



News from No. 84

The newsletter for The Royal Cambridge Home

September 2024

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

Notes from the Chairman

Driving to the Home on one of my recent visits I found myself wondering why it was that I was feeling the same sensations as I had felt years ago when my wife and I were expecting the arrival of our first baby. The feelings of excitement at the prospect of an addition to the family mixed with the anxieties which naturally accompany the condition - are we following all the advice we are being given, are all our preparations enough and ready for the big day etc. etc.

And so, it has been with the development of the Home - except that a pregnancy normally lasts for nine months and this has been going on for eleven years. Along the way we have had times of great satisfaction seeing plans coming together only to be faced with the disappointments and anxieties of delays, planning difficulties, a world-wide pandemic and escalating costs.

And then the day arrives and the wait is over. The arrival of the baby is a uniquely joyful moment and all the worries experienced along the way are forgotten - for a while. But then comes the moment when the baby and the mother come home and reality stares you in the face. How do we cope with the responsibility of caring for this tiny human being? But we do cope one way and another and look back on the event as one of great satisfaction.

At the end of a lengthy and very warm meeting with development managers, contractors and consultants on Monday 12th August it was agreed that The Royal Cambridge Home at 84 Hurst Road was ready to be delivered to us - and so it was. It was that same moment when we realised that we now had the responsibility for looking after it. And that is where the similarities with the arrival of a baby disappear

"It" is a building however and what goes on within the building and its grounds are the important things and in that respect we know that our residents are in the care of our wonderful staff. For many years we have been delivering residential care in buildings which were never designed for that purpose and the awkward layout with multiple staircases and narrow corridors made the work of the staff more difficult. We believe that the new building will prove to be a much easier and more pleasant environment in which to continue to give care and support for our residents.

Many of the staff who have been with us for a long time have said how they have great affection for the old buildings and will be sorry to witness the demolition of No. 82 taking place in the course of the next few days. It marks the end of one era and the start of a new chapter in the life of The Royal Cambridge Home in premises fit for delivery of the service of which we are justifiably proud.

Thank you all for your help and support.

Robert Dowler MBE
Chairman



A word from Rory, General Manager

We have arrived!

Back in 2015, when I first received details of the role to become the Registered Manager of the Royal Cambridge Home, I was made aware that the intention of the Chairman and Trustees was to create a brand-new, purpose-built Royal Cambridge Home to give the residents new accommodation to live in, in the 21st century.

Fast forward 9+ years and despite an initial planning refusal, pandemic and a myriad of other obstacles, we have just arrived in our newly built care home, next door at 84 Hurst Road. Thanks to Sheppard Trust and Red Construction for our beautiful new care home.

A heartfelt thank you and appreciation from me to our Chairman, Robert Dowler, who has persevered, been steadfast and determined to bring this project to fruition and to all the Directors who have been instrumental in the new care home's development.

Also, to all the staff involved in the project and who have facilitated the move. The move day itself went extremely smoothly and all the residents had transferred across by late morning.

We are now taking time to settle into our new home, so please do bear with us, as for staff it is like starting a new job! Please do let us know if there is anything that needs attending to and we will do our best to resolve it as soon as we can.

Here's to the next chapter of the Royal Cambridge Home!

Rory Belfield Dip. Couns, MA
Royal Cambridge Home General Manager



Gay, Tina & Luca make the move in style



We thought it most apt that Audrey be the first to move over as she has been at The Royal Cambridge the longest – looking great with daughter Janet

Welcome folks!

Thank you to both Robert our Chairman and Rory our General Manager on some lovely opening lines and welcome everyone to our rather smart new home of No. 84. We think you will all agree it has been worth the wait !

Looking back at August behind the scenes staff were busy packing and preparing for the move over. Our thanks to Gay and Tina on the activities team who organised a couple of fabulous days out before the move in order that we were all entertained and out of the way of our team of professional removals; thanks to Goddard's Removals from Brentford who quite frankly, could not have done any more for us and ensured the whole operation went without a hitch! Thank you to Alain and team in the Kitchen for keeping the removal team's strength up with some well-deserved bacon sarnies.

We visited Brooklands Museum for a very enjoyable day out and lunch. Our other pre-move day out was another successful trip to Hampton Court Palace and gardens and of course, need we say, lunch out.

As Rory mentioned earlier, the move day was extremely successful and we would just like to add what a happy day it was. The sun shone and smiles were aplenty. We can only describe it as a joyous occasion and quite fitting after all the many years of behind the scenes work to get us to this historical point in time. We have selected some lovely photos from the morning in this our first issue at No. 84.



A positive "thumbs up" from John with his son Rory



Janet, with son Rupert

Resident Birthdays

Happy birthday to the following ladies. (Janet B will the first resident to celebrate her day in our new building.)

23rd – Janet B
27th – Pat S
30th – Gisele

Maintenance

Huge thanks to Shane in our maintenance department, who has literally gone above and beyond. He has, as you can appreciate been very much in demand. We are aware there are still shelves and pictures that need to go up on walls. We are bringing in extra help to assist Shane but, in the meantime, please do bear with us. We will get round to everybody.



Our Melissa, welcomes residents and guests to our smart new abode.

Snagging List

As with any new builds there are things that need attending to. If you see anything that requires looking at or you think does not look right, please report them to the main office. Red Contractors, our builders, are next door on site and will organise repairs for us.

What's coming up...

Please do check the main diary at the back of the newsletter. Key highlights to mark are as follows:

- **Liam, professional singer** – Tuesday 10th September – Main Lounge
- **Tony, professional accordion player** – Thursday 19th September – Main Lounge
- **Stella, chiropodist** – Monday 23rd September – All day

Linnies Fashions

Back by popular demand is Linnies Fashions, who will be coming into the Library on **Tuesday 8th October at 2.00pm**. We realise this is not until next month but we wanted to give you all plenty of notice. They will be showcasing their Autumn Wear.

Window Cleaners

Please be aware that on Thursday 19th September SP Cleaning will be over during the morning to clean all of the windows. This will include all of outside first and then the inside. They have been asked not to commence the inside clean until after 10am, by which time, we will all hopefully be up. Thank you everyone.

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.

Moving in Day – Weds 21 Aug 2024

OK folks, just some of the joyous photos from the day we all moved in...oh what wonderful memories.



Eileen, with niece Jenni and great niece Yasmin



Patricia with sons Roger & Gary



Janet, with son Peter and daughter in law



Joyce, with son Michael and daughter in law Mandy



Beryl with daughter Natalie



Gisele with good friends Adrian and Michelle



Hilkka with Ewa and Maggie



Peter with son John and daughter Sue



Pat with daughter Carol and son in law Ronnie



Stella with son Stuart



Mary with Vidya and Maureen



Leaving No. 82 behind, our first resident to No. 84 arrives. Audrey with Vicky, Janet, Jenny & Rory.

September 2024 Diary

September	Morning	Afternoon
Sunday 1		
Monday 2	11.00am – Keep Fit	2.00pm – One-to-Ones
Tuesday 3	11.00am – Word Game	2.00pm – Puzzles
Wednesday 4	11.00am – Bingo	2.00pm – Dawn, G Fitness
Thursday 5	11.00am – Residents' Choice	2.00pm – Baking
Friday 6	Grace, the hairdresser	2.00pm – Residents' Choice
Saturday 7		
Sunday 8		
Monday 9	11.00am – Keep Fit	2.00pm – Residents' Choice
Tuesday 10	11.00am – Liam, Singer	2.00pm – Quiz
Wednesday 11	11.00am – Hampton Court Visit	2.00pm – Dawn, G Fitness
Thursday 12	Visiting Dentist will be here	2.00pm – Games
Friday 13	Grace, the hairdresser	
Saturday 14		
Sunday 15		
Monday 16	11.00am – Photo Shot Morning	2.00pm – Flower Crafting
Tuesday 17	11.00am - Bingo	2.00pm – Residents' Choice
Wednesday 18	11.00am – Keep Fit	2.00pm – Dawn, G Fitness
Thursday 19	11.00am – Baking	2.00pm – Tony, the Accordion Player
Friday 20	Grace, the hairdresser	2.00pm – Residents' Choice
Saturday 21		
Sunday 22		
Monday 23	Stella, the chiropodist	2.00pm – Residents' Choice
Tuesday 24	11.00am – Knitting Club	2.00pm – Poetry
Wednesday 25	11.00am - Games	2.00pm – Dawn, G Fitness
Thursday 26	11.00am – Bingo	2.00pm – One-to-Ones
Friday 27	Grace, the hairdresser	2.00pm – Residents' Choice
Saturday 28		
Sunday 29		
Monday 30	11.00am – Keep Fit	2.00pm – Residents' Choice

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!