years old and a lovely addition.



For all our residents, relatives and friends, please have a think about doing a review for us. It is a little like Trip Advisor for the care sector and the more reviews we receive go towards an unofficial overall rating score. It is a good platform to leave feedback [carehome.co.uk - reviews](https://www.carehome.co.uk/reviews) From there click on "Submit a Review" and you will be able to review us. We also have prepaid review cards on the reception desk if you prefer not to use an online platform.

If you have done one previously they do expire after a couple of years, so again, we would really appreciate a new one. Thanks everyone.

Website & Marketing

We will be launching our brand new website during the first week of December. Please do check it out when you have a moment: www.royalcambridgehome.org

We have recently taken out advertisements in Your Elmbridge for the December and January issue, plus also in Kingston Guide, Hampton Guide and Walton Guide for early next year.



New entertainer Becky

Please do help yourselves to leaflets from some of our display stands, dotted around the building, in particular the small lounge area in the foyer.

Condolences

We are sad to report the passing of two of our dear friends and also residents of The Royal Cambridge - Renee and Gisele. Both will be hugely missed here at The Royal Cambridge as they were here for a number of years and very much loved by all of us. We send our love and thoughts to the families of both. RIP Renee and RIP Gisele.



Saying goodbye to our Sandra at her retirement leaving presentation

What's coming up?

What can we say! We have some marvellous things coming up in December, talk about a festive bumper diary. Below are just some of the highlights you might want to make a note of and please do refer to the main diary at the back. Don't forget we have a new chiropodist starting on Saturday 21st December.

Also an invite for all relatives and friends that we will be hosting a small Christmas Party on Monday 23rd December, kicking off with a mince pie and a glass of sherry at 10.30am. Get here early as the musical entertainment commences at 11.00am, with our fantastic professional singer Liam. For all those that have not heard him play, then you will be in for an absolute treat. Enjoy.

- **Residents' Meeting** – Thursday 5th at 11.00am in Main Lounge
- **Tony, the accordion player** – Monday 9th December at 2.00pm in Main Lounge
- **ELF DAY !!!** – Tuesday 10th December (look out for staff dressed as elves - you can't miss us)
- **Brooklands Trip** – Wednesday 11th December departing by minibus mid morning
- **Zoolab Visit** – Thursday 12th December at 11.00am in Main Lounge
- **Hampton Court – Watching the ice skaters** – Monday 16th December – depart late morning
- **Christmas visit from Sunshine Nursery** – Tuesday 17th December at 3.30pm
- **Christmas Lunch out** – Wednesday 18th December – depart late morning
- **Hugo, the chiropodist** – Saturday 21st December
- **Christmas Party with Liam, singer** – Monday 23rd December at 10.30am in Main Lounge
- **Gay's Christmas Carol Concert** – Tuesday 24th December at 11.00am in Main Lounge





Help Wanted

By Timothy Tocher

Santa needs new reindeer.
The first bunch has grown old.
Dasher has arthritis;
Comet hates the cold.
Prancer's sick of staring
at Dancer's big behind.
Cupid married Blitzen
and Donder lost his mind.
Dancer's mad at Vixen
for stepping on his toes.
Vixen's being thrown out—
she laughed at Rudolph's nose.
If you are a reindeer
We hope you will apply
there is just one tricky part:
You must know how to fly!

Social Media

Follow us on Instagram for all the latest photos and news as well as our website www.royalcambridgehome.org

Useful Telephone Contacts

We are a proud equal opportunities employer and Living Wage Employer. We value and respect every single member of our team and equally we expect that in return. Thank you.

Welcoming everyone, regardless of disability, pregnancy, age, sex, gender reassignment, marital status, race, sexual orientation or religion

LGBTQ+ (Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals, Transgender, Queer (or sometimes questioning) and others) **Switchboard** – 0300 330 0630

Citizens Advice Bureau – 01932 248660

Alzheimer's Society – 01372 729988

Safeguarding Advisor – 07968 834157

Mental Health Services – 01372 203400

A more extensive list of our local advocacy services is in the hallway and main office should you need them.

A Savior is Born!

G M C I L W T F M S M O F O S A I T H P
 B O N Q Y Q I V P X Y V N J N U O P P Y
 H F L O J D D N U F R F H L D L E M A C
 F O V D S O H Q I S R E X V L S M B U U
 F V S P C I A J D A H M X Y O A L S S X
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 U M G H J E H K H G W I A V I E T S E A
 P M G Z K Z I C T F O Q Q O E V E G D C
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 B N Y H C V E R G U H E H Q C C U T D V
 F U M E S Z L T E J E O X M L G S T Y I
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 M A R Y Q W G M H F J Q G F H M G R M G
 G I A A N G E L P P H M O X B K K X R T



Festive food Questions

1. What much-reviled Christmas edible is known for its long shelf life?
2. What is 'Smoking Bishop'?
3. What were mince pies made with, in Victorian times?
4. What fruit is usually placed in stockings?
5. In which direction should you stir mincemeat for good luck; clockwise or anti-clockwise?
6. True or false; before turkey, the traditional English Christmas dinner included a pig's head smothered in mustard.



Christmas trivia Questions

1. What did the other reindeer not let Rudolph do because of his shiny red nose?
2. Per a recent holiday fad, what "spy" hides around the house, reporting back to Santa on who has been naughty and nice?
3. How many reindeer are featured in the poem "Twas the Night Before Christmas?"
4. What beverage company has been using Santa Claus in its advertising since 1931?
5. When does the Russian Orthodox Church celebrate Christmas?
6. What are you supposed to do when you find yourself under the mistletoe?



Answers to above (don't even think about cheating.....!!!!!!)



Festive food Answers

1. Fruitcake
2. A sort of mulled wine
3. Beef and spices
4. Tangerines
5. Clockwise
6. True

Christmas trivia Answers

1. Join in any reindeer games
2. The Elf on the Shelf
3. Eight (no Rudolph!)
4. Coca-Cola
5. January 7th – the Russian Orthodox Church uses the old 'Julian' calendar for religious celebration days. Only a few Catholics might celebrate it on the 25th of December.
6. Kiss – according to the well-known holiday tradition, it's bad luck to refuse a kiss beneath the mistletoe



Christmas 2024 Diary



December	Morning	Afternoon
Sunday 1		
Monday 2	One to Ones	2.00pm – Christmas Music
Tuesday 3	AM – Christmas decorations go up	2.00pm – Christmas decorations go up
Wednesday 4	AM – Christmas decorations go up	2.00pm – Dawn, G Fitness
Thursday 5	11.00am – Residents’ Meeting	2.00pm – Christmas Boogie
Friday 6	Grace, the hairdresser	
Saturday 7		
Sunday 8		
Monday 9	11.00am – Christmas Requests	2.00pm – Tony, the accordion player
Tuesday 10	ELF DAY	
Wednesday 11	Brooklands Trip	2.00pm – Dawn, G Fitness
Thursday 12	11.00am – Zoolab (Christmas Theme)	2.00pm – Christmas Music
Friday 13	Grace, the hairdresser	2.00pm – Residents’ Choice
Saturday 14		
Sunday 15		
Monday 16	11.00am – Hampton Court Trip	6.00pm – Molesey Brownies visiting
Tuesday 17	11.00am – Christmas Bingo	3.30pm – Visit from Sunshine Nursery
Wednesday 18	Christmas Lunch (depart late morning)	2.00pm – Dawn, G Fitness
Thursday 19	10.30am-12.00pm – St Paul’s Church	2.00pm – Liliana, the florist
Friday 20	Grace, the hairdresser	2.00pm – Residents’ Choice
Saturday 21	Hugo, the chiropodist	
Sunday 22		
Monday 23	10.30am – Christmas Party 11.00am – Liam the singer	2.00pm – Residents’ Choice
Tuesday 24	11.00am – Gay’s Christmas Carol Concert	2.00pm – Residents’ Choice
Christmas Day – Fun and festivities throughout the day		
Boxing Day		
Friday 27	Grace, the hairdresser	2.00pm – Residents’ Choice
Saturday 28		
Sunday 29		
Monday 30	11.00am – End of year Keep Fit	2.00pm – Residents’ Choice
Tuesday 31	11.00am – New Years Quiz	2.00pm – New Years Bingo

Please note, all activities may be subject to last minute changes and the great British weather. If you would like anything added or suggestions for forthcoming activities, please do let us know and we will see what we can do!



Happy Christmas!
Peace, love and good health to everyone.

