

Magic Life

World Autism Acceptance Month

Walk 5K, raise awareness, build a more inclusive world.

VE Day 80th Anniversary

Honouring history with street parties, poppies, and community spirit!

Spring in Full Bloom

Gardening, sunshine, and sweet memories across our homes.

You Said, We Did

Real feedback, real change—how your voice shapes Magic Life

The Joy of Baking

Bake, Snap, and Share Your Cakes!

At Magic Life, we love the joy that baking cakes brings to our homes. Whether you're an experienced baker or trying it for the first time, we invite all residents and staff to get creative in the kitchen! Bake your favourite cake, snap a photo of your tasty creation, and send it to us—we'd love to feature your baking skills in the Magic Life Magazine.

To get you started, here's a quick, easy, and versatile sponge cake recipe:

Simple Sponge Cake Recipe

- 200g butter (softened)
- 200g caster sugar
- 200g self-raising flour
- 4 eggs
- 1 tsp baking powder 2 tbsp milk

Method:

Preheat your oven to 180°C (160°C fan)/Gas 4. Grease and line two 20cm cake tins.

- In a large bowl, cream butter and sugar together until fluffy.
- Add eggs one at a time, mixing well after each addition.
- Gently fold in flour and baking powder, then stir in milk.
- Divide the mixture between tins and bake for 20-25 minutes until golden brown.

Tip: To easily transform this basic cake, simply add grated orange or lemon zest to the batter for a delicious citrus twist!

We can't wait to see your fantastic cakes—happy baking!

"Bake It, Snap It, Share It!"



AUTHOR: JOE BERNARDES, EDITOR



MagicLife Head Office



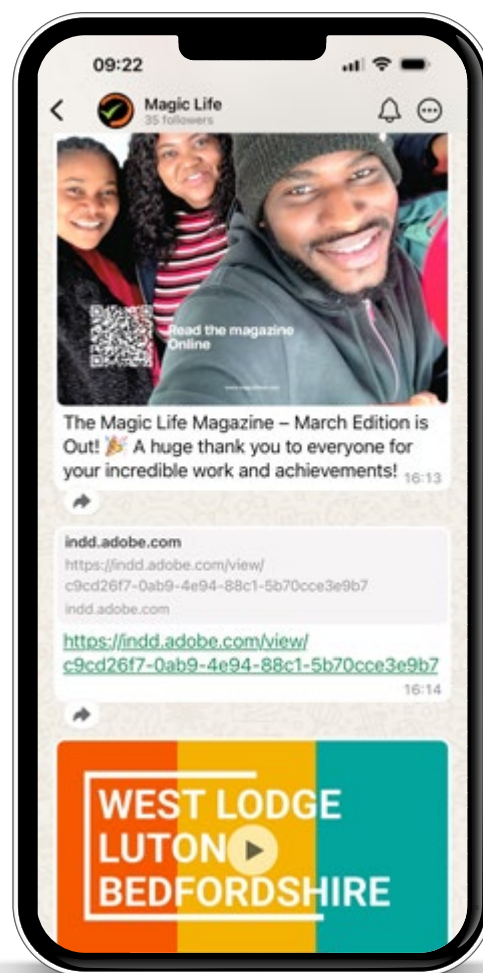
Are You Getting Our Messages?

Don't Miss Out!

Magic Life is moving from traditional texts to WhatsApp—making it easier than ever to stay connected!

With our new WhatsApp channel, you'll enjoy instant updates, richer content like images, videos, and audio messages, and quicker responses to your queries. WhatsApp ensures your messages are secure, private, and free—no more worrying about text limits or extra charges. Join us on WhatsApp to experience interactive chats, community announcements, important updates, event reminders, and personalised support, all in one easy-to-use app.

Never miss out again—join Magic Life on WhatsApp today!



**SCAN THE QR CODE
TO JOIN THE GROUP**



80th Anniversary of Victory in Europe VE Day 8th May

Honouring 80 Years of Victory: How to Celebrate VE Day 2025 in Your Community

As the United Kingdom approaches the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) Day on 8 May 2025, the nation is preparing for a momentous tribute to those who served and sacrificed during World War II. With national ceremonies, community gatherings, and immersive events planned across the country, this milestone offers an opportunity to reflect, remember, and rejoice—just as the country did in 1945.

From grand spectacles in London to local street parties reminiscent of the original celebrations, here's how you can take part in this historic commemoration.

National Events: A Tribute on a Grand Scale

The official programme of events will bring the nation together in remembrance and celebration:

■ **5 May 2025 (Bank Holiday Monday):** A military procession in London will set the tone for the week, culminating in a spectacular Red Arrows flypast over Buckingham Palace. The Cenotaph will be adorned with Union Flags, serving as a focal point for reflection.

■ **6 May 2025:** The iconic ceramic poppies, first displayed in 2014 to mark the centenary of World War I, will be reinstalled at the Tower of London—an evocative tribute to the sacrifices of the past.

■ **7 May 2025:** A special concert at Westminster Hall will commemorate Sir Winston Churchill's historic victory speech, bringing to life the words that inspired a generation.

■ **8 May 2025 (VE Day):** A poignant service at Westminster Abbey will see world leaders and veterans gathered in honour, followed by a grand concert at Horse Guards Parade, where 10,000 attendees will celebrate the legacy of victory and peace.





Bringing the Spirit of 1945 to Magic Life: Idea's for your celebration

While the capital will host grand tributes, the heart of VE Day 2025 lies in the local celebrations. In 1945, communities up and down the country took to the streets with homemade bunting, music, and plenty of cheer—so why not recreate that same sense of unity?

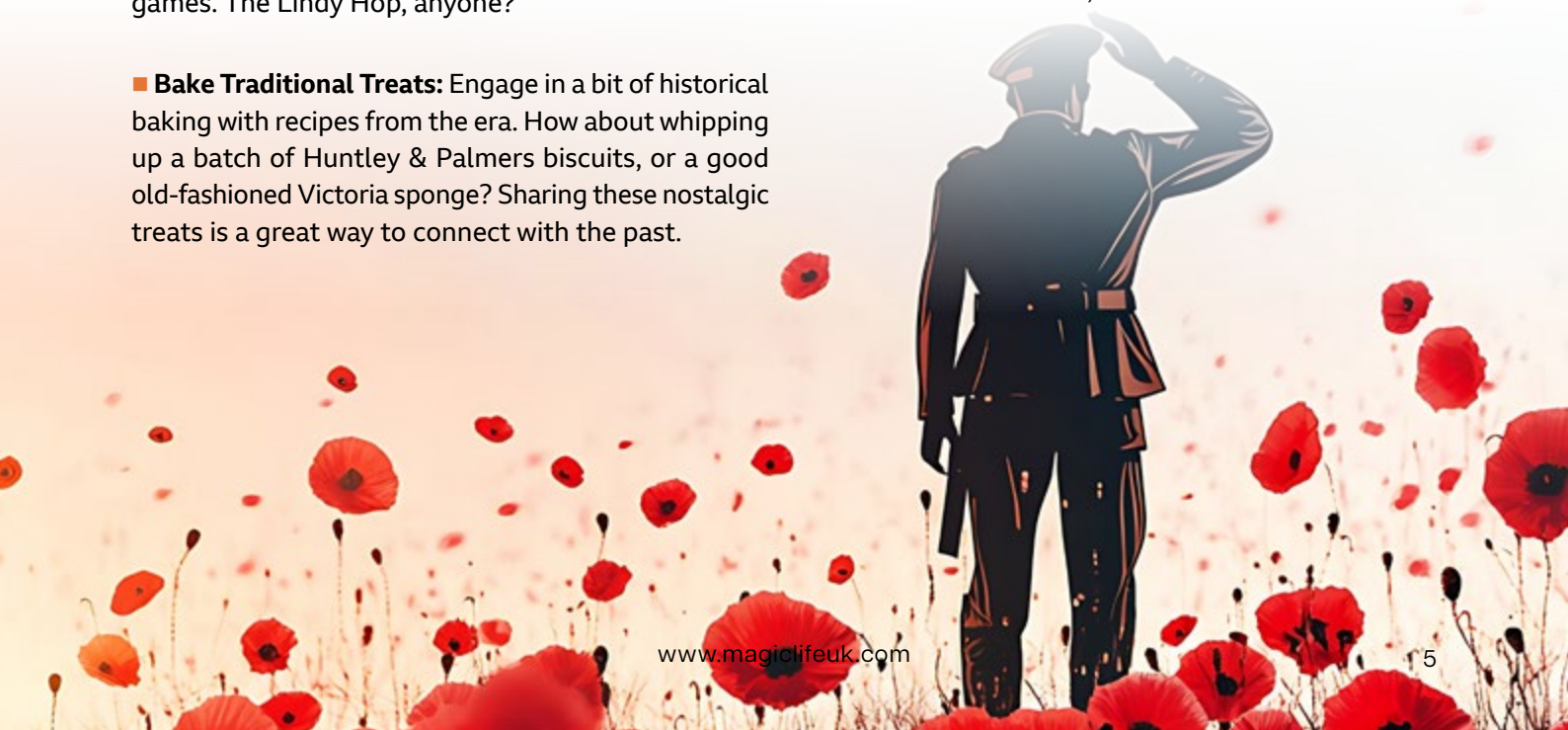
■ **Host a Street Party:** Transform your street or garden into a wartime-style gathering. Encourage 1940s dress, play music from the era, and bring out classic party games. The Lindy Hop, anyone?

■ **Bake Traditional Treats:** Engage in a bit of historical baking with recipes from the era. How about whipping up a batch of Huntley & Palmers biscuits, or a good old-fashioned Victoria sponge? Sharing these nostalgic treats is a great way to connect with the past.

■ **Memory Sharing & Storytelling:** Encourage residents to reminisce about their own family's experiences during the war—whether they recall childhood stories, local wartime efforts, or simply the impact of VE Day celebrations on their communities. Staff and family members can join in, creating a warm, engaging, and inclusive atmosphere.

■ **Creative Expression:** Encourage residents to create artwork or write messages of remembrance, which can be displayed around the home or shared with the local community.

AUTHOR: JOE BERNARDES, EDITOR



You Said, We Did

Listening, Learning, and Taking Action

At Magic Life, we believe that the voices of our residents, families, and staff are at the heart of everything we do. That's why we take feedback seriously—because every suggestion, concern, and idea helps us create a better, more supportive environment for everyone.

Our latest “You Said, We Did” report highlights the key points raised in our recent survey and, most importantly, the actions we've taken in response. From enhancing staff engagement and improving housekeeping to increasing personalised activities and strengthening communication with families, we've been working hard to turn feedback into meaningful improvements.

This isn't just about making changes—it's about building a culture where everyone feels heard, valued, and empowered.

[A great home isn't just about where you live; it's about how you feel while you're there.] And at Magic Life, we're committed to making sure everyone feels welcome, supported, and part of a thriving community.

So, thank you to everyone who shared their thoughts. Your voice truly makes a difference.

TAKING ACTION

"When I do visit I see a lot of staff sitting around, I think staff should interact a lot more with the service users"

- We have appointed an activity lead to ensure there are more structured activities in the home and clients are accessing the community more frequently.
- There has been an emphasis in team meetings around the importance of quality interactions and the impact this has on wellbeing.

"Staff should make the service user feel welcome and comfortable in their home and to immediately engage with conversation and take an interest in what they have or are going to be doing, help them with their bags offer them a drink when they have arrived back at the house"

- There is continual, ongoing work being done with staff around quality interactions and making the people in their care feel welcome.

We however need to balance this with encouraging clients to do things for themselves and promoting independence as this is our long-term goal. Lots of our clients have capacity so we do not want to deskill them.

"Too much staff turnover hence staff with little training"

- We encourage staff to further their career in the sector by applying for different roles within the company.
- We allow flexible working to suit staffs needs.
- All staff complete regular supervisions and appraisals so they are able to voice any concerns they may have and to make their working life better.
- There has been significant development within Magic Life with regards to training which is monitored by the Head Office Team. Quality of training is frequently being reviewed.

"Housekeeping and cleaning could be improved especially in bathroom area"

- New Cleaning Logs have been put in place throughout all homes.
- Monthly audits carried out by our Quality Assurance have been amended to ensure this is checked at management level as well as monitoring at regular spot checks carried out by Area Managers.

"We do not have weekly or every two weeks progress review. It is difficult to gage and know what your family member is doing and how the engagement has been when you are not with them every day"

- Team calls scheduled with families for catch ups.
- Staff have also been asked to send pictures to Family Members of when Service Users have been out or doing an activity, to keep them in the loop.
- Magic Life Newsletters give a really a good insight into life at the Projects. They are sent monthly to all those on our mailing list.

Continue

"One to one day trips not just group trips as this can be very stressful for some and they will choose not to go"

- Each resident has a 1:1 so goes out with them apart from when we book Mo (Magic Life Driver) for group trips.
- Staff to address this in the key working sessions and discuss what day trips residents would like to do 1:1.
- The PM has scheduled meetings with families during which activities are being discussed.

"When things get broken or don't work they should be replaced immediately"

- The Magic Life maintenance team have a good system in place for reporting and dealing with any requests with quite a rapid turn around time. With any goods that need replacing this is also usually requested through head office and dealt with very fast.
- Maintenance men are on call evenings, weekends and all public holidays.

"Not able to find a work base activity for him to do"

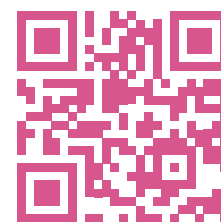
- All people supported have activity plans in place which staff use in prompting them
- Staff complete weekly positive engagement activities forms reflecting daily activities engagement
- More indoor activities have been purchased for the homes including Indoor bowling and Snooker tables

You Spoke, We Listened

TAKING ACTION

World Autism Acceptance Month

Building a More Inclusive Future



Get Involved Scan QR Code

Wednesday 2 April 2025 is (**World Autism Awareness Day**) Bring focus to this special month and maybe raise some money. Ideas to raise awareness and money

Images taken from waam.autism.org.uk



Walk 5k this April

At home, at school or on holiday...walk your 5km your own way!



Spectrum Colour Walk

Back and bigger! Join us in London on Saturday 5th April.



Fundraise Your Way

Already got plans? Here's how to get started.

At Magic Life, we know that everyone deserves the chance to thrive—but for many autistic people, unfair barriers still get in the way. Whether in education, employment, or everyday life, these challenges can make it harder to connect, grow, and belong.

That's why personalised support matters. We don't do "one-size-fits-all"—we celebrate individuality, champion strengths, and offer real opportunities to learn new skills, build friendships, and live life to the fullest.

Change starts with listening, understanding, and creating environments where autistic people—and their families—feel supported and seen. Together, we're not just removing obstacles; we're opening doors to a

brighter, more inclusive future.

And yes, we'll always have beanbags.

We're proud to champion a culture where differences are not just accepted, but embraced. At Magic Life, everyone has a seat at the table (and if we run out of chairs, we'll bring beanbags). The bonds formed here are real—friendships built on trust, laughter, shared experiences, and mutual respect. That sense of belonging can be life-changing.

So yes, there are barriers—but together, we can break them down. With community, creativity, and care, we can build a future where everyone is supported to live the life they choose, with purpose and pride.

And really, isn't that the magic of it all?

Marching Forward with Heart

Chapel Row embraces strength, support, and new beginnings this March

In the quiet moments of March at Chapel Row, reflection and resilience became the twin pillars that carried both staff and residents through a period marked by deep emotion and renewed commitment. While this month held the weight of a profound loss, it also showcased the unshakable spirit that defines the Magic Life community.

Joan Delliston, Acting Service Manager, captured it best in her heartfelt reflections: moving on from grief isn't about forgetting, but about honouring what was while continuing the journey forward. The passing of Ryan, a cherished presence at Chapel Row, left a void that could be felt in every corner. Yet, even in sorrow, the community found remarkable ways to unite, support one another, and focus on the path ahead.



The days that followed were filled with quiet gestures of care and powerful acts of solidarity. Staff ensured that Indigo, one of Ryan's closest companions, was lovingly supported—nourished not just with meals but with meaningful conversations and companionship. The everyday rhythm of care continued, a testament to the professionalism and compassion of the Chapel Row team.

Behind the scenes, the group chat buzzed with check-ins, kind words, and mutual encouragement. Senior management, alongside external teams such as the PBS professionals from Hertfordshire Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust, stepped in with vital bereavement support—an extraordinary gesture that fortified the team's emotional wellbeing.

Most moving of all was the collective choice to focus on memories that brought warmth and laughter. Ryan's "cheeky smile" became a symbol of the joy he spread. Stories of his influence, how he inspired those around him, and the light he brought to daily life have become guiding stars for those who remain.

There's a renewed energy now at Chapel Row. Staff have emerged more attentive, more present, and more connected—not just to the people they support, but to each other. This March wasn't just about enduring; it was about growing. Learning not to take a single moment for granted, and vowing to deliver even better care, together.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who stood by Chapel Row during this time. Your support has been both seen and deeply felt.

AUTHOR: JOAN DELLISTON

PHOTOGRAPHER: CHAPEL ROW STAFF

MagicLife The Hamptons

Cathedrals, Trampolines & Time Travel: March Magic at The Hampton's

From soaring architecture to soaring through the air—this month had it all!

AUTHOR: OMOYE ENYI

PHOTOGRAPHER: THE HAMPTONS STAFF

March came in like a lion and roared with excitement at The Hampton's, as residents embraced every opportunity to explore, learn, and—quite literally—bounce with joy!

We began the month with a warm welcome to our newest community member, Victoria Di Mascio. And what a start she's had! Victoria wasted no time in diving into the spirit of exploration, taking a marvellous day trip to the breathtaking Peterborough Cathedral. With her mum and support staff by her side, she soaked up the site's grandeur, uncovering centuries of history beneath its awe-inspiring vaulted ceilings. Not a bad way to say hello to your new home!

History continued to come alive with a spectacular outing to the historical museum in London. Residents and staff took a journey back in time, viewing aircraft from the Second World War era. It was a powerful and

educational experience—one that sparked curiosity and deep conversations about innovation and resilience. Who says time travel isn't real?

Of course, not every adventure is about quiet reflection. Regan Moran Thomson cranked things up a notch with a high-energy visit to Flip Out in Peterborough. Trampolines, laughter, and that unmistakable sense of freedom filled the air as Regan bounced his way into the highlight reel of the month. Some say he may still be airborne...

At The Hampton's, these moments—big and small—are what make our community shine. With spring now stretching its limbs, we're buzzing with anticipation for the joys April will bring. Whether it's planting flowers, planning picnics, or dancing in the sunshine, one thing's for sure: the best is yet to come.



Remembering Shaye

Personal Tributes

March brought a deep sense of loss as we said goodbye to our dear Shaye. Though his time with us was brief, his impact was profound and enduring. Shaye was a brilliant young man, full of self-awareness and unwavering strength. He never sought pity, only understanding, and he approached life with resilience, determination, and an infectious enthusiasm for learning and growing.

From the moment he became part of our community, Shaye left an imprint on the hearts of everyone he encountered. His intellect and curiosity made every conversation with him meaningful, and his ability to lift others up was truly remarkable. He inspired those around him, not just by what he said, but by how he lived—with courage, and an unshakable belief that every person has the power to achieve their dreams.

In his final days, despite his own challenges, he remained a beacon of positivity. He took the time to encourage and motivate everyone he met, urging them to keep pushing forward and never give up. His words, filled with wisdom beyond his years, reminded us all to cherish every moment and to keep striving for our goals, no matter the obstacles.

Staff gathered to honour his memory, sharing stories, reflecting on the joy he brought into our lives, and celebrating the resilience and strength he embodied. Though his physical presence is no longer with us, Shaye's legacy remains—woven into the fabric of our community, carried forward by the love and inspiration he gave so freely.

Shaye, you will never be forgotten. Your light continues to shine in all of us.

All of Us @ Cherry Tree Lodge

My Brother in Spirit

Shaye, my dear friend, my brother in every way but blood.

Words cannot capture the depth of the loss I feel, but I will try to honour the light you brought into my life.

From the moment we met, there was an instant connection; a rare kind of kinship built on laughter, deep conversations, and mutual respect. You had a brilliant mind, and our discussions were never just small talk; they were exchanges of ideas, dreams, and perspectives that left me thinking long after we parted.

You challenged me, inspired me, and made every conversation meaningful.

And oh, how we laughed! Your joy was infectious, your humour sharp and full of warmth. Even on the toughest days, you had a way of finding lightness, of turning a moment into a memory. And the music—those Afrobeat rhythms you loved so much became the soundtrack to our bond. Every time I hear those beats now, I'll think of you nodding your head to the rhythm, lost in the sound you cherished.

The time we spent together was a gift, one I will hold close forever. We never got to fly your drone again as we had hoped, and every time I remember that you would've liked to teach me to fly it, I'm reminded of what a wonderful gift you have been to us at CTL.

You weren't just a service user to me—you were family. A brother. A friend who made life richer just by being in it.

I don't know how to say goodbye, so instead, I'll say thank you. Thank you for your laughter, your wisdom, your music, and your heart. Thank you for trusting me, for sharing your world with me.

You may be gone from my sight, but never from my heart. I'll miss you deeply, but I'll carry you with me.



Shaye Reid Watson

In every Afrobeat song, in every thoughtful debate, in every moment where I pause and think, “Shaye would’ve loved this.”

Rest in power, my brother. Until we meet again. God be with you till we meet again.

Olugbenga O. (Keyworker)

A Tribute to Shaye

We’re here today to remember Shaye, a wonderful man who was more than simply someone I loved; he was my brother. His generosity, tenacity, and contagious laughter touched everyone around him. Even though he is no longer with us, his spirit endures in our hearts. Peace be with you, my beloved brother.

Victor A.



A Month of Reflection, Connection, and Cherished Moments



Celebrating togetherness, new beginnings, and the joy of shared adventures at Cherry Tree Lodge

March at Cherry Tree Lodge was a time of both tender reflection and vibrant connection, as our community embraced new faces, made joyful memories, and stepped out into spring with open hearts. With every smile, shared activity, and thoughtful tribute, we were reminded of the strength and spirit that define life at CTL.

A Warm Welcome to SW

We were thrilled to welcome SW to the Cherry Tree Lodge family this March. With kindness in her step and a sparkle of curiosity, SW has already begun weaving herself into the fabric of our community. From joining in activities to forming new friendships, her presence is a delightful addition, and we're excited to see her continue to shine.

Lights, Camera, Popcorn! JE Hits the Cinema

JE enjoyed a trip to the silver screen this month, and let's just say – it was five stars all around! From the thrill of choosing a film to the essential cinema snacks (because what's a movie without popcorn?), JE's outing was packed with fun. Her beaming smile on return said it all, and we hear she's already eyeing her next feature film!

Staying Active – With Laughter and a Little Bingo Luck

March saw the shared house ladies moving and grooving through our ever-popular seated exercise sessions. With tunes that got toes tapping and arms swinging, these moments were full of energy and laughter.

Meanwhile, bingo fever swept across both the flats and shared house. With dabbers in hand and anticipation in the air, our residents dove into the game with gusto. A little friendly competition, a lot of cheers, and maybe a few cheeky victory dances made for a bingo bash to remember!

Springtime Serenity at Crystal Palace Park

RF and SG embraced the springtime spirit with a lovely day out at Crystal Palace Park. Among trees just beginning to bloom and peaceful pathways, they enjoyed a relaxing stroll and took a few picturesque snaps along the way. Nature proved to be the perfect backdrop for both adventure and reflection – and plans are already budding for the next excursion!

Looking Forward with Gratitude

As the calendar turns to April, we carry forward a sense of gratitude for the moments that made March memorable. Whether through heartfelt welcomes, outdoor escapades, or shared laughter, Cherry Tree Lodge continues to thrive as a place where joy lives in the everyday.

Here's to another month of connection, adventure, and cherished moments—because at CTL, there's always something to celebrate.

AUTHOR: MORUFAT ADEBISI OLORUNTUYI

PHOTOGRAPHER: CHERRY TREE LODGE

MagicLife Devonshire Lodge

As the calendar turned to March, Devonshire Lodge found itself basking in the glow of spring's early arrival. The month delivered not just sunshine, but a vibrant burst of energy that filled the hearts and days of everyone at the service. Whether it was a gentle stroll under blue skies, a chat in the fresh air, or simply soaking up the golden rays, the brighter weather brought an undeniable lift to spirits across the board.

This month wasn't just about soaking in the sunshine—it was also a season of learning and transformation. Our dedicated team rolled up their sleeves and embraced new procedures with admirable enthusiasm. It's been a journey of growth, marked by open communication, collaboration, and a shared commitment to doing our very best. As new routines settled in, the camaraderie among staff shone just as brightly as the spring sun.

It's been heartening to see everyone stepping up to support one another, sharing knowledge, and cheering each other on. The result? A stronger, more united team that's not just surviving change—but thriving in it.

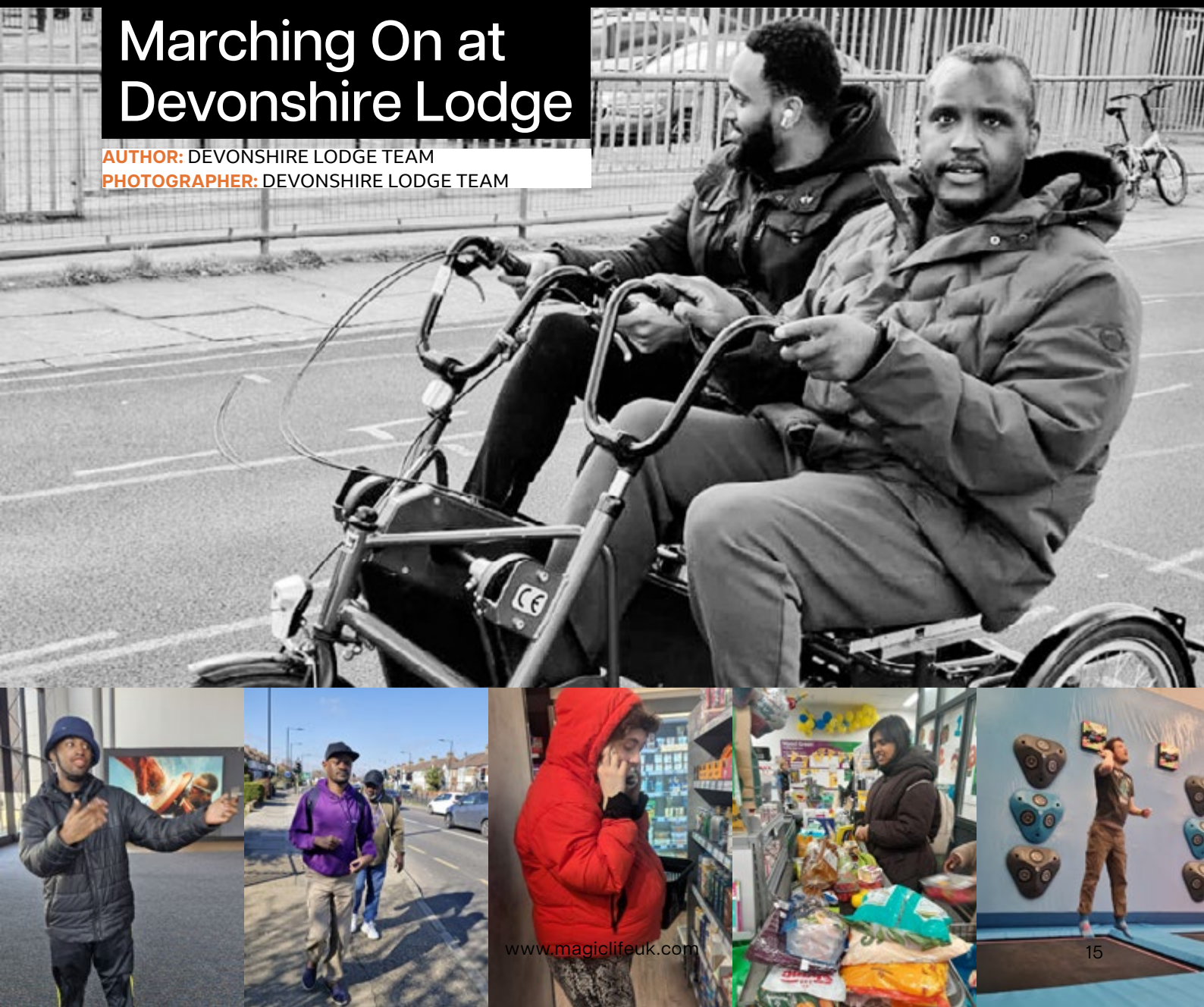
Our service users, too, have flourished with the change in season. Longer days brought with them longer chats, more shared laughs, and a deeper sense of connection. It's been a joy to watch those small moments blossom—proof that sometimes, all it takes is a bit of sunshine and a friendly face to brighten the whole day.

As we step into April, we carry with us the warmth of March—both from the weather and from each other. Here's to more sun-filled days, more laughter, and more reasons to smile.

Marching On at Devonshire Lodge

AUTHOR: DEVONSHIRE LODGE TEAM

PHOTOGRAPHER: DEVONSHIRE LODGE TEAM



Spring Awakens at Bruce Grove

From Seedlings to Smiles:
Residents Dig Into a Season of Growth



“Gardening at Bruce Grove is more than just planting—it’s about purpose, connection, and joy.”

AUTHOR: EMEM EKANEM

PHOTOGRAPHER: BRUCE GROVE TEAM

As winter gently releases its grip, Bruce Grove is already blooming with anticipation. With the sun making more regular appearances and the scent of spring floating through the air, there’s a renewed energy taking root—quite literally—in the garden.

This season, the residents of Bruce Grove are not only embracing the joys of warmer weather but are also rolling up their sleeves to reconnect with nature. Among them, one especially green-fingered resident, SSG, has wasted no time in getting the garden ready for a vibrant new chapter. A devoted gardener who already tends lovingly to pots in his room, SSG has taken the lead outdoors, preparing the soil with admirable enthusiasm.

With a trowel in one hand and a vision in mind, SSG was spotted clearing dead roots and prepping the earth for a fresh crop of flowers and fruits. His request for new gardening tools was met with cheerful support, and soon, the buzz of gardening activity will be in full swing. Seeds and young plants are on their way, and the

community is eagerly anticipating the transformation that’s about to unfold.

Gardening at Bruce Grove is more than just planting—it’s about purpose, connection, and joy. Research backs it up too: gardening is not only good for the environment and local wildlife, but also fosters fitness, creativity, and community spirit. Who knew that 30 minutes in the garden could burn as many calories as a yoga session? It’s the perfect combination of wellness and wonder.

As SSG wisely shared, the process of nurturing plants has done wonders for his overall wellbeing. Watching something grow—from soil to stem to bloom—is a gentle reminder of life’s resilience and beauty. And come harvest time, the fruits (and flowers) of these efforts will be more than worth the wait.

So here’s to Bruce Grove’s blooming season—where every seed planted is a promise of sunshine, colour, and joy.

MagicLife Grove Park Road

Flipping Great Fun at Grove Park Road!

Residents whip up joy in a colourful Pancake Day Challenge

March at Grove Park Road was truly sweet—thanks to a lively Pancake Day Challenge that had residents flipping for joy! With mixing bowls in hand and aprons tied tight, everyone came together in a spirited celebration of teamwork, creativity, and, of course, a bit of friendly competition.

Residents joined forces to plan their dream pancake recipes, selecting an array of toppings that could make any brunch café blush with envy. From fresh fruits bursting with colour to a tempting drizzle of syrup and sprinkles galore, the kitchen was transformed into a hub of delicious experimentation.

This wasn't just about making pancakes—it was about building connections. The activity inspired residents to collaborate, communicate, and explore their culinary flair, all while sharing smiles and laughter around the table. It's safe to say, these pancakes weren't the only things that got a boost—spirits were lifted all round!

The positive vibes were infectious, and the results? Mouth-watering. With colourful stacks served and cheerful chatter echoing through the halls, it was a day that warmed hearts as much as the griddles.

A special shout-out goes to EL, ST, and NR for their standout contributions on the day—whether it was mixing the batter, plating up like pros, or simply sharing the joy with others, they each played a flipping fantastic part in making the day unforgettable.



AUTHOR: AMIKO
PHOTOGRAPHER: HAWA

Farewell Feels and Birthday Bliss: March Celebrations at Hale End

Two joyful occasions, one magical month at Hale End.

March was a month to remember at Hale End, brimming with warmth, laughter, and heartfelt moments. The Magic Life community came together not once but twice to honour two very special individuals—one marking a fond farewell, the other celebrating another trip around the sun. With music, dancing, and plenty of cupcakes, these events reminded us all of the power of connection and the joy of celebration.

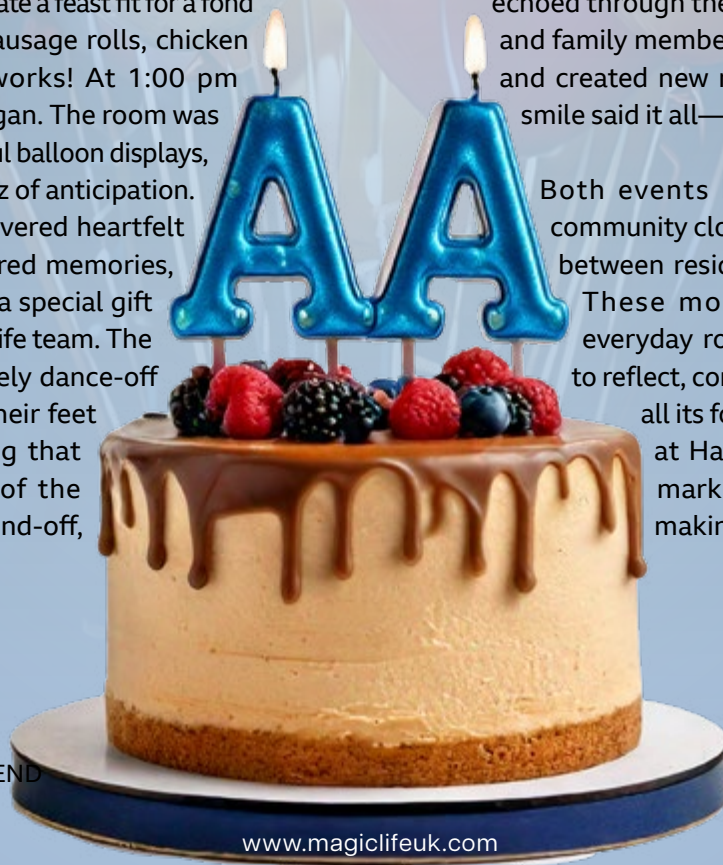
On the 3rd of March, the spotlight shone on AR, whose send-off party was nothing short of spectacular. It all began with senior staff rolling up their sleeves for a bit of pre-party shopping, returning with everything needed to create a feast fit for a fond farewell. Sandwiches, sausage rolls, chicken pies, cupcakes—the works! At 1:00 pm sharp, the festivities began. The room was transformed with cheerful balloon displays, upbeat music, and a buzz of anticipation. Residents and staff delivered heartfelt goodbye speeches, shared memories, and presented AR with a special gift on behalf of the Magic Life team. The icing on the cake? A lively dance-off that had everyone on their feet and a chorus of singing that carried the emotions of the day. It was a proper send-off,

overflowing with gratitude, joy, and the occasional happy tear.

Just a few weeks later, on the 23rd of March, the mood shifted from farewell to festivity as the community gathered once again—this time for AA's birthday bash. The Cedar Lodge was decked out in colourful banners and balloons, with music in AA's native language adding a beautiful personal touch. Finger foods, chicken and chips, and an impressive birthday cake lined the table, all prepared with care. As everyone gathered round, birthday songs filled the air, followed by the candle-blowing moment that never fails to spark smiles (and maybe a cheeky wish or two). Laughter echoed through the lodge as residents, staff, and family members enjoyed delicious cake and created new memories. AA's beaming smile said it all—it was a day to remember.

Both events brought the Hale End community closer, strengthening bonds between residents, staff, and families. These moments away from the everyday routine provided a chance to reflect, connect, and celebrate life in all its forms. The month of March at Hale End wasn't just about marking dates—it was about making memories.

AUTHOR: DIANA
PHOTOGRAPHER: HALE END



Out and About at 672 High Road: March Moments of Joy and Independence

From snooker showdowns to park strolls, March was a month of community spirit and growing life skills at 672

March 2025 has been a marvellous month at 672 High Road, brimming with positive steps forward, cheerful outings, and meaningful moments of personal growth. As spring starts to tease us with sunshine, our residents and staff have embraced both the great outdoors and the everyday victories of independent living.

Danny has been chalking up some impressive wins—both on the snooker table and around the flat! His weekly trips to the snooker club in Edmonton are not just a sporting highlight but a brilliant chance for social connection and shared laughter with staff. Back at home, Danny is becoming quite the home organiser—tidying up, making his bed, and arranging his space with flair. One might say he's taken spring cleaning to a whole new level!

Chris, on the other hand, has been stepping into spring with a fondness for fresh air and cleanliness. Long walks through the park and a visit to the local community farm have kept his spirits high. When he's not out enjoying nature, Chris finds great satisfaction in keeping his flat in tip-top shape. Washing up and sweeping? For Chris, it's all part of the routine—his pride in a clean space is truly inspiring.

Meanwhile, CJ has been stretching his legs (and his independence!) with regular community walks and occasional visits to the shops. Sometimes he's even been spotted enjoying a treat at McDonald's with staff. Though he prefers to stay out of the limelight, his efforts to get out and about speak volumes.

And speaking of quiet triumphs—special recognition goes to the ever-supportive Joyce Ofori. With calm confidence and genuine care, Joyce accompanied CJ to a long-awaited appointment in Wood Green. It was a milestone moment, handled with patience, understanding, and a whole lot of heart. The trust between them made all the difference, and it's a beautiful example of what person-centred support truly looks like.

A warm thank you also goes to the staff working closely with Chris, who have shown fantastic skill in adapting to his unique communication style. These thoughtful interactions make all the difference and reflect the spirit of teamwork that defines 672.

So as we close the chapter on March, we look forward to even brighter days ahead—full of new adventures, continued growth, and plenty more reasons to smile.

Farmyard Fun, Family Feasts & Flavours from Afar:

Sunshine, smiles, and special surprises—March delivered magic in every moment.

There's something special about March. As winter's chill fades away, so too do the boundaries of indoor living, opening up a season of fresh air, fond visits, and fabulous food. At 171 HR, this past month was a celebration of connection, culture, and a little bit of countryside charm!

We begin our adventure with Jaime and Laura, two residents whose spirits soared on a visit to Hackney's very own farm petting zoo. Bathed in golden sunshine, the day offered a delightful escape into the animal kingdom. Laura, brimming with nostalgia, shared how the experience whisked her back to her teenage years as she gently stroked the animals. Her gratitude to the team for making it happen was as warm as the spring sun.

Meanwhile, Jaime found himself mesmerised—particularly by a proud peacock showing off its plumage not once, but several times, clearly spotting a kindred spirit in Jaime's colourful energy. It was a day of joy, laughter, and a few fluffy new friends.

Family visits were also in full swing this March. JL lit up with anticipation as he prepared to welcome his mum, who made the journey from South London to spend the day together. Their reunion? Utterly heartwarming. The pair ventured out for a delicious Chinese meal (dessert included, of course), with JL proudly showing his mum around the local area, including iconic spots like Ally Pally.

Not to be outdone in the hospitality department, TB enjoyed a lovely few hours catching up with her son. While they stayed on site, the connection and warmth they shared filled the space with happiness. TB is

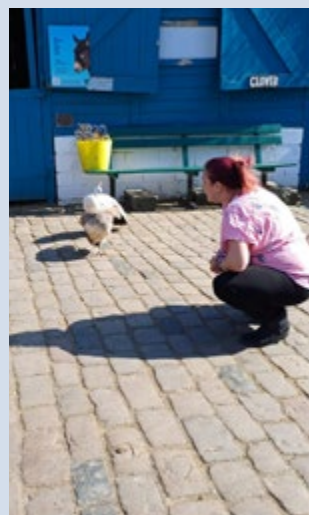
already looking forward to seeing more of the family in the near future—and something tells us there will be more smiles (and maybe more desserts) on the horizon.

Speaking of treats, NC delighted everyone by bringing in a selection of desserts from her homeland, Mauritius. Her generous gesture didn't just satisfy sweet cravings—it brought a slice of cultural richness to the day, reminding us of the beautiful diversity that makes 171 HR so special.

As we step into April, we carry with us the spirit of joy, community, and exploration that made March so memorable. Here's to more sunshine, more shared stories, and more magical moments!



AUTHOR: HARRINGAY ROAD
PHOTOGRAPHER: HARRINGAY ROAD



Manor Place March Magic

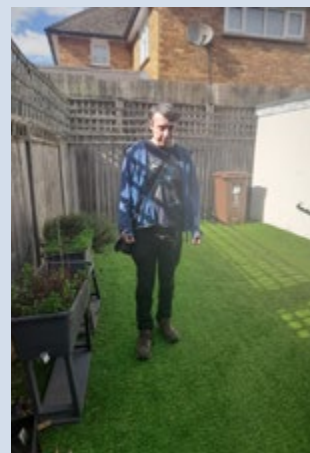
Celebrating birthdays, achievements, and everyday triumphs

March may have brought a few grey clouds outside, but inside Manor Place, it's been nothing but sunshine and smiles! With birthdays, professional milestones, and cherished family time, the month has been a beautiful blend of joy, growth, and community spirit.

AUTHOR: MANOR PLACE
PHOTOGRAPHER: MANOR PLACE



Let's start with a very special birthday shoutout—JO turned 21 this month, and the celebration was every bit as memorable as such a milestone deserves. His family went all out, beginning the festivities a day early with a heartwarming picnic and thoughtful gifts from Nan, Mum, and his younger sister. Not to be outdone, JO's dad treated him to a proper day out on Monday, complete with a shopping trip and some quality one-



on-one time. The grand finale? A well-earned kebab, JO's favourite meal, enjoyed with a big smile. Now that's how you mark a 21st in style!

Meanwhile, SH has been soaking up some extended quality time at his mum's place. This extended visit has given him a lovely balance of comfort, routine, and meaningful family connection. It's been a great chance to enjoy the little things in life

"It was a wonderful way to mark such an important birthday."

LF has had a busy month, too, juggling professional appointments and staying connected with his mum over the phone. A little boost to his weekly allowance meant a chance to refresh his wardrobe—always a good excuse for a bit of retail therapy! He's continued his community outings with staff support, settling in beautifully and becoming a friendly, familiar presence among housemates and team members alike.

And speaking of routines, GS is leading the charge when it comes to workplace dedication! This month, he not only completed a training session he thoroughly enjoyed, but he also shone in team meetings, showing initiative and enthusiasm. Perhaps most impressively, GS has nailed his morning routine—waking up on time, staying motivated, and arriving at work like clockwork. A round of applause is well deserved for his fantastic progress and commitment!

As we wave goodbye to March, we're already looking ahead to April with excitement—and perhaps a few chocolate eggs.

April 2025

MagicLife Northlands

Horses, Heartfelt Words & Homemade Pancakes

A delightful March of creativity, connection, and sweet surprises at Northlands

AUTHOR: NORTHLANDS
PHOTOGRAPHER: NORTHLANDS

March at Northlands was a month woven with joy, creativity, and a good helping of pancake batter! As spring teased its arrival with longer days and sunnier skies, our fabulous residents embraced the season with open arms and open hearts.

JC kicked things off with a flourish of colour and reflection. Painting on canvas, she expressed herself not just through art but also through powerful words. With clarity and grace, she shared the beautiful insight that “listening deeply is how autistic people hear and understand” — a message that resonated deeply with those around her. JC also cherished her visit to Frankie, sharing how much common ground they have, and just how meaningful their visits have become.

Meanwhile, CB ventured outdoors to do one of her favourite things — feeding the ducks. With a sense of peace and contentment, she soaked in the fresh air and tranquillity of nature. Later in the month, she was thrilled to return to the swimming pool alongside LVM, enjoying the familiar splash of a favourite pastime. But perhaps the sweetest moment came when CB lovingly

baked a cake for her mum for Mother’s Day. Taking it home with pride, she was especially excited about reconnecting with her parents after some time apart.

LVM had her own adventures, and the horses were more than happy about it! Frequently visiting her equine friends with treats in hand, she’s become quite popular in the paddock — the horses now recognise her and no doubt look forward to her visits. Sharing the joy of swimming with CB brought another splash of happiness to her month, and she also found joy in her own artistic pursuits.

To top it all off — quite literally — Pancake Day was a treat for all. The ladies of Northlands put their heads (and spatulas) together to plan a special celebration. With flipping, laughing, and a sprinkle of teamwork, they turned an ordinary Tuesday into a truly tasty triumph.

March showed us that whether it’s through painting, pancake flipping, or pony visits, there’s always something wonderful to celebrate at Northlands.



Parkside Bursts into Spring with Culture, Music, and Meaningful Moments

March celebrations bring joy, reflection, and a splash of green at Parkside

It's been a heartwarming, foot-tapping, flower-planting kind of month at Parkside, where March was nothing short of marvellous. From the rhythmic beats of Ghana to the charm of Irish traditions, residents and staff came together in a spectacular celebration of culture, community, and care.

The month kicked off with a vibrant tribute to Ghana Independence Day, and what a colourful day it was! Residents and staff donned the bright hues of the Ghanaian flag, proudly immersing themselves in the spirit of unity and celebration. The tantalising aroma of Jollof rice, fried yam, plantain, and spicy pepper sauce filled the air, thanks to the culinary magic of the Parkside team. Residents even learned the Ghanaian national anthem—proving that music truly knows no boundaries.

Not long after, the energy shifted to the lilting tunes and lively laughter of St. Patrick's Day. Irish music flowed through the rooms, green balloons bounced about, and Sarah and Errol led the way on the dance floor. A spread of finger foods—including a nostalgic mix of chicken nuggets, chips, beans, and sausage rolls—added a comforting, familiar touch to the

festivities. Sarah was especially taken with the Irish film playing on the day, snapping photos to share with her family and soaking in every joyful moment.

In a more tender tone, Park Village hosted a beautiful memorial honouring the loved ones of residents like Sarah, Pauline, and Shomari. With heartfelt words and a symbolic balloon release, the event offered space for reflection and remembrance. Though tinged with sorrow, it was ultimately a celebration of lasting love and treasured memories.

To round off the month, the green thumbs at Parkside got busy with a spot of springtime gardening. Residents each chose their own seeds—ranging from cheerful flowers to fresh fruits and veg—and planted them in personal pots. Pauline opted for raspberries, perhaps dreaming of sweet summer treats ahead. These little green shoots now sit proudly on display, tended to with care and anticipation.

It's been a month of dancing, digging, and remembering—full of smiles, song, and shared stories. At Parkside, every moment is made that little bit more magical through the spirit of community.

March Magic at Park Lodge

Adventures, Achievements, and Heartfelt Celebrations

March has come and gone in a flurry of joy, connection, and adventure at Park Lodge—and what a month it was! With outings to iconic landmarks, the blossoming of new friendships (both human and canine), and plenty of laughter echoing through our halls, it's safe to say Park Lodge was brimming with energy and inspiration.

RG and BM kicked off the month with a thrilling day out at the O2, diving into the electric atmosphere of one of London's most iconic venues. The duo took in the sights, sounds, and shared plenty of smiles along the way. Not content with just one adventure, RG later ventured solo to Stratford for a bit of solo exploration and reflection—proof that independence and adventure go hand in hand!

Both RG and BM also began a new chapter by attending the Day Centre. This fresh routine has brought a delightful change of pace, filled with new activities, social interactions, and chances to develop even more life skills. A brilliant step forward, and one we're all excited to see continue!

Over in the kitchen, SGF has been sharpening his skills with the help of Staff Ben Stowe. Whether it's mastering a new recipe or just gaining confidence in the kitchen, SGF's culinary journey is a delicious work in progress. And when he's not whipping up something tasty, you'll likely find him shooting hoops—his basketball game is as strong as his sautéing!



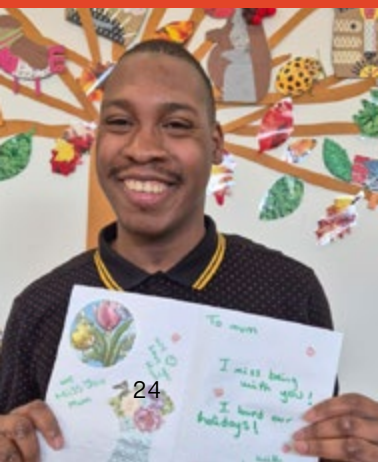
Meanwhile, PRM continued her spiritual journey with her regular visits to temple, a peaceful and meaningful part of her routine that brings her joy and calm.

One of the most touching stories this month is that of VS and her four-legged friend. Her new dog has brought tail-wagging joy to her days, and the pair have formed a bond that's nothing short of heartwarming. Their daily walks and play sessions aren't just good exercise—they're a lesson in loyalty and love.

EG marked the holy month of Ramadan with dedication and spirit, culminating in a heartfelt celebration of Eid. He not only participated in the fast but also went above and beyond by preparing a special dish for the community at Park Village—a beautiful gesture that was deeply appreciated and thoroughly enjoyed.

And of course, no month would be complete without some good old-fashioned fun! Staff and residents came together for in-house games that had everyone laughing, cheering, and maybe even showing a competitive streak or two. The real winner? The wonderful sense of community that continues to grow stronger every day.

As we wave goodbye to March, we're filled with pride at the progress, the fun, and the unforgettable memories. Here's to a Spring season packed with even more stories to tell!



***“Tales of friendship, food,
and fun filled Park Lodge this
month—plus one very good
dog stealing hearts along the
way!”***



AUTHOR: AMIEDA KOROMA

PHOTOGRAPHER: PARK LODGE STAFF

Stitches, Sunshine and Smiles: A Crochet Picnic to Remember



Magic Life residents embrace creativity, cuisine and community in a joyful March gathering



AUTHOR: MARY & LUISA
PHOTOGRAPHER: WHITE HOUSE STAFF

As the first hints of spring painted the skies and lifted spirits, residents of Magic Life UK embraced the changing season with a heart-warming crochet picnic—an event that blended artistry, friendship, and a fine helping of fun.

BL, SD and HJ were front and centre of the action, enthusiastically joining in on the creativity and camaraderie. With crochet hooks in hand and smiles all around, the trio helped not only in crafting beautiful creations but also in preparing a delicious spread that

kept the energy flowing and the chatter lively. From colourful yarn to tasty treats, the atmosphere was vibrant and inviting. Laughter danced through the air as stories were shared and stitches were sewn, proving once again that when community comes together, the result is nothing short of magical.

Whether it was swapping crochet tips or sharing a cheeky extra biscuit, the day was a shining example of how simple joys—paired with good company—can create lasting memories.

Burlington Lodge Blooms in March

Celebrating Birthdays, Community Spirit, and a Sweet Taste of Spring

AUTHOR: JOZEF
PHOTOGRAPHER: BURLINGTON STAFF

March unfolded like a beautiful patchwork quilt at Burlington Lodge, stitched together with joy, creativity, and heartwarming moments. As the first signs of spring emerged, so too did the vibrant spirit of our community—led by music, art, and, of course, a scoop or two of ice cream!

At the centre of this month's festivities was Elijah's birthday—a day that can only be described as magnificent. With his radiant smile and impeccable outfit, Elijah welcomed a room full of laughter, music, and well-wishes. The celebration saw family members, staff, and fellow residents come together for a lively party that felt like something straight out of a movie. The cherry on top? A live performance by our very own resident musician, Sam, whose band had toes tapping and spirits soaring.

The month also saw a constructive and engaging residents' meeting, where nearly everyone gathered to share ideas, thoughts, and plans for future outings. The group's collaboration and camaraderie were clear, with a shared enthusiasm for upcoming activities and adventures. Decisions made here are already shaping

some exciting things ahead!

And just when we thought things couldn't get any sweeter—enter the ice cream vendor! One sunny afternoon, an ice cream stand rolled into Burlington Lodge, and the joy was absolutely contagious. Residents, accompanied by their support staff, rolled up in style and were treated to cool, creamy treats that made everyone smile. In a lovely gesture, the vendor offered generous discounts, adding an extra scoop of kindness to an already delightful day.

Adding even more colour to March were the art sessions, with residents picking up brushes and pencils to create works that now brighten up the lodge with creativity and charm. Their artwork has turned shared spaces into vibrant galleries, reflecting the talent and imagination that thrives within Burlington Lodge.

It's safe to say that March wasn't just a change of season—it was a celebration of community, creativity, and connection. Here's to more magical moments as we step into spring!



Brotherhood in Bloom: March Magic at Winns

Where friendship rises, skills flourish, and good times roll on

March has been a month of heart, hustle, and happy memories at Winns 2 and 4, where the Boys Club has continued to be a hub of warmth, learning, and laughter. Whether celebrating birthdays, baking up a storm, or building life skills one cookie (and one CV) at a time, this vibrant group of gentlemen has made the most of every opportunity.

Baking, Beats, and Birthday Cheers



The 18th of March brought more than just sunshine—it brought a party worth remembering! AM's birthday was a jubilant affair, hosted at 2 Winns Mews, and the spirit of celebration was in full swing. With music that got feet tapping, dancing that lifted spirits, and a buffet of treats that vanished quicker than you could say "Happy Birthday", it was a day of joy shared by all.

But the Boys Club is about more than just cake and confetti—it's also a space where ambitions rise

alongside the oven temperatures. This month, members donned aprons for a fun-filled baking session that did double duty as a skills workshop. While cookies were crafted to perfection, so were CVs, as the lads took on job readiness training. A little flour on the nose, a lot of progress in the pocket!

Growing Together at Winns 2

Over at Winns 2, the atmosphere has been just as enriching. From museum visits to meaningful moments of independence, residents have been seizing the days with enthusiasm. AA, in particular, had a standout March. With staff support, he explored the historic treasures of Bruce Castle Museum, where the stories of the past sparked new inspiration. After his cultural outing, AA took time for self-care with a fresh shave that left him beaming with confidence—proof that small rituals can bring big smiles.

His adventures didn't stop there: a shopping trip allowed him to make thoughtful choices, and an outing to a local restaurant was the cherry on top, complete with community spirit and good food. These everyday victories are what life at Winns 2 is all about—encouraging independence, building connections, and enjoying the journey.

A Warm Welcome

Joining the magic this month is new staff member Oluwapelumi Oyeniyi, who's already proving a wonderful addition to the Winns 2 family. With smiles all around and the camaraderie flowing, it's clear he's landed in just the right place.

As we welcome the brighter days of April, there's a buzz of excitement about what's next—more activities, more connections, and many more memories waiting to be made. The Boys Club is just getting started.





AUTHOR: AFOLABI
PHOTOGRAPHER: AFOLABI & OLUWAPELUMI

MagicLife Winns 3 & 6

Bubbling Over with Joy: A Celebration of Friendship and Fun

Exploring Bubble Planet and the Power of Connection at Winns Mews

There are outings... and then there are Outings. The kind that burst with colour, laughter, and unforgettable memories—just like the adventure Danii and Morgan recently embarked on to Bubble Planet. But as magical as the day itself was, what truly made it shine was the heartwarming friendship that inspired the trip in the first place.

Bubble Planet, tucked away in Wembley, is an immersive sensory playground where lights dance, mirrors deceive, and entire rooms invite you to lose yourself in joy. Danii and Morgan, joined by two members of staff, dove headfirst into this wonderland—from oceans of interactive fish to vast domes filled with music, chimes, and dreamy lights.

There was laughter in a balloon-filled room so puffy it was hard to tell where the floor ended and the fun began. A ball pit became a sea of delight, complete with a giant child's head and an oversized rubber duck, where our intrepid adventurers disappeared and popped up giggling like kids again. And let's not forget the cheeky art gallery where pressing buttons made famous portraits blow bubbles and burst into surprise!

The fun was topped off with bubble tea (because of course it was!)—a fitting end to a sensory spectacular that left everyone glowing.

But behind the popping colours and playful illusions lies a deeper story—one of a meaningful friendship that has blossomed within the supportive community of 6 Winns Mews. Danii and Morgan's bond is something truly special. Since meeting at Winns Mews, their

connection has grown into a partnership built on loyalty, shared experiences, and genuine care for one another. They've not only planned memorable outings like Bubble Planet together but have supported one another through life's ups and downs with compassion and strength.

We've watched their friendship bloom like a pair of radiant wildflowers—beautiful on their own, but extraordinary together. Their mutual encouragement and understanding have built confidence and joy that radiates through everything they do. And while Bubble Planet may have offered an escape into a world of fantasy, it's the real-world support they give each other that makes their story truly magical.

Their journey reminds us that friendship isn't just about having fun—it's about lifting each other up, planning adventures together, and finding light even in life's cloudy moments.

Here's to Danii and Morgan, to all the bubbles they've burst and the ones they're yet to blow. We can't wait to see where their next memory-making mission takes them!

AUTHOR:

LESLYN PHILLIPS, CHERYL EVANS & DAWN MALLOTT

PHOTOGRAPHER:

WINNS MEWS 3 & 6 TEAM



Special Mentions:

Huge thanks to Danii and Morgan for creating memories worth celebrating.

Photography by Leslyn Phillips and Nana Osei.



MagicLife Winns 7

Success and Laughter: Life in Full Bloom at Winns Mews 7

March 2025 – A month of cupcakes, comedy, and community spirit

There's something truly special about 7 Winns Mews. Tucked away like a hidden gem, it's more than just a residence—it's a vibrant hive of personality, creativity, and friendship. March 2025 was no exception, as the household buzzed with uplifting moments that brought everyone closer together.

At the heart of the laughter is RD, the undisputed king (or queen!) of comedy. Crowned the home's resident comedian, RD has a knack for turning everyday moments into comedy gold. Whether they're cracking clever jokes or sharing heartfelt poetry with staff, RD's talent lies not only in their words, but in the way they bring people together with joy. Their passion for stand-up and their regular attendance at comedy gigs are

just part of the magic—what truly stands out is the way they use humour to lift spirits and strengthen bonds within the home. And let's not forget, this comedian doesn't just deliver punchlines—they also dish up homemade meals like a true pro!

Adding to the warmth of the home is MY, the ever-charismatic student with a flair for both academics and the art of hospitality. Balancing college life with home life is no small feat, but MY manages it with grace and a generous spoonful of good food. Known for welcoming friends and creating an inviting atmosphere, MY's latest masterpiece was a delightful batch of cupcakes baked alongside staff—a sweet success that had everyone asking for seconds! With a generous heart, he's even offered to whip up a special meal for RD. That's what we call culinary camaraderie!



Meanwhile, KM has started forging new paths with a promising step forward. Attending his first probation meeting with staff support, KM is also eyeing a return to his boxing routine. His commitment is a reminder that every small step can lead to something greater.

March has shown that 7 Winns Mews is a place where resilience meets creativity, and where every resident plays a part in building something beautiful. It's a joyful community, fuelled by shared laughter, home-cooked meals, and moments that matter.

AUTHOR: AFOLABI AKINWUNMI / AALIYAH NSEREKO
PHOTOGRAPHER: WINNS MEWS 7

The Blossom of Spring

Welcoming warmer days, shared stories, and a celebration of togetherness at 95 Greyhound Road

AUTHOR: YVONNE SPILLANE
PHOTOGRAPHER: FRANKIE

As the long winter draws its curtains, March has swept in with a gentle promise of renewal at 95 Greyhound Road. Gone are the stormy nights and surprise snowfalls; in their place, we're gifted with lighter evenings and the first blush of spring—a season that always brings with it a sense of fresh beginnings and joyful discovery.

Springtime, with its blossoms and birdsong, has inspired reflection and reconnection. At Greyhound Road, the arrival of longer days has encouraged everyone to take a moment to consider new goals and aspirations. There's been a real buzz about how we can support each other in making the most of this revitalising season, whether it's with scenic walks, sociable BBQs, or simply a chat under the blooming trees.

And speaking of blooms—what a show the blossom trees have put on! Bursts of blue, pink, and white have stirred more than just the bees, sparking colourful conversations between residents and staff about their favourite shades. It's amazing how something as simple as a colour can reveal so much personality and prompt such cheerful chatter.

Staff and Friends of the Service (FOS) have taken full advantage of the milder weather, heading out for strolls to enjoy the daffodils dancing along the pavements. Even from indoors, the magic of spring hasn't gone unnoticed—the morning air now carries the upbeat

soundtrack of birds greeting the day with enthusiastic chirps, a sound that's lifted everyone's spirits.

March has also been a time for cultural sharing and celebration. Our Muslim colleagues and residents completed the sacred month of fasting with great perseverance, culminating in the joyous celebration of Eid. Meanwhile, those of Christian faith began their spiritual journey through Lent, a time of reflection leading up to Easter. What's been truly heartening is the mutual curiosity and respect shared between both groups—genuine conversations blossomed around beliefs, deepening the sense of community and shared humanity that makes Greyhound Road such a special place.

Of course, spring wouldn't be spring without a few treats! This month has been packed with delights, from sweet cinema snacks enjoyed during film nights to refreshing fruit drinks sipped on sunny walks. Whether you're a foodie or just along for the ride, March has certainly had something for everyone.

A very special shoutout goes to Sarah Nelly—many happy returns and a very happy birthday to you!

As we step further into spring, the atmosphere at 95 Greyhound Road is one of hope, laughter, and warm connection. Here's to brighter days, beautiful blooms, and plenty more shared moments.