

CARE HOME
Open Day

**CARING
COMMUNITIES**

**Connecting Caring
Communities
2015**



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Care Home Open Day 2015

Introduction

Care Home Open Day is a UK wide initiative, which has extended across the globe, encouraging care homes to open their doors to their local communities, welcoming in the public to connect with residents and staff to create lasting links and developing relationships across the generations.

This year's Care Home Open Day event proved more popular than ever, with an extra 834 homes joining in for 2015, which resulted in more than 3,860 homes taking part across the UK alone.



Of the 327 providers that completed the after event survey this year, the majority of homes received between 10 – 30 visitors and 5 homes had more than 100 guests!

56% of care homes said they provide stimulating activity for their residents every day of the week, with the remainder carrying out activities a minimum of 3-6 times per week.

72% of respondents said they think that taking part has a positive impact on their care home and the local community.

82% used some form of social media to promote their involvement in Care Home Open Day 2015.

99% told us that they are planning on taking part again in 2016.

Over 4,000 care homes across the globe collectively opened their doors this year to welcome visitors and create long-term connections with their local communities. Over 200 care homes took part in Australia, 13 in South Africa and 9 in Malta.



Talented resident
Mrs Antoinette Nystad



Robari & The Arts for Care
Home Open Day



Visitors at Helderberg Society
for the Aged

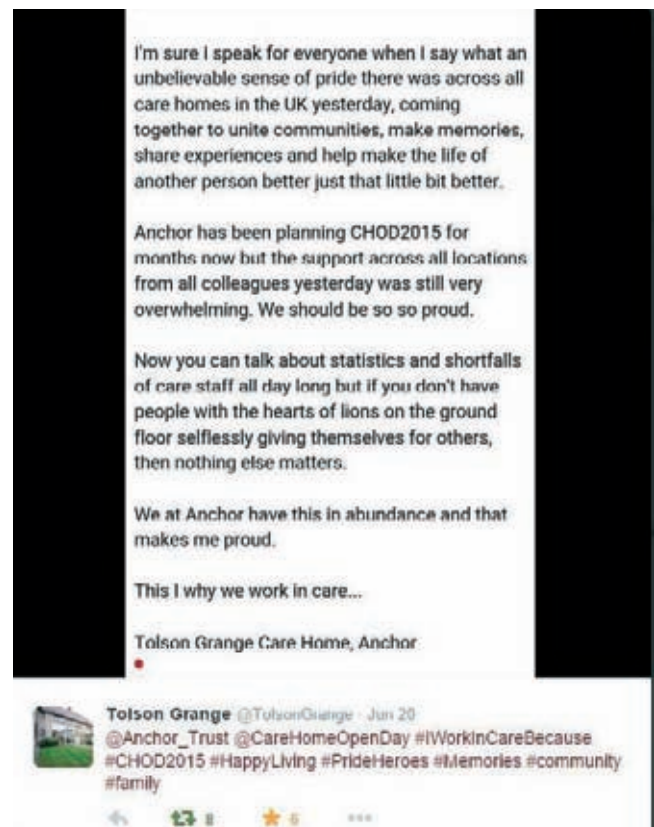
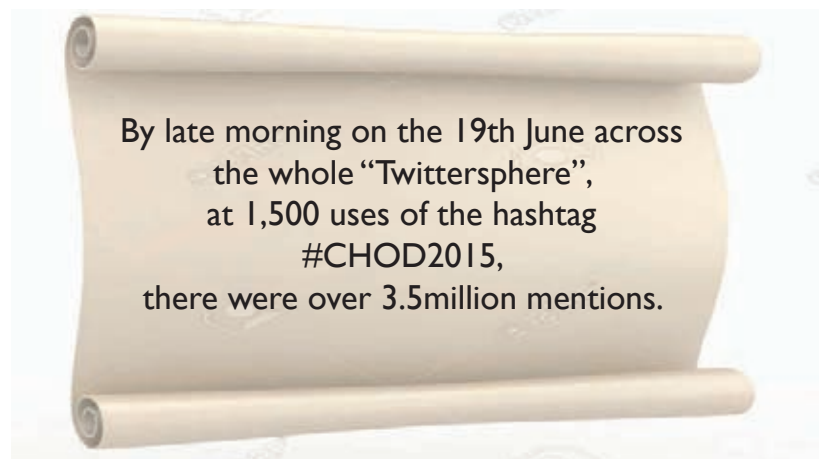
Care Home Open Day 2015

Creating a “social media storm”

The social media engagement this year was phenomenal – with the hashtag #CHOD2015 trending three times on the Friday (starting in 8th place in the morning and ending in 3rd place by 4pm). It trended again on the Saturday at 7th place and again on Sunday at 13th place. It was really great to see care homes embracing social media and using it as a positive force to engage with the public and promote their involvement in Care Home Open Day 2015.



The number of people following on Twitter now stands at 2,102 and this is still growing. Some examples of Tweets sent on the day:



Care Home Open Day 2015

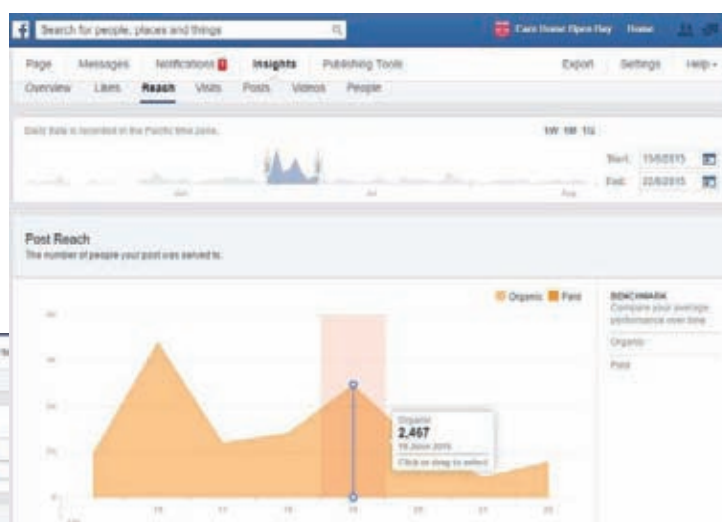
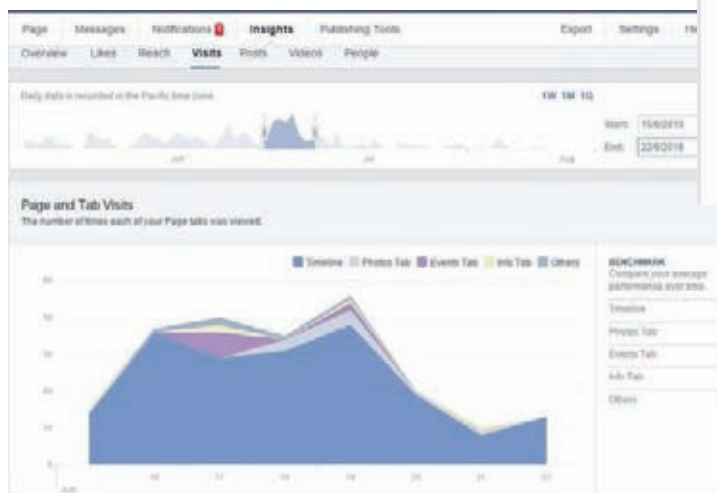
Creating a “social media storm”



Leading up to the day, a social media campaign was started encouraging people to take photos and Tweet them holding up a sign telling the world they were supporting Care Home Open Day. It was a lot of fun and great to see how many people got involved, from all walks of life, all over the UK.



There are now 1265 followers on Facebook and this is also still increasing. On the 19th June there were 2,467 people engaged with the items being posted on the Care Home Open Day Facebook page and 3,391 people posted information on the 16th June leading up to the day itself.



Traffic to the page increased dramatically leading up to the event.



Care Home Open Day 2015

Press Coverage

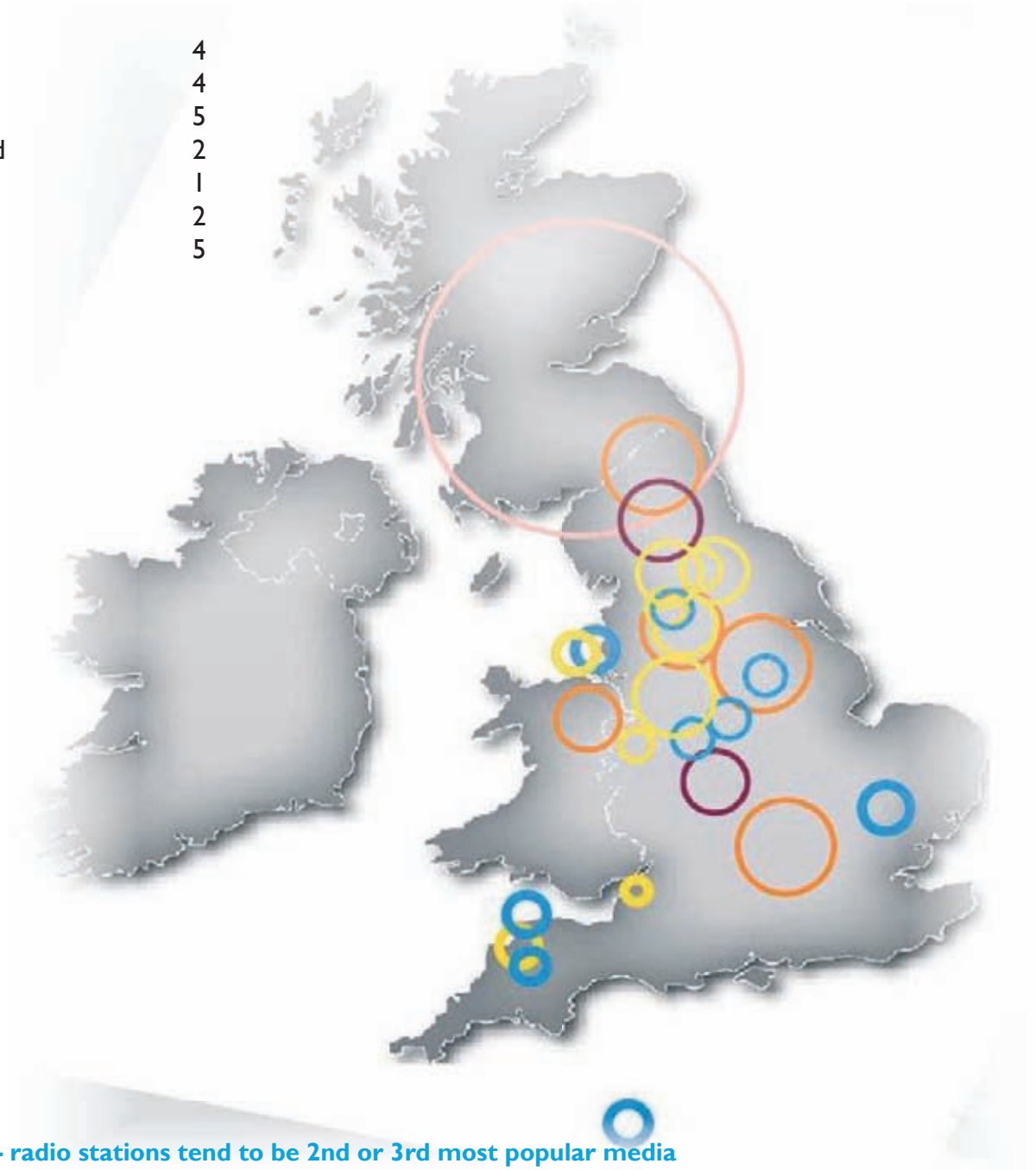
A total of 27 radio interviews were broadcast across the UK to promote Care Home Open Day 2015, with a total audience reach of 3,859,000 people.

Region:

Items of Coverage:

East England
Midlands, England
North East England
North West England
Scotland
South East England
South West England

4
4
5
2
1
2
5



- **Leading Local** – radio stations tend to be 2nd or 3rd most popular media
- **Regional** – radio stations typically picked up by the whole country
- **Leading Regional** – radio stations with a significant audience share reaching the whole country
- **Major Market** – UK's largest radio stations with an audience reach from 200,000 to over 2 million
- **National** – radio stations with audience figures in the millions broadcasting across the whole of the UK

There were at least 163 local newspapers across the country that covered the stories from care homes within their areas and The Guardian did an online article about Care Home Open Day with a photo gallery from 2014. There were also items in 9 Trade Magazines and 23 regional lifestyle magazines.

Henley Standard

Delivering the news from Henley on Thames and South Oxfordshire for over 100 years

Pupils visit care home with cake



Children from three primary schools spent a morning at the Acacia Lodge care home in Henley. Classes from Valley Road and St Mary's in Henley and Peppard primary chatted with residents of the Quebec Road home for Care Home Open Day.

The St Mary's students showed off sculptures of the pensioners' faces which they had made in their art classes.

Western Gazette

Preston Park House in Yeovil welcomes community for Care Home Open Day

Residents and staff at Preston Park House in Yeovil were delighted to open their doors to the local community for Care Home Open Day in June.

The national day, which is now in its third year, encourages care homes to invite people to develop relationships within their communities.

Preston Park House went all out for the occasion, planning an Australian theme day with a BBQ lunch, decorations, props and a talk about Australia.

In the morning they enjoyed a sing a-long with musical entertainer Shelley and in the afternoon everyone tucked in to scones and refreshments.



Knutsford Guardian

Mobberley Care Home wows guests with art exhibition



A care home put on a very imaginative show to visitors in the community during Care Home Open Day.

On Friday June 19, Sunrise of Mobberley celebrated in style by inviting people from across the area to join in a day packed full of art and music.

Residents were joined by families and friends, as the senior living community celebrated the special role that art plays in helping those living with dementia and other forms of memory loss.

Guests were invited to look around an exhibition, which featured the best works from Sunrise's 27 communities, including the Mobberley centre.

Dunfermline Press



Wishes granted at Bandrum open day!

As part of this year's Care Home Open Day last Friday, residents and guests enjoyed a day of fun and activities before the new 'wishing tree' was unveiled. The idea is for residents to attach wishes they've always wanted to fulfil and the care home to help them achieve them. When a wish has been granted, a flower will be added to show it has come true.

Lingfield care home celebrates open day with performance from musical twins

Residents of a Lingfield care home were treated to a day of arts, crafts and live music to celebrate Care Home Open Day on Friday.

This year, Orchard Court Care Home in East Grinstead Road chose to hold an arts, crafts and photography exhibition to fit in with the national theme of "The Arts".

Entertainment was provided by singing twins Lauren Pratt and Megan Watkinson, who both work at the home as carers. They were also joined by students from Step Up & Sing, an East Grinstead singing academy based in Railway Approach.



Nuneaton News

Care Home Open Day changes hearts and minds and is a lot of fun

Families, members of the public and entertainers flooded into residential homes throughout the area. Care Home Open Day has been celebrated at a number of locations. At Drayton Court, run by not for profit WCS Care, guests were treated to a rock 'n' roll themed day with an Elvis impersonator, games and an American diner. Connie Cooper, who has lived there since December, said: "Everyone has been up dancing to Elvis and really enjoyed taking part in the other activities; I'm worn out! People's families and members of the public joined in, too. We wanted to create a day that was special and I think it worked."



Penarth Times

Care home holds open day after major refurbishments

A care home opened its doors to show off its newly refurbished premises. Ty Gwyn on Stanwell Road held the open day on Friday, June 19 as part of the Care Home Open Day. Stephen Doughty MP and town mayor Cllr Rosemary Cook were in attendance to see the results of the work. Mr Doughty said: "It was great to visit Ty Gwyn and to help mark Care Home Open Day."

I was delighted to meet residents, to learn about some of the activities they can take part in, and to see first-hand the dedicated service provided by the staff. Care homes provide such an important and valuable service, not only to their residents but also within the wider community, and it was a pleasure to learn more about Ty Gwyn.

The Docklands & East London

Advertiser

Hippie Liz, 78, ready for retro Swinging Sixties shindig at Stepney care home



Elizabeth Whittaker remembers being part of the 'Flower Power' generation back in the Swinging Sixties. She's long "retired" from all that now, but plans to relive it all for just one more day in London's East End. They're turning the clock back half-a-century on Friday at Stepney's Hawthorn Green care home where Elizabeth now lives—back to the Hippie days of her youth. "The 1960s was a happy time for me," the 78-year-old recalls. "I like thinking back to the clothes we wore and the music we listened to—especially The Beatles." She is joined by fellow care home resident Ron Ballard, 83, who is also planning to relive his heyday on Friday. The Sanctuary home in Redmans Road, Stepney Green, has a 1960s-theme open day for the public to share with the pensioners, between 11am and 3pm, as part of Care Home Open Day.

theguardian

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social care network:
adult social care hub

Care Home Open Day: celebrating an undervalued sector - in pictures

Friday 19 June 2015 is the third annual Care Home Open Day, a time when homes open their doors and invite the local community in. To celebrate, we've put together a selection of photos from last year's event. From dog shows to football matches, care homes everywhere put on a good show in an endeavour to show the positive side of care, and improve links with the neighbourhood.

• Homes show residents they care with online feedback system

Ruth Hardy

@ruthhardy22

Friday 19 June 2015 10:00 BST

f t p g+

Shares Comments

142

0



In Westbourne, the Sunrise Senior Living care home had a pink theme for the day, with a visit from the local mayor.
Photograph: Sunrise Senior Living

f t p

Care Home Open Day mentioned in Parliament

Andrew Stephenson, MP for Pendle, raised Care Home Open Day in the House of Commons this year, and asked for a debate on care homes in regards to the excellent care carried out across the UK, and was responded to by Chris Grayling MP.

You can view the clip here:

<http://parliamentlive.tv/event/index/a498cb7c-c535-4b61-a91b-47166c7529ad?in=11:41:20&out=11:42:16>

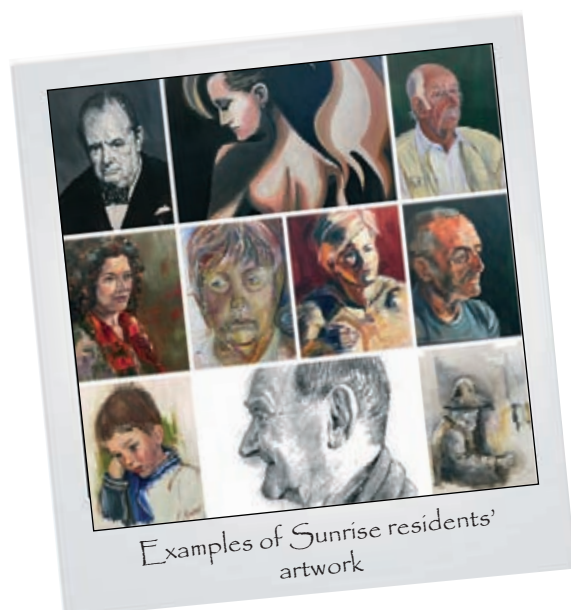


Approximately 56 MPs from the House of Commons visited at least one care home in their constituency for Care Home Open Day 2015.



Artistic talents on display at Sunrise of Bassett

Sunrise Senior Living of Bassett celebrated the return of Art of Sunrise, a powerful campaign which recognises and champions art for older people. The community hosted an exhibition as part of a day of celebration planned for Care Home Open Day on 19th June.



Examples of Sunrise residents' artwork

This year's Care Home Open Day had a distinctly artistic theme, and Sunrise Senior Living responded enthusiastically with the return of Art of Sunrise, a campaign first launched in 2013. This year, the campaign included a specially curated art collection which was on display at Sunrise of Bassett from 19th – 26th June.

The exhibition included works produced by residents from each of Sunrise's 27 UK communities, including Bassett.

Cross-generational creativity was also recognised, with the winners of a children's and an adults competition also on display, both of which have been encouraged through links with local primary schools.

The main event was held on Care Home Open day itself, where coffee and Danish pastries were served from 10.30am and cheese and wine from 3pm. Tours of the site were also available and everyone was welcome to attend.

Art is a big feature of life at Sunrise. Residents have the opportunity to explore their artistic talents during taster sessions and art classes held regularly at communities. These sessions are not only entertaining, but provide residents with new ways to express themselves. Art can also be much more than a creative pastime – it can play a crucial role for residents living with forms of memory loss, as it keeps their mind active and can act as a form of therapy.



Stockport Grammar School Winner of Bramhall Sunrise Portrait Competition, Nancy Davis

Pottery Pals at Barchester's Austen House

In the run-up to Care Home Open Day 2015, Austen House Care Home arranged a pottery session at the home. The idea was for residents to decorate pottery and for that to be glazed later on so that the home could display the artwork at their Care Home Open Day event.



This was the first time the company 'Pottery Pals' had visited Austen House but the activity was an instant hit. 'Pottery Pals' visited all parts of the home, engaging residents with a variety of care needs, including individuals living with dementia.

18 pottery pieces were painted and displayed. The people who took part were able to express feelings through art and said they really enjoyed getting creative. The finished pieces looked great when they were put on display for the home's Care Home Open Day event. It was a celebration of the positive effect of art in a care environment and the artistic talent of the individuals living there.

'Pottery Pals' was so popular that Austen House are planning to invite them back before Christmas for a themed pottery painting session!



Resident Barbara Moir showing her pottery creation



Resident Michael Goodwin with Austen House Activities Coordinator, Hayleigh Robinson



Examples of pottery pieces created by residents

A cup of vintage at Darsdale Residential Home

To celebrate Care Home Open day this year, staff at Darsdale Home in Raunds hosted a successful Afternoon Vintage Tea Party which saw over a 100 people enjoy a cup of vintage!



With the sun shining and the climate warm, party-goers, which included residents and their relatives plus the general public, joined in with the theme by wearing vintage costumes and tucking into home-made sandwiches and cakes.



Attendees particularly enjoyed stepping back in time with the specially created reminiscence hut being a big hit. Inside visitors could look at memorabilia, listen to music and touch various objects. Due to its popularity the home will leave the converted summer house set-up like this over the summer so residents and their relatives can enjoy it for even longer.

Sarah Paradise, Home Manager said afterwards: "The Tea Party was fun, the atmosphere was great and everyone thoroughly enjoyed it. Our Activities Co-ordinator always has plenty going on for our residents but they particularly look forward to special events where their relatives and local residents can come along and join in."



Care UK celebrates The Arts in style



In-keeping with The Arts as one of the themes for Care Home Open Day 2015, Jean Chesterman, a resident at Care UK's Kingsfield care home in Faversham, Kent, published a book of poems for children.

Roundabout, written under her married name of Jean Kenward, is the latest work in a writing career that has spanned nine decades. Jean has written more than 18 books and over 250 poetry anthologies but she is perhaps best known for her creation Ragdolly Anna, which was made into a children's TV series in the 1980s.



Jean holding a copy of 'Roundabout'

Jean talks about her life at Kingsfield care home and thinks that it is important to see the good things in the world as we hear so much that is bad.

She says that: "I see good things here at Kingsfield in what the staff do. They are extremely understanding and very kind. They have a huge amount of patience and go out of their way to be helpful. They work very hard and I admire them. There is a lot of laughter here".



Jean at work in her room at Kingsfield Care Home

Manor House Music surprise Kingsfield's resident with a classical performance

With the arts being this year's theme for Care Home Open Day, combined with the inspiring success of a new publication written by Kingsfield's resident Jean Chesterman, the team at the care home arranged an afternoon for all to celebrate and enjoy.

Rehearsals for the classical performance from Manor House Music kicked off at 1pm, much to Jean's surprise. "We decided to keep this as a surprise for Jean as she does so much within the community, she really deserved something special" said Jane Higgins, Kingsfield's home manager. "We invited her family to come along and enjoy the afternoon with her and all of the residents here" she continued.

Jean regularly visits local classical music students, just up the road from the care home and enjoys listening to music whilst she writes and draws at her desk, making this choice in performance a real treat for her.



Manor House musicians entertaining residents

Care Home Open Day 2015

Stories to share...

As part of Care Home Open Day 2015, Anchor's flagship West Hall care home in West Byfleet, Surrey, launched a recruitment campaign to address the chronic shortage of carers across the country.

Research carried out by Anchor, which runs West Hall, highlighted that England could face a shortfall of 718,000 care workers by 2025, and an unprecedented number of men are needed to bridge the gap. West Hall invited members of the local community - particularly men - looking for a career in the care sector to a recruitment day on Friday 19 June.

Care home workers and recruitment staff were on hand at the event to offer advice to job hunters and explain why they enjoy working with older people. As staff at West Hall organise daily activities for the residents, visitors were also able to join in with these sessions on the day. The activities followed Care Home Open Day's theme of 'The Arts' and included a singing session, a painting class with children from the neighbouring nursery and an exhibition of residents' artwork.



L-R: Sophia, Ruby, Valerie, Debbie & Tymek getting arty



L-R: Eileen, Julie, Chanel & June



Anchor resident Irene sings along with Vanessa & Asa

Care Forum Wales Members celebrate Care Home Open Day 2015

Care Home Open Day 2015 was celebrated by CFW members across Wales. Below is a gallery of images – with photos from Queen Elizabeth Court, Llandudno (top row), RMBI Albert Edward, Porthcawl (middle row and bottom row) and Swn y Mor, Aberavon (bottom row, right).



CFW members from all corners of Wales took part in the day. Some embraced the arts theme with painting, knitting and outdoor art workshops on offer. Other members combined the day with a fete, barbecue or fancy dress-themed occasion. It's lovely to see people of all ages from the community being welcomed with activities aimed at children such as face painting and a fun 'catch the duck' fishing game. At Romilly Nursing Home in Cardiff the city's Lord Mayor opened a new residents' bar, the Harp and Daffodil. CFW's Malcolm Perrett opened an old-fashioned sweet shop for residents too and there was entertainment and culinary treats for residents and visitors.



Gallery of images from CFW members



Getting creative across Wales

Boots UK visits Belong Macclesfield for Care Home Open Day

A pharmacist and No 7 consultant from Boots UK visited Belong Macclesfield, on Kennedy Avenue, to offer mini-makeovers and cosmetics advice to residents and run an 'Ask your pharmacist' session for visitors to the community care village. The sessions took place in Belong Macclesfield as part of a day of events to celebrate Care Home Open Day. Other activities throughout the day included live music, the village gardening club and dog petting for people living in Belong Macclesfield.



Betty Townend, who lives in Belong Macclesfield, said: "Everybody likes to look their best, whatever their age. I already visit the village Hair Salon regularly to have my hair done, so it was a lovely change to have the experts from Boots come along to our open day and to give us makeup tips."

Caroline Ray, General Manager at Belong Macclesfield, said: "Not everybody realises how many services in Belong Macclesfield are open to the public, so Care Home Open Day is an excellent opportunity for us to open the doors and welcome people in to look around. We do a lot of work with local community groups to ensure that there are always a range of activities taking place in the village and we are very grateful that the team from Boots came along to show their support."

Gail Pearce, Senior Business Development Manager Care Services, Boots UK comments: "For over 160 years we've used our health and beauty led expertise and support to help improve the health and wellbeing of local communities. We're delighted to be a part of Care Home Open Day and to be able to share some of our community pharmacy services with the residents of Belong Macclesfield."

Care Home Open Day is designed to help reveal what the majority of care homes in the UK are really like by opening doors to their local neighbourhoods. The national initiative is intended to help people to realise that care homes are often inspiring places, with vibrant communities and a dedicated workforce.

Belong Macclesfield includes facilities such as the village bistro, hair salon and exercise studio, which are open to members of the local community all year round. The Belong model is based on the vision that older people have the right to enjoy the same community belonging and richness of experience that they have always known.



Belong resident Betty Townend admires her makeover with Boots No7. consultant, Kelly Whiston

Residents at Bupa's Church Farm care home witnessed a shotgun wedding as part of the fun for Care Home Open day, staged alongside the Bupa in Bloom competition. Church Farm was one of 11 Bupa homes competing, with staff given the theme of 'scarecrow with a difference'.



Fiona, the scarecrow bride with her groom Michael, & Vicar, Tom*

* photos courtesy of Bognor Regis Observer

They came up with the idea of a shotgun wedding, featuring chef manager Fiona Doughty, who has worked there for 12 years, and maintenance man Michael Cooper, who joined the team five months ago. The couple have been together for 21 years so were happy to play bride and groom. The baby for the shotgun wedding was played by manager Doreen Saunders' grandson Oliver and care assistant Tom Longland was the vicar.



Residents & guests watching the 'shotgun' wedding*



Hunters Down care home, part of the Excel Care Group, participated in Care Home Open Day this year with residents and guests enjoying listening to some poetry recited by Sue Rodwell-Smith, who volunteers to come in and paint some of the residents' nails on a Friday afternoon.

The Huntingdon Rotary Club also came along and involved everyone in a singalong accompanied by their Rotary Band.

Tea, coffee and cake were enjoyed by everyone and served to guests by Alyce and Karen from Tesco Community Champions.

The Mayor was a guest and he kindly joined in with our paper flower making. Hunters Down is entering into a NAPA competition called the Fine Dining Experience. One of the elements is to try and involve as many people in our community as possible. Heather Wallace, Team Leader for Kings Unit manned the table and enticed all of the guests to make a flower for the decorations for our competition.



Huntingdon Rotary Club 'sing-a-long'



Huntingdon Rotary Club musicians



Residents & guests enjoying the entertainment

Care Home Open Day 2015

Stories to share...

CQC got involved to support Care Home Open Day again in 2015, with hundreds of staff members across England taking part and visiting a care home on the day.

- 157 members of staff, made...
- 183 visits to...
- 168 different care homes



Chief Inspector of Adult Social Care at CQC, Andrea Sutcliffe, said: "I'm delighted that so many of our staff took part in Care Home Open Day this year. It was a busy day for me visiting three different care homes in Manchester, Leeds and Scarborough, as well as taking the opportunity to highlight the good care we are finding and to explain how we are taking tough action when needed."



"Sadly the image of care homes can be tarnished by the poor care that does sometimes happen. Care Home Open Day 2015 was a wonderful opportunity to see the other side of the coin - fantastic homes, with compassionate, dedicated staff providing care and support we would be happy for anyone we love to receive."

Lauren and Andrea had an early start, talking about Care Home Open Day and Adult Social Care with the BBC Breakfast team, followed up with some great radio interviews



Sylvie Silver is the Director of the National Activity Providers Association and a co-chair of the Care Home Open Day steering group. Sylvie visited Bernard Sunley Care Home, which is close to where she lives in Woking, Surrey.



Along with Sharon Blackburn from the National Care Forum, Sylvie popped in to see what the home was doing to celebrate Care Home Open Day 2015.

A multitude of residents, families and visitors were enjoying the sunshine and a summer barbeque in the central courtyard, before enjoying an Old Fashioned Puppet Show – an innovative way of celebrating The Arts theme which was a focus for the day.



Residents, staff & visitors enjoying the puppet show



Sylvie with the team at Bernard Sunley Care Home

This year for Care Home Open Day, HC-One invited its homes to participate in the HC-One Watercolour Challenge.

HC *one of a kind*

The idea was to embrace 'The Arts and Valuing Staff' theme and to encourage HC-One homes up and down the country to make contact with local school pupils, art college students, amateur art groups and volunteers and create either individual or joint pieces of art work that could be exhibited throughout the home on the day.

Many homes participated in the challenge and welcomed many relatives, friends and visitors to participate in all the positive things taking place in our care homes.

An example of how one of our homes participated in the challenge was to invite a local amateur artist to volunteer her time and deliver a mini art group session for residents at Penwood Lodge, Gloucestershire, which they thoroughly enjoyed.



Penwood Lodge participated in the HC-One Watercolour Challenge

Care Home Open Day 2015

Stories to share...



The letter from the St Pierre Eglise (church) in France

On Care Home Open Day 2015, Agincourt Care Home held their annual balloon race, where residents, staff and visitors all joined in releasing balloons to see how far they would go. On the 25th June, Agincourt Care Home received a letter from a gentleman in France, Saint Pierre Eglise, to be exact! The winning balloon was the one released by our visiting singer, who entertained residents, staff and guests alike for Care Home Open Day.



Rose Lodge Care home collaborates on art project with local primary school for Care Home Open Day

A Newton Aycliffe care home and a local primary school teamed up for an arts project as part of Care Home Open Day with the aim of strengthening connections within their local community. Children from Stephenson Way Community Primary School drew portraits of staff at Rose Lodge care home, a residential and dementia care home for the elderly, which were then displayed to the general public at the home in Carers Way, Newton Aycliffe.



As this year's themes were focused on 'The Arts' and 'Valuing Staff', Rose Lodge decided to combine these two themes for their open day by coordinating with Stephenson Way Community Primary school on an arts project in which children from the school drew portraits of staff from Rose Lodge, including the home's resident pet Nixon the cat.

Children from the Primary school visited Rose Lodge to look at the display of their portraits and meet and mingle with residents and the staff they had drawn.



Children from Stephenson Way Community Primary School showing their artwork

Care Home Open Day, a great day for everyone



On 19th June 2015, Four Seasons Health Care invited the community in to its homes to celebrate Care Home Open Day. We were joined by friends, families, local community visitors, MPs, Mayors and Lady Mayors, local schoolchildren and many more.

Our residents, colleagues and guests enjoyed a host of activities including: BBQs, summer fetes and themed tea parties, 1940's and 1950's live music, teddy bears' picnics, visits from the local animal shelter and even a fully costumed pantomime.



Staff at FSHC Stormont Care Home in Belfast



L-R: Teresa Pearce MP, Brian Sik (CQC), Maggie Candy, Marlborough Court Mgr, Sheilla Davies, Asst. Mgr, & Angela Forsdyke, CQC



Enjoying some Indian Dancing for Care Home Open Day
Burlington Court Glasgow



Hallgarth Care Home, Durham
enjoying their entertainment

We would like to say a big **THANK YOU** to everyone who took part and visited us and especially to the residents at our homes, who we hope had a great time.

To find out more about what Four Seasons Health Care homes got up to for Care Home Open Day please visit our website www.fshc.co.uk

Care Home Open Day 2015

Stories to share...

The 2015 Care Home Open Day was another resounding success, and Professor Martin Green, Chief Executive of Care England, visited Kew House, one of Hallmark Healthcare's homes in Wimbledon.



I arrived on a beautiful sunny afternoon, and received a fantastic and very warm welcome from the residents, their friends and families and the staff, who were all determined to make sure everyone had a good time.

Kew House was a hive of activity and the central cafe area was where many of the guests congregated before going to see a really wonderful art exhibition that was showcasing the work of both residents and staff. It was great to see such a positive and creative care home and the quality of the art work was fantastic.

Later on in the afternoon Kew House received some VIP guests, in the form of the Mayor and Mayoress of Merton. It was so good to see civic leaders supporting Care Home Open Day and being so engaged in the activities. The Director of Informatics at CQC, Paul Bate, who is also a former Prime Ministerial Advisor, dropped in and was his usual engaging self, talking to residents, their families and staff.



Showcasing the artistic talents of residents & staff at Kew House



Kew House artwork on display



Mayor & Mayoress of Merton, Mrs Irina Chung & Mr David Chung, chatting with a resident at Kew House

Care Home Open Day is a great opportunity for care services to showcase their work to the local community and they certainly rose brilliantly to that challenge at Kew House.

Creative Minds delivers fun and stimulating art sessions to care homes. They primarily work with older adults and people with learning disabilities enabling them to explore their creativity and create beautiful artwork with a professional artist on hand to provide support.



The 'Appleby Tate' at Appleby House care home in Epsom

For Care Home Open Day 2015, Appleby House care home in Epsom opened the 'Appleby Tate' an incredible gallery space to display all the residents' artwork. James, the founder of Creative Minds, has been delivering art sessions to Appleby House, part of Care UK, for over a year and the residents have created a lot of artwork in the sessions.

Shona, the manager at Appleby House, commented; "James sees the creative potential in everyone, but what makes the difference is that he makes the art sessions easy, fun and engaging for residents, all of whom are living with different types of dementia and at various stages of the condition. We were so proud of what the residents had created that we began removing pictures from the home's walls and replacing them with their paintings, so we've now launched the Appleby Tate."

James said; "The art sessions are hugely popular at Appleby House and all of the residents that participate create fantastic artwork, and really immerse themselves in the creative process. An important aspect of the art sessions is their accessibility, we also want the residents to have fun, relax and feel supported with a professional artist on hand. When I saw the Appleby Tate, it brought a tear to my eye, it is the most incredible exhibit of the residents' artwork, I don't think any other care home can top it."

The 'Appleby Tate' gallery was officially opened by the Mayor and Mayoress of Epsom and Ewell, Councillors Christopher and Elizabeth Frost.

Undoubtedly one of the most impressive pieces of art in the Appleby Tate exhibit is a huge pastel landscape that the residents had been working on for 5 art sessions. It is now proudly on display and beautifully framed for all to see.



Residents artwork on display at Appleby House



"Appleby Tate" art gallery

Outdoor butterflies at Worplesdon View care home in Guildford

The residents at Worplesdon View, a Barchester Healthcare care home in Guildford, created some lovely colourful butterflies in oil pastel. These were laminated and sticks were glued to the back so that they could then be placed in the new flower boxes and on display for residents and visitors to enjoy when out in the garden.



Hats off to the residents at Lynton Hall care home in New Malden

Wonderful hats were decorated at Lynton Hall, a Bupa care home in New Malden, Surrey as part of Care Home Open Day. The residents used various crafty items from felt to buttons to decorate their hats. The session was delivered by Creative Minds Artist Ellie, who delivers art sessions to care homes across south west London.

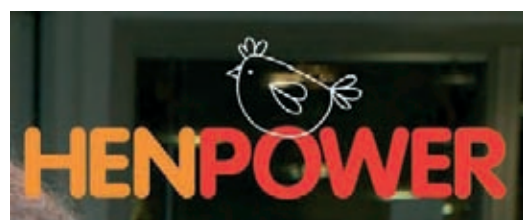
HenPower

For Care Home Open Day we celebrated in style at the many care homes we work with across the country, with role play, musicians, visual artists and a whole load of hens to *henergise* our older people!



What more could you want? This year's emphasis was on the arts and valuing staff. HenPower's core values all year round to *henrich* people's lives.

This year, we held a chicken sing along at Comfort House in Denton, Newcastle upon Tyne, where the Comfort Choir hummed as musicians strummed to the strings of the chookulele! 'My Old Hen' and 'There Ain't Nobody Here But Us Chickens', all firm favourites with a bit of participation on strings from Bob, one of the residents.



We ran visual arts in Eastwood Promoting Independence Centre in Heworth, Gateshead, where everyone from the cook, the cleaner, to the physiotherapist joined in, building positive links between residents and staff and sharing skills to enable staff to replicate arts sessions throughout the week to benefit their residents.

Wood Green ran a hen road show in Newburn Manor Primary School, Newcastle, teaching little people how to care for their newly hatched chicks. Building bridges between the generations is key to HenPower. Alan Richards, active older volunteer says "In working with HenPower, I've made friends through hens with people from four to ninety four".

The ladies of Wood Green meanwhile were cock-a-hoop and shook their tail feathers with an active movement session. They invited their feathered friends indoors for a closer look so that they could really get to grips with developing their own funky chicken moves.



Having a 'Henpower' chat!



Residents getting creative



Displaying some Henpower inspired artwork

Care Home Open Day 2015

Stories to share...

Skills for Care was pleased to be part of this year's hugely successful Care Home Open Day. Too often we hear about the negative side of care, and it's fantastic that so many care homes across the country were able to get involved and share some of the positive stories about living and working in social care.



Our CEO Sharon Allen visited Brooke House and Cherry Hinton care homes in Cambridge to find out how learning and development has helped them offer high quality care to the people they support.

"I always look forward to Care Home Open Day as it is a chance for me to meet people who live in care homes and the hard-working, dedicated and well trained staff who work there, and particularly the registered managers who set the culture" says Sharon Allen.

"Around 25% of people have never set foot in a care home so this is a chance for them and others to find out about the quality of care and support provided as well as the array of activities on offer including, as this year's theme highlights, the amazing work the artistic community does to keep minds and bodies active."

Employees of Skills for Care were keen to get involved and embraced the social media campaign. We maximised our local and national networks to help spread the word and we are already making plans to support Care Home Open Day 2016.

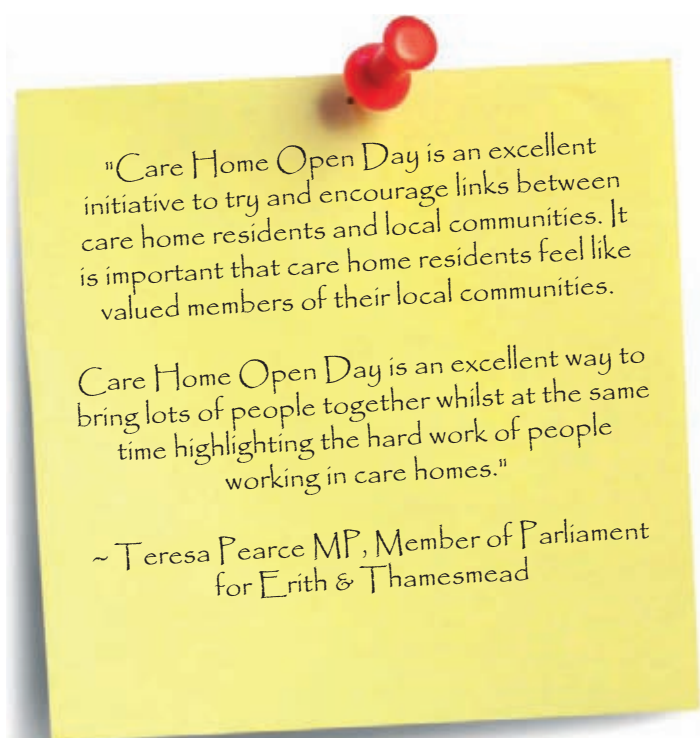


Skills for Care would like to thank Care England, NCF and partners for all their work in initiating and coordinating Care Home Open Day and congratulate them on another successful event.

Des Kelly, NCF Executive Director, spent Care Home Open Day with NCF office staff at BEN's (The Automotive Charity) Town Thorns care centre near Rugby. We were accompanied by amateur photographer, John ('Ken') Maclaughland, who lives at the care centre and took a huge number of pictures on the day.



I produced a blog about Care Home Open Day which can be seen on the NCF website. Looking at the wide range of imaginative activities that took place in the homes, I felt proud to be associated with the day. There was a lot of live music including a variety of different bands, musicians and singers ... including Elvis! It is wonderful that in the third year of Care Home Open Day, we saw a growing level of support for this simple but important initiative – to celebrate the best of care homes with the communities they serve!



Pamela Holmes

Maitland Park care home, Camden, London

We walked around the care home past ensuite single bedrooms, many with big windows overlooking the terraces where residents were sitting out in the sunshine. Visitors were encouraged to use the care home's café where they could talk over coffee and biscuits. I set out a stall on the piece of land just outside the care home door, with leaflets and information posters. Maitland Park is a place I pedalled past on the way to work while it was being built. Care Home Open Day has given me an excuse to knock on the door and introduce myself.

Read my blog about the home:

<http://www.scie.org.uk/news/opinion/looking-forward-to-care-home-open-day-2015.asp>





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Looking forward to Care Home Open Day 2015

By SCIE's Pamela Holmes, practice development manager, on how her curiosity got the better of her after she cycled past a care home that was being built.

SCIE opinion – 01 June 2015



Ideas for Care Home Open Day are starting to blossom at Maitland Park care home. Just like the trees and flowers that surround this 60-roomed purpose-built home for older people set on a hill just above London's Camden Town.

But first, home manager June Dover is devising a staff-recognition award scheme that she wants to launch; and she's also planning activities for an upcoming dementia awareness day. I was on a quick pre-visit to see what will be on offer on Care Home Open Day on 19 June. I'm looking forward to the day, not least because of the enthusiasm on show at the care home.

And enthusiasm is something that June has in spades. As we walked around the care home past en-suite single bedrooms, many with big windows overlooking the

What do you think?

Please send us your comments and suggestions. It will help us to continue to improve our work in the future.

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Care Home Open Day 2015 was a huge success in Scotland, with care homes across the country taking part and significant support from the Scottish Government, the regulatory bodies and other stakeholders.



Scottish Care was actively involved in the day, with members of staff visiting homes in Tayside and Ayrshire. This year, the Care Inspectorate also greatly supported the day. On the day, senior members of the Care Inspectorate visited homes to promote the Care Home Open Day initiative and stressed the vital role that care homes play with our families and in communities.

Scotland was also heavily involved in the social media coverage of Care Home Open Day, with a number of politicians, civil servants and Scottish Government Ministers Tweeting their support. Scottish politicians were also very active in their communities as part of Care Home Open Day, with more of them than ever visiting homes, sharing their experiences on social media and expressing their delight at the opportunity to engage with care home residents, staff and families.

However, the day was about the care homes themselves and in Scotland services certainly didn't let the side down in terms of their creativity and enthusiasm in putting together events. Services ranging from Thurso, in the most northern part of the country, to Hawick in the Borders, as well as outreaches such as Stornoway, took part on the day, indicating just how much the initiative is growing every year. Care homes held a wide range of events including football matches, tea dances, awards ceremonies, fancy dress parties and Royal Ascot themed days. Other homes took the opportunity to open new additions to their services, including sensory dementia gardens and the unveiling of a 'Wishing Tree', and invited people from their local communities to join them in doing so.



Care Home Open Day signage

One care home advertised their events to their local community using the phrase, "We are part of your community... we want you to be part of ours!" which summed up the event and its objectives perfectly in Scotland.



Care Inspectorate staff chatting with residents

Care Home Open Day 2015

Reasons to Join In




Just a few reasons to visit your local care home this

Care Home Open Day

Friday June 19th 2015

Remarkable residents

Meet older people who have led fascinating and diverse lives. For example...



Daphne From Ladbroke
has eaten dinner at the White House



Sam From Drayton Court
worked with the Flying Doctors in Kenya



Joan From Maycroft Manor
had her life story published



Julian From Admiral's Quarters
was the architect for the famous bandstand in Southend-on-Sea

Get active!

Join in a game of tennis on the lawn, help with a spot of gardening or join in an Uomph! exercise class.





Fantastic facilities

Take a look at some of the outstanding facilities on offer to residents...



Big-screen cinema



Indulgent therapy rooms



Or simply relax with a coffee in one of the cafes

Food glorious food



Discover the mouth-watering and varied menus that residents pick from everyday

Stars of the show



Meet care team members who are passionate about their work and have years of experience in caring for older people.



Join us for a cuppa



Bringing communities together



Drayton Court getting into the swing

Reasons to join us for Care Home Open Day...

Improve links with local communities

By opening doors to the local community it is possible to shout about all the positive things happening in care homes. From local people, schools, community groups, GPs or the local press, there is a whole host of people who would love to attend.

Challenge misconceptions associated with care homes

Over the years, the care home sector has been targeted by some negative press coverage and this is one way of dispensing with the misconceptions some people may have about care homes. By offering transparency, people can see the quality of the care services in their neighbourhoods for themselves.

Recognise carers for their hard work

Carers are hardworking people who go out of their way to improve the lives of those around them, but are often not acknowledged for the dedication and compassion they show to others. Care Home Open Day takes the time for visitors to see the important impact carers can have on a daily basis.

Showcase care home facilities

Care homes are bursting with excellent facilities, but how many people know about them? Whether a care home is looking to attract prospective residents or simply wants to celebrate what makes them proud of their home, inviting others to visit can do just that.

Share experiences

Care home residents are inspiring, funny and fascinating people and their experiences deserve to be shared with others. Visitors can get first-hand knowledge about life in a care home; valuable insight which no leaflet or website can provide.

Create memories

Care Home Open Day encourages care homes to highlight the activities they do within the home and encourage more people to take part, meaning that the day is fun filled for everyone involved. So whether residents are getting involved in arts and crafts, music, fun fairs or afternoon teas, it will be a day enjoyed by all.

Promote a positive atmosphere

With so much going on during Care Home Open Day, participating in activities and events is guaranteed to create a morale boost and create a sense of togetherness for residents. The atmosphere on the day will be full of excitement, and guaranteed to get people talking for days to come.

Encourage volunteering

People living in care homes get real enjoyment from short visits from those in the local community and carers always appreciate a helping hand from an eager volunteer. Visitors will be able to see what a difference they could make by offering a small amount of their time, and get a feel for working in the care sector.

Care Home Open Day 2015

Reasons to Join In

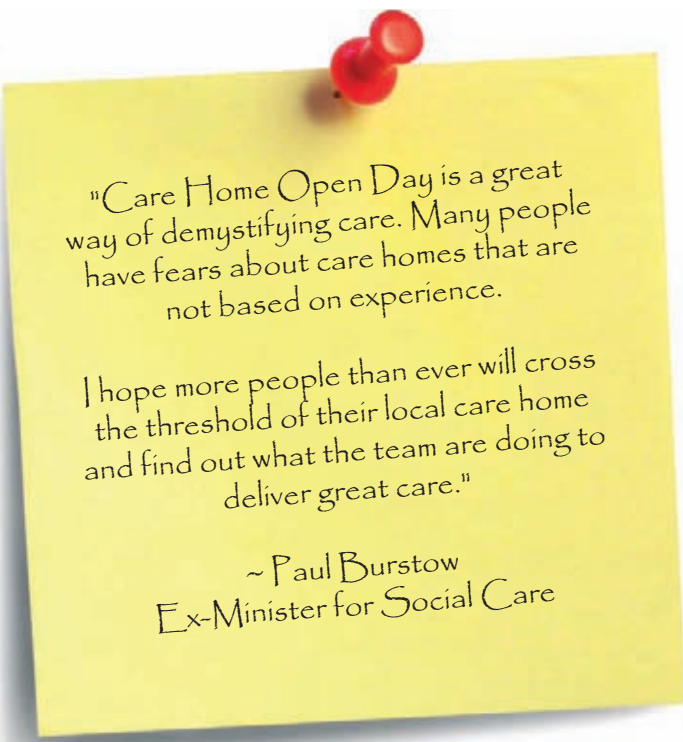
Develop friendships

By creating introductions, residents can strike up friendships or speak to familiar faces in the community they may not have seen for a while. It is also an ideal chance for newer residents to mix and introduce themselves to neighbours.

Enrich the lives of care home residents

Those living in care homes deserve to be involved in special events and feel included with things that are happening outside of their care home. Care Home Open Day offers everyone something to feel part of, the chance to try new activities and meet people they might otherwise not get a chance to.

What are you waiting for? Get involved in next year's Care Home Open Day, encourage other care homes to join in and show your support for the care sector by connecting residents with local communities to change perceptions of care homes for good.



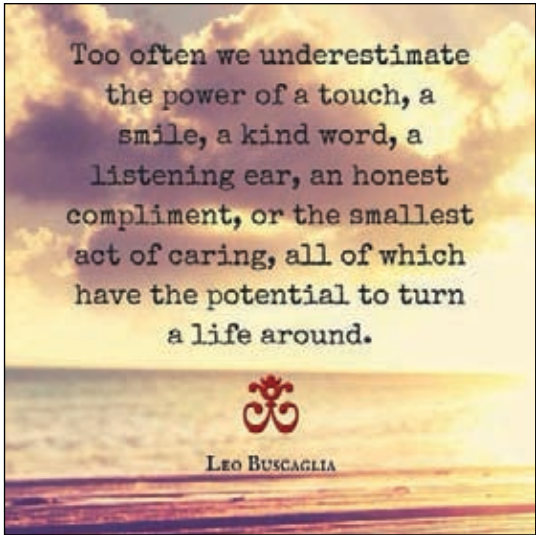
"Care Home Open Day is a great way of demystifying care. Many people have fears about care homes that are not based on experience.

I hope more people than ever will cross the threshold of their local care home and find out what the team are doing to deliver great care."

~ Paul Burstow
Ex-Minister for Social Care



Midfield Lodge put on "Little Red Riding Hood" for Care Home Open Day



Too often we underestimate
the power of a touch, a
smile, a kind word, a
listening ear, an honest
compliment, or the smallest
act of caring, all of which
have the potential to turn
a life around.



LEO BUSCAGLIA



Fire engine & crew at Spencefield Grange care home for Care Home Open Day 2015



Musical fun at Meadow's Court Care Home



A teapot made with icing sugar at Pentlow Nursing Home for Care Home Open Day



Lightcliffe Junior School pupils showing their artwork to Sandholme Fold residents



Garnant House residential home
brought in birds of prey for
Care Home Open Day



College Fields in Barry, Vale of Glamorgan, open garden and duck fishing for kids



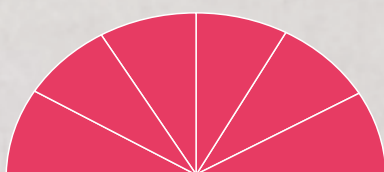
Happy Care Home Open Day
2015!



A close-up, low-angle shot of a ship's steering wheel, with the sun setting in the background, creating a warm, golden glow. The text is overlaid on the image.

A COMMUNITY IS LIKE A SHIP.
EVERYONE OUGHT
TO BE PREPARED
TO TAKE THE HELM.

— *Henrik Ibsen* —



CARE HOME
Open Day

**CARING
COMMUNITIES**

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Butterfly created by a resident at Leonard Cheshire's Hydon Hill Care Home