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Welcome to the latest edition of Avery Talk! I'm excited to share our recent fundraising events, Wimbledon celebrations, a round-up of Classic Car Day, and much more with you all!

We've got some fantastic summer activities lined up, including our Olympic-themed Avery In Bloom gardening competition. We'd love to see your floral displays—please submit them by Friday 30th August for a chance to win. Check out our website www.averyhealthcare.co.uk for more details.

I'm also thrilled to introduce 'This is Me: My Life, My World, My Way,' which is a personalised book launching this autumn. This extraordinary book, unique to each resident, allows them and

their loved ones to document their life journey, family photos and cherished memories, as well as their goals and aspirations while in our care homes. By utilising this book, you'll help us tailor care and activities to better suit our residents needs, capturing their past and present experiences and making new memories.

Lastly, get involved in our Pod Upcycling Project! Submit your creative ideas by Monday 12th August to transform our unused garden pods into functional, beautiful spaces. Please send your photos and descriptions to well-beingsupportteam@averyhealthcare.co.uk with "Pod Project" in the subject line. We can't wait to see your innovative ideas!



Nursing Care Floor Opens at Hampstead Court



Hampstead Court Care Home in St John's Wood recently unveiled a new state-of-the-art nursing care floor. This addition enhances the home's comprehensive range of services, which already includes residential and dementia care. At the opening event, Deputy Mayor of Camden, Councillor Eddie Hanson, praised the welcoming atmosphere and dedicated staff.

Home Manager, Daniel Bridges, emphasised the benefits of the new nursing care floor, highlighting the 24/7 medical supervision and personalised care plans for residents.

Daniel said, "We are thrilled to expand our services. Our goal is to provide a lifelong home for our residents, ensuring they receive

exceptional care in a nurturing environment. The new nursing care facility allows us to promote independence while offering peace of mind to families, knowing their loved ones are in a safe and supportive setting."

Cllr Eddie Hanson praised the facility, saying, "**The new nursing floor at Hampstead Court Care Home exemplifies dedication and care, creating a warm and supportive environment for residents."**

The opening celebration featured a performance by Classical Guitarist, Ahmed Dickinson, and treats prepared by the on-site Culinary Team.



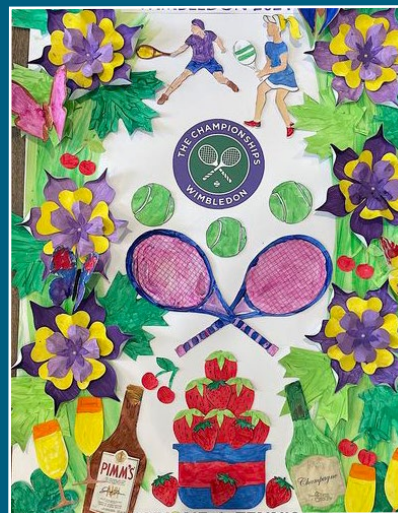
Wimbledon Fever Sweeps Across Avery

The excitement of Wimbledon has brought joy across many of our homes, with residents enjoying a variety of tennis-themed activities. Wimbledon Common Care Home in Wimbledon embraced the spirit by decorating the home, playing table tennis, and watching the live games. At Wandsworth Common Care Home in Wandsworth, the celebration featured strawberries, cream, and Pimm's, with residents and families cheering on the players.

Avalon Court Care Home in Coventry enjoyed a lively day of tennis and game competitions, thanks to the dedicated efforts of Kay, Paul, and Janja from

Rise Life Rugby. Despite a bit of 'cheating,' Ann and Jean were crowned winners, a testament to the fun and competitive spirit of all involved. Hawthorns Aldridge in Aldridge celebrated by enjoying Pimm's and watching the matches in a relaxed setting.

Knowle Gate Care Home in Solihull added a creative touch by collaborating on a Wimbledon-themed artwork that is now displayed in their bistro area. Each home captured the Wimbledon spirit, bringing smiles and a sense of community to residents across our Avery Care Homes.





Feeling Fern-tastic

It is well known that spending time outdoors in nature or even in a garden can greatly benefit both the body and the mind. Gardening holds immense potential for individuals with specific mental health needs or those simply seeking a new hobby.

As the long-awaited British summer finally graces us, our green-fingered residents eagerly step outside. With trowels in hand and imaginations in full bloom, they tended to their beautiful gardens. Throughout the year, our Avery gardening clubs thrive, showcasing an array of wonderful plants—from vibrant rose bushes to aromatic herb gardens and our annual 'Avery in Bloom Competition' provides the perfect platform to showcase their creativity.

Avery in Bloom celebrates the creativity and dedication of our staff and residents in transforming our care homes into vibrant spaces. From grand floral arrangements to quirky indoor planters, it embraces the beauty of nature and builds a sense of community through gardening.

There's still time to get involved with Avery in Bloom! Due to earlier poor weather, the deadline has been extended to Friday 30th August. Enter in three categories: Best First Impressions – Olympics-Themed, Miniature Garden: Getting Everyone Involved, and Novelty Planter: Expressing Creativity. For more information, contact averyinbloom@averyhealthcare.co.uk. Good luck!

Avery Homes' Olympic Celebration

Homes across Avery have been bursting with sporty spirit as we celebrate the Paris 2024 Olympics with a variety of engaging activities and events.

Eastbourne Gardens Care Home in Eastbourne kicked off their celebrations with an Olympic Torch Relay and competitive games like javelin and shot put. Congratulations to Ida, Eastbourne Garden's very own Olympic Champion, and a big thanks to all participants who received gold medals and certificates.

At Esher Manor Care Home in Esher, General Manager Monika Siewierska led residents and staff in a torch ceremony, complete with dressing up and dancing, bringing joy and laughter to everyone involved.

Southbourne Beach Care Home in Southbourne hosted a fun-filled afternoon with numerous staff, residents, and friends participating. The festivities will continue with more events leading up to a grand closing ceremony on Sunday 11th August, promising a day full of games, music, and a medal ceremony.

Acorn Lodge Care Home in Nuneaton celebrated with an Olympic-themed quiz and their own unique take on the Olympic Torch Relay, creating a sporty and vibrant atmosphere.

We're proud of the community spirit and enthusiasm shown throughout all our homes during this year's Olympic Games.



Revving Up Memories: Classic Car Day across the Avery Community

The recent Classic Car Day brought joy and nostalgia to residents across our homes. At Highcliffe Care Home in Sunderland, residents and families were thrilled by a visit from the Sunderland and District Classic Vehicle Society. The event featured a tour of vintage cars, lively discussions about first cars, and an engaging Avery quiz. Car-themed songs and film discussions kept everyone entertained, ending the morning with laughter and tea.

Hempstalls Hall Care Home in Newcastle-under-Lyme celebrated Collector Car Appreciation Day with a showcase of an Audi Quattro and a 1944 US Army Jeep. One resident enthusiastically remarked, ***"I loved getting in the Quattro, I just wanted to go for a drive!"*** Motor enthusiasts shared stories and technical details, making it a memorable day. Special thanks went to Eddie, Chris, Tony, and Sue for displaying their lovingly restored vehicles.

Bourn View Care Home in Birmingham had residents delighted with classic cars, including a 1984 Reliant 3-wheeler and a 1938 Austin 12. The sight of these vintage beauties sparked memories, from being young mechanics to watching "Only

Fools and Horses." Even the Home Manager, Marie Accison, couldn't resist sitting in one!

At Bridge Manor Care Home in Wombourne, residents enjoyed a fantastic day admiring a wide range of classic cars.

Meanwhile, Birchmere House Care Home in Solihull took a trip to the British Motor Museum, where they marvelled at iconic vehicles like the Trotters' Reliant Robin and the Thunderbirds car.

Alma Court Care Home in Cannock, residents browsed through books and pictures of classic cars, sharing fond memories of vehicles they once owned, while Avalon Court Care Home in Coventry residents had a wonderful trip to the Coventry Transport Museum. The day showcased the evolution of cars, sparking delightful discussions and cherished memories among all.



This Is The Way To Darwin Court!

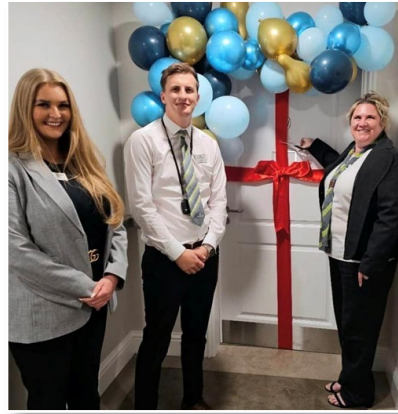
Darwin Court Care Home in Lichfield hosted an unforgettable open day, featuring a surprise visit from singer Tony Christie.

Known for his hit song "(Is This the Way to Amarillo)," Tony officially opened the home's newly refurbished community with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, delighting residents, staff, and visitors alike. Tony said, ***"It was wonderful to be asked to visit Darwin Court Care Home again. Sue and I had a great afternoon meeting such lovely people."***

Home Manager, Simon Dixey, expressed gratitude, highlighting Tony's engagement with the residents and the creation of cherished memories. The event showcased the home's unique facilities and emphasised its role in the local community, inviting potential residents to tour the facility and meet the friendly staff.

The day was further enhanced by a delicious BBQ prepared by the Darwin Court's Head Chef and Culinary Team. Dixey praised the dedication of the staff, crediting them for the event's success. Tony's presence added a special touch, making the day memorable for everyone involved.





Waterhouse Manor Care Home Completes Final Interior Stages

Waterhouse Manor Care Home in Peterborough is excited to announce the completion of its final interior stages, showcasing the luxury that defines this exceptional residence.

The opening was celebrated in collaboration with Barratt Homes and David Wilson Homes, known for their 5-star home builds. The event featured a tour, ribbon-cutting ceremony, and celebratory lunch. Home Manager, Natalie Maxwell, stated, ***"We are honoured to have Barratt Homes and David Wilson Homes join us for this significant occasion. The new show suites capture the elegance we strive for while prioritising comfort and a sense of home for our residents."***

Both developers pledged welcome packages for future residents at Waterhouse Manor Care Home. Representatives praised the warm welcome and impressive amenities, including spacious rooms, a cinema room, and a hair salon. They also highlighted the dedication of on-site Chefs, who take their time to ensure each meal is personalised to each residents' dietary needs.

Waterhouse Manor Care Home will officially open this September.

Key to Dukes Court's Heart

Barbara, who moved to Dukes Court Care Home in Wellingborough in June 2022, is living with advanced dementia. An accomplished professional pianist, Barbara spent over 50 years playing at the Pitt Draffen dancing school, retiring only in her 80s. She performed at various prestigious venues, including the operatic society, the ABC cinema, and the Northampton Repertory Theatre. Her talents also graced the lives of celebrities like actress Joanne Campbell and "Downton Abbey" creator Lord Julian Fellowes, who took singing lessons from Barbara at her home.

As her dementia progressed, Barbara's passion for the piano waned. However, a collaborative

effort by her family and the Dukes Court Care Home team led to the delivery of her cherished grand piano, which she had owned for over 40 years. Unsure of how she would react, everyone watched as Barbara approached the piano with her eyes closed. Upon seeing it, she immediately recognised it and sat down to play. In a heartwarming moment, Barbara played beautifully, as if she had never stopped. There wasn't a dry eye in the room.

This touching experience highlights the profound impact of person-centred care at Dukes Court Care Home, where we strive to help our residents live their best lives with dignity and independence.

[To watch the viral video, click here.](#)



Who Doesn't Love A Summer Celebration?

When the sun's shining and the weather's warm, there's nothing quite like heading outside and savouring the beauty of the British summer. A Summer Fete is one tradition that will always be enjoyed in the warmer months.

Staff, residents, and loved ones gathered at Poets Mews Care Home in Clevedon for their Summer Fete on Thursday 18th July. The day was filled with laughter, songs, and dancing as the Weston Ukelele group entertained guests in the garden and residents led a wonderful sing-along. The atmosphere was vibrant, with everyone enjoying delicious ice cream, mocktails, and wine.

Many communities are putting a twist on traditional fetes, with Avery Park Care Home in Kettering hosting a Greatest Showman-themed event in August and others supporting local charities. Aran Court and St Giles Care Homes in Birmingham teamed up to raise over £350 through their tombola and lucky dip raffle. Their guests explored a variety of artisan craft stalls to discover the perfect summer treat, danced to the sounds of steel drums, and even had a visit from the local ice cream van.

Seagrave House Care Home in Corby hosted their Summer Fete on Saturday 27th July to raise funds for Lakelands Hospice. Guests enjoyed live entertainment from talented singer Lesley Ann and purchased handmade jewellery and soap bars. The team at Seagrave House Care Home were delighted with everyone's efforts and thanked everyone who donated. Together, they raised an incredible £700.





Heart-warming 'Cuppa Concert'

Hampstead Court Care Home in St John's Wood recently demonstrated its commitment to community support with a heart-warming initiative for a Henna Asian Women's Group member. The care home has hosted the group's weekly meetings since May 2023.

The Henna Asian Women's Group, established in 1982, unites women from India, Pakistan, and East Africa, enhancing well-being through social interaction. When a regular member, Kanchan, became housebound after a fall, Hampstead Court Care Home and the Henna Asian Women's

Group organised a surprise 'Cuppa Concert' at her home. Flautist Danielle performed, bringing joy to Kanchan and her family. Kanchan expressed her gratitude, saying, *"It was so nice of Hampstead Court Care Home to organise such a wonderful and thoughtful gift of music after my fall. I enjoyed the music; it made me feel happy and relaxed."*

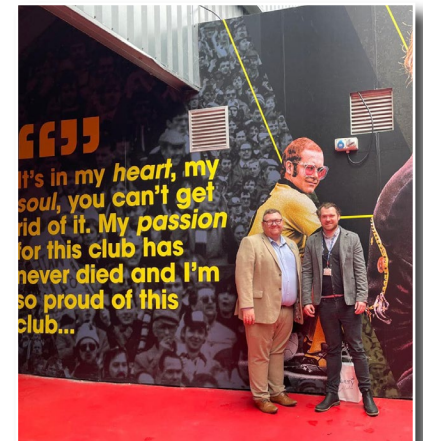
Home Manager, Daniel Bridges, stated, *"We are always looking for ways to go above and beyond for our residents and their loved ones. The 'Cuppa Concert' is just one example of how we strive to make a positive impact."*

Football Fever

General Manager, Aaron Peck, and Client Liaison Manager, Jenny Bloomberg, at Elton House Care Home in Watford recently enjoyed a private guided tour of Vicarage Road, the home stadium of Watford Football Club. The club's 'Watford Welcomes' initiative has allowed them to establish and cement relationships with local community groups as a club for everyone.

It's important that our residents feel connected with their local community and maintain their hobbies, so we're always looking for local attractions our residents can visit. During their visit, they explored the facilities and saw a mural of Sir Elton John. The iconic singer has supported the club since childhood and said he "fell in love with football" there.

Many residents at Elton House Care Home are passionate football fans and can't wait to visit next season and cheer for Watford!



Caring Beyond Our Walls

Supporting our wider communities is at the heart of our care homes. Whether for local clubs or national charities, our staff and residents always find ways to contribute, ensuring these vital organisations can continue their amazing work. One home that was at the centre of supporting their community was Ashurst Mews Care Home.

In July, the Northamptonshire-based home hosted a spectacular Summer Fete in its beautiful, landscaped gardens. The fun-filled day featured exciting funfair activities and a variety of stalls to browse, with all proceeds going towards Fairfield's School. The school had recently launched a fundraiser to build a new sensory room, a valuable tool for creating an inclusive educational environment catering to the diverse sensory needs of all students. Eager to contribute, Ashurst Mews Care Home raised an impressive £400 from their Summer Fete.

Joining the Summer Fete fundraising initiative in July was Camberley Woods in Camberley, who raised an impressive £258 for The Farnborough Stoke and Aphasia Group. The event featured a special visit from Millers Ark Farm, which set up a delightful 'mini farm' in the gardens, bringing along pigs,

donkeys, and goats for residents to pet. The festivities were further enhanced by a lively performance from the talented singer, Jean Claude, who had everyone dancing. To cap it all off, the tombola drew a lot of attention with some fantastic prizes up for grabs.

Southampton Manor Care Home participated in an Alzheimer's Walking For A Cure event in the first week of July. One of our residents said, ***"The weather was brilliant and 500 people took part. The walk itself was 5km and it was lovely being outside seeing all the greenery and nature on the common. I met lots of very kind people and several friendly dogs. After the event, my family wheeled me back (uphill) to Southampton Manor Care Home. Good job too as I was very hungry! I have raised £150."***



From Paris with Love: Avery Homes Revel in Bastille Day

Bastille Day, celebrated on the 14th July, marks the anniversary of the French Revolution and the storming of the Bastille prison in 1789. It's a day of national pride and festive spirit in France, and this year, our Avery community embraced the occasion with vibrant celebrations.

At Crispin Court Care Home in Stafford residents enjoyed an afternoon of Bastille Day festivities filled with French-themed arts and crafts. The home was beautifully decorated, creating a colourful atmosphere reflecting the day's spirit.

Birchmere Mews Care Home in Solihull treated residents to a

culinary feast featuring French delights. The Culinary Team prepared homemade macaroons, French bread, crepes, and coq au vin. A special shout-out goes to Indri for the sensational macaroons that received amazing reviews from everyone.

Froggnal House Care Home in Sidcup transported residents to Paris with a charming afternoon featuring French romance. A live tribute performance by Edith Piaf brought the essence of France to the home, creating a memorable and enchanting celebration. Each home captured the essence of Bastille Day, bringing a taste of France and a sense of joy to all.



Milestones July 2024 August Edition



Myra
Spencer House
100th Birthday, 8th July



Bert (Albert) & Monica
Spencer House
70th Wedding Anniversary, 17th July



Lucy
Cliveden Manor
103rd Birthday, 28th July



Margaret
Amarna House
100th Birthday, 29th July

Photo of the Month



Elsie
Chorleywood Manor

Got a story to share?

If you want to be featured in the next edition of Avery Talk, email marketing@averyhealthcare.co.uk with your story and photos by Monday 26th August.