



**FEBRUARY
2018
NEWSLETTER**

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Karen's Korner

I hope you've all settled into the New Year. We're now seeing the beginnings of slightly longer days—roll on Springtime!

I don't like to be the bearer of bad news, but over the past few weeks we've been looking at our fees structure and comparing our charges with the cost of fees in other care homes and care agencies. We also have to take into account the National Minimum Wage rising year-on-year and, regrettably, we've taken the decision to increase our fees across all our services, that is to say, in the care home, on the domiciliary side, day care and our meals service. Individual letters will be sent out to everyone from early next week and, again, our apologies for having to take this step.



Many Happy returns to Thelma, who celebrated her birthday with daughter, Marion.



Team members celebrating birthdays in January were Loraine, Dawn and Pauline

WELCOME



A WARM KEPPLIGATE WELCOME TO SOME NEW RESIDENTS; AGNES AND TWO MARGARETS HAVE COME TO LIVE AT OUR CARE HOME AND RON & IRENE ARE STAYING FOR A WHILE UNTIL THEY FEEL

ABLE TO GO BACK TO THEIR OWN HOMES.

IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS JULIE AND JAKE HAVE JOINED THE CARE HOME TEAM.

WE HOPE EVERYONE WILL BE VERY HAPPY HERE!



ENTERTAINERS

Darren and Beverley came to entertain our residents during January.

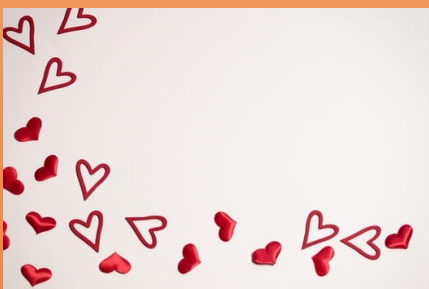
In February Christie Charles is coming to sing for us on Monday, 5th and on Monday the 12th female vocalist, Just Jay, will entertain. We'll let you know about any further bookings for the month,





TEN THINGS YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT VALENTINE'S DAY

- *One theory of how Valentine's Day began was during Roman times,. Emperor Claudius II didn't want young Roman soldiers to marry during wartime but Bishop Valentine went against his wishes and performed secret weddings. He was jailed and executed, but in jail he wrote a note to the jailors daughter signing it "from your Valentine." He allegedly died on 14th February.*
- *The exchange of cards and letters didn't begin until the 17th century.*
- *It was in the 1840's before cards were mass-produced.*
- *Approximately 1 billion Valentine cards are sent around the world each year.*
- *The most popular flower to be given on 14th February is a single red rose—flower of Venus, Roman goddess of love.*
- *25 million cards are given in the UK and the average amount spent per year on Valentine's gifts is an eye-watering £1.3 billion!*
- *Richard Cadbury produced the first box of chocolates for Valentine's Day in the late 1800's.*
- *"Wearing your heart on your sleeve" is from the Middle Ages. Boys would wear the name of a girl pinned to their sleeve for a week.*
- *Oliver Cromwell, as Lord Protector in 1653, banned St Valentine's Day customs and the day wasn't observed again until Charles II was restored to the throne.*
- *Shakespeare mentions Valentine's Day in "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and in "Hamlet"*



AGNES, MAY AND MARGARET ENJOYED AN AFTERNOON ARRANGING FLOWERS



A few more photos from the festive period have come to light since we “went to press” for the January Newsletter! It was lovely to see so many residents enjoy visits from loved ones. There are new pictures up on the photo board in the hallway,

but here are a few more.

