

AveryTalk



Hello everyone, welcome to the August edition of our newsletter, Avery Talk. It's been a busy month of fundraising for all of us at Avery. Our homes and Group Support Centre have made a fantastic effort in getting involved in The Care Workers' Charity's 'Going the Extra Mile' week; we are still totting up the total amount raised, which we will reveal in next month's issue. Well done all.

As we approach a new definition of 'freedom', there have been several changes to operating, and I appreciate the frustration the pandemic continues to have on us all. I know many of you are desperate to return to normality, but we must all continue to take care of one another. More details of how we are staying safe whilst continuing to reunite residents with their loved ones can be found on our Covid Response Page at averyhealthcare.co.uk.

As we begin to open up again, it's terrific to see so many new staff enquirers interested in joining the Avery team. Don't forget to get in touch, reach out and provide them with our warm Avery welcome so we can join more staff to our Avery family, which will help our growth. I would once again like to thank you all for your continued patience and support. And a reminder of our Refer a Friend scheme where you can receive a cash bonus for referring a successful applicant. For more information, please speak to your Home Manager.

A FIRST FOR Wolverhampton

At the beginning of the month, Newcross was gifted a trophy from Black Country and West Birmingham CCG for being the first home within the county to implement FREED training successfully. FREED training upskills all senior staff in vital signs training. It shortens the time paramedics and GPs spend in the home arranging the appropriate care needed, such as admission into hospital. The strategy works alongside the new Docobo system, which sends automatic updates to GP surgeries and flags high-risk residents.

For the past year, Newcross Home Manager, Jenna Hughes, has worked closely with Sarah Sherwood, Quality Improvement Nurse Lead at Black Country and West Birmingham CCG, building a solid relationship since carrying out the implementation training. Jenna, elated with the achievement, commented, "I would like to say a big thank you to Sarah for all your support and training this past year."



A SUPER TROUPER PERFORMANCE



Performing for one night and one night only at Bourn View was the famous 1974 Eurovision winners, ABBA. The quartet, made up of residents Carol, Florence and John, and Well-being Assistant James, paid tribute to one of the best-selling pop music groups in history by singing and dancing to all of ABBA's greatest hits and *Mamma Mia*, what a show they put on!

The performance led fellow residents to jump out of their chairs and boogie like *Dancing Queens*. The tribute act was overwhelmed by how much their audience were entertained and left them wanting to *Gimme! Gimme! Gimme!* more songs from the group.

EVERY GOES THE EXTRA MILE



5th - 11th July marked the Care Workers' Charity 'Going the Extra Mile' initiative. And what a week it was. Across our homes, we saw many fantastic fundraising ideas, from sponsored cycles to car washing; staff and residents really got their creative juices flowing and had a blast raising money for a worthy cause, which has been a close connection to Avery for many years now.

Knowle Gate and Acer House got in the spirit by hosting their own sports days. Activities included an egg and spoon race, sack race, and even some hula hooping! The team at Glenmoor went 'the extra mile' by hopping on their bikes and cycling 100 miles between them. By the end of the week, staff had managed to surpass their target and reached an impressive 136 miles in total. Resident Anne at Silvermere decided to take charge for the week and organise a sponsored walk for all at the home to get involved in. Donning their best outdoor wear, staff and residents took to the gardens to complete their laps with a big smile on their faces along the way.

At Newcross, the team grabbed buckets and sponges to host their very own car wash. Staff member, Paul, commented, "Big shout out to our Maintenance Operative Ian - 'The Jet' - Bennett today. Incredible effort." Royal Ascot arrived at Avon Valley as staff dressed in hilarious inflatable animal costumes and raced around the home.

On Friday 9th July, homes were invited to host garden parties for staff and bubbles of residents to celebrate their fundraising efforts. Across the business, we were delighted to see so many of you come together for such a worthy cause, and we look forward to the next Big Event Day.



That's Entertainment

With government lockdown restrictions easing, and the beautiful sunny weather we have had throughout July, several of our homes jumped at the opportunity to welcome back live entertainers. For many, it was the first time in 18 months they were able to invite singers back into their gardens, and it is fair to say our residents have undoubtedly missed them.

Dukes Court hosted resident favourites the Nice 'N' Easy men to perform a classic Rat Pack repertoire at their garden party. New resident Janet enjoyed them so much that she requested for the duo to return for her 90th birthday party in September.

She quoted, "I would love for them to come and sing for my birthday.

They can sing me some Glenn Miller."

Pianist Richard Sully visited Merlin Court to perform various popular songs, including 'Sweet Caroline' and 'Can't Help Falling in Love'. Sharing his visit on Facebook, Richard commented, "Lovely to be back at my dad's former care home, Merlin Court. Flattered to be the first entertainer to be asked back and was lovely seeing you all again!"

BONNE FÊTE NATIONALE!



La Fête Nationale, or the more commonly known Bastille Day, is celebrated on 14th July to mark the anniversary of the storming of Bastille - a military fortress and prison that helped usher in the French Revolution in 1789.

While it is typically a holiday celebrated in France, several of our homes saw this as the perfect excuse to embrace 'la culture Française'.

Staff members at Poets Mews got into the full spirit as they dressed as French mime artists, donning white and black striped t-shirts and, of course, an exaggerated handlebar moustache. Residents joined in with the fun as they were given white facemasks with painted on moustaches to wear. Also diving into French culture was Aran Court, who spent the day tasting traditional French foods. The residents drank red and white wine accompanied with a choice of fresh pain au chocolat or croissants with jam.



Snap-happy Yvette Takes the Crown

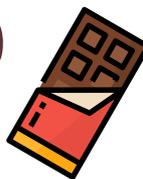


Throughout June, staff were invited to capture a photograph of residents for our exciting new brand refresh with an overall winner for the best shot. Out of the many fantastic entries we received, resident Yvette at Pemberley House graced the winning snap!

Well-being Co-ordinator at Pemberley House, Kirsty Sagar, captured the stunning photograph of Yvette whilst the pair were out in the sunny garden at the home. Both Kirsty and Yvette were gifted chocolates and flowers for their achievement and were delighted to be selected as the winners out of a collection of excellent photography. Kirsty said, "Thank you so much for our lovely gifts." The winning image was shared to Pemberley House's Facebook to the delight of the relatives, with one commenting, "Well done, it is a lovely photo!"

Thank you to all homes who got involved in the photography competition, we enjoyed seeing all your lovely pictures, and we now have a whole new album of fresh and exciting content to use in the future.

IT'S BEAN WORLD CHOCOLATE DAY!



World Chocolate Day or International Chocolate Day as it's sometimes known, occurs globally on the 7th July. It is an annual celebration of chocolate and thought to commemorate the introduction of the sweet treat into Europe in 1550.

Residents at Ashurst Mews, Elvy Court and Merlin Court needed no excuse to tuck in to one of the countries most loved confectionery, marking the occasion with some mouthwatering chocolate tasting. Whilst some residents nibbled on solid chunks, discussing the textures and flavours, others dipped delicious strawberries, bananas and marshmallows into a flowing chocolate fountain.

Aran Court decided to combine Chocolate Day with Strawberry Sundae Day, their residents enjoyed strawberry and chocolate sundaes piped with cream, and topped off with sauce and a flake.

Droitwich Mews turned their bistro area into a 'Chocolate Heaven' for everyone to enjoy. Staff and residents alike were given a 'golden ticket' as they entered the bistro through a purple curtain, which they could exchange for a chocolate bar of their choice. They ended the day by watching the 1971 version of 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' starring Gene Wilder, in the cinema.

In true 'Willy Wonka style, Knowle Gate had their very own 'Oompa-Loompas' giving out a variety of chocolate treats from a fabulous tempting trolley!



Celebrate Good Times: Milestones at Avery



Barbara
Derby Heights

108 on 16th July



Meg
Acacia Lodge

100 on 22nd July



Maisie
Avalon Court

100 on 27th July



Brian & Shirley
Avon Valley

61st Anniversary on 16th July

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

AUGUST
BARBECUE
BEACH
BEES
BICYCLE
BLUE SKY
BREEZE
FISHING
GARDENING
GOLF
GREEN GRASS
HOLIDAYS
HOT
ICE CREAM
JULY
PICNIC
SANDALS
SUNTAN

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