

CASTLE HOUSE

Care Home

Editor: Sue Stone

Welcome to our NOVEMBER 2025 monthly newsletter



Every year people across the UK come together to remember those who have died in wars around the world.

On 11th November 1918 the armistice began. The first two-minute silence took place on November 11th 1919 when King George V asked the public to mark the occasion of the end of WW1 the year before.



Things you may or may not know about the poppy



The first poppies

The first poppies used silk for the petals, wire for the stem, and bitumen – a semi-hard petroleum - for the centre.

There were four different poppies designed to suit different budgets, from a large poppy made from silk, a smaller one, one made from lawn or cotton and a cardboard poppy for children.

Silk and lawn cloth design evolves

In the 1930s poppies made from two layers of different fabric were introduced. The under layer was made from lawn cloth, with an upper layer of silk. There was also a green fabric leaf, faux stamens and a metal centre

Wartime poppies

During the Second World War, shortages in materials meant the number of designs dropped from four to two. Silk poppies were made in much smaller numbers, and a second poppy made entirely from card was introduced.

Wire stems were reintroduced in the 1950s to replace the cardboard used as a result of wartime shortages, with red felt used to create the poppy petals.

A new look design emerged in 1967 with a bitumen centre and wire stem replaced by plastic, along with the introduction of a one-piece petal.

In 1987 the poppy regained its leaf after it emerged that the public preferred the feature.

2023 sees the biggest change in the poppy's design for a generation.

After more than three years in development, the Royal British Legion has produced a plastic-free poppy, made entirely from paper that is completely recyclable at home. With paper created from renewable fibres from renewable sources including offcuts from coffee cups, the innovative new poppy design features a traditional poppy shape, with a black centre embossed with '**Poppy Appeal**', and a leaf with a crease.

NEWS IN BRIEF

- *Our fireworks bonfire party was the **BEST** we have put on to date, which we held on Friday 7th November. On the menu was soup, hotdogs and burgers – not forgetting the very nice drinks to go along with it! Our thanks to all the staff that helped on the night to make it such a great success and to Dennis who was in charge of the fireworks display – he definitely ‘lit up the sky’ that night! Plus, not forgetting the fabulous Steve Valentine who got everyone up on the floor dancing!*
- *The raffle was also a great success making a grand total of £133.70 towards the residents fund.*
- *Staff dressed up for creepy Halloween – check out the photos but Ben was the one that won the end prize for best make up but well done to all the others*
- *We all stood silent for the two-minute silence on Tuesday 11th November and afterwards Hayley (Social & Wellbeing Lead) told a very moving account of a residents story that was passed down to her some years ago. The circumstance was around the lady’s young life in France and what she and her friends encountered when captured during the war. Afterwards, Albert sang ‘We’ll meet again’. Later in the afternoon we had the wonderful, D-Day Dollies entertain the ‘troops’ with wartime songs .*
- *We have had plenty of other activities and entertainment so far - with a ‘Beatles Day’ from Mini Concerts, Rainbow Therapy, Hair treatments and Pet Therapy – Lucy the dog was adorable.*
- *Don’t forget to check out videos and photos on our Facebook page*
- *A BIG thank you to the Gibbs family for giving our staff fund £100.00 for Christmas – this was so kind and thoughtful of you*



HALLOWEEN STAFF



FIREWORKS PARTY



D-DAY DOLLIES



Pet Therapy



Puzzle Time





**TO OUR RESIDENT
JOSIE**





TO OUR STAFF

Wendy



'SAYINGS' CORNER



- Its just as strong to do nothing as it is to do something
- Its ok to have a bad day! Good news is you have tomorrow to try again!
- Knowledge is like underwear – it is useful to have it but not necessary to show it off!

One of our lovely residents **VERA** collects jokes, so thanks to her we have a new section: Enjoy!

'JOKES' CORNER

- Why did the scarecrow win an award – because it was outstanding in his field
- I went to bed last night wondering where the sun had gone – then it dawned on me!
- What did one ocean say to the other ocean? Nothing, they just waved at each other



November 2025



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
						<p>All Saints Day 1 Puzzle group! Join us from 10.30 am</p>	<p>Look for Circles 2 Day Puzzle group! Join us from 10.30 am Sunday Service from 3pm in the lounge.</p>
<p>Father Steve 3 @ 11 am. Sandwich Day! High tea! Join us for some fancy sandwich fingers and cake with a hot drink from 2pm</p>	<p>Join us for a 4 morning of puzzles and quizzes in the morning! Andrew's weekly chair Exercises from 1.30pm</p>	<p>5 Guy Fawkes Night Join us in making our own firework pictures and poetry from 10.30 am!</p>	<p>6 Rainbow Therapies. Reflexology and massage from 10 am. Pamper day! Have a lovely manicure.</p>	<p>7 Fireworks celebrations! Steve Valentine will be entertaining us too! 5-7 pm</p>	<p>8 International Tongue Twister Day</p>	<p>9 Inventors' Day Independence Day - Cambodia</p>	
<p>Forget-Me- 10 Not Day Morning walk to town from 10.30 am</p>	<p>11 Remembrance Day Veterans Day Observing 2 Minute silence at 11 am. Reading lead by Hayley to follow. D-Day Dollies from 2pm!</p>	<p>12 Chicken Soup for the Soul Day Colouring Pictures from 10.30 am</p>	<p>13 World Kindness Day Hairdresser in from 10 am! Tarka Pottery in to make your Christmas decorations - from 10.15 am</p>	<p>14 Children in need Day! What are you dressing up as? Join us from 10.30 to create our own Children in need posters and designs.</p>	<p>15 Philanthropy Day Baking Muffins from 10.30 am!</p>	<p>16 Button Day Movie afternoon! Join us for a golden oldie from 2pm</p>	
<p>Homemade 17 Bread Day! Morning walk to town! From 10.30 am</p>	<p>18 morning of puzzles and quizzes in the morning! Andrew's weekly chair Exercises from 1.30pm</p>	<p>19 International Men's Day Bingo from 2pm Join us for a game!</p>	<p>20 Pamper day! Have a lovely manicure. World Philosophy Day Universal Children's Day</p>	<p>21 Musician Ben McKenzie singing 2-3pm! Happy Birthday Josie!</p>	<p>22 Independence Day - Lebanon</p>	<p>23 Espresso Day</p>	
<p>Henri 24 Toulouse-Lautrec's Birthday Evolution Day Christmas decorating commences! Join the fun throughout the day!</p>	<p>25 Parfait Day Join us for a morning of puzzles and quizzes in the morning! Andrew's weekly chair Exercises from 1.30pm</p>	<p>26 Movie afternoon! Join us for a golden oldie from 2pm</p>	<p>27 Rainbow Therapies. Reflexology and massage from 10 am. Thanksgiving Hairdresser in from 10 am! Christmas Tree decorating! Join in the festive fun throughout the day!</p>	<p>28 Christmas Tree decorating! Join in the festive fun throughout the day! Black Friday Red Planet Day</p>	<p>29 Singing entertainment from the Harmonicas Show begins at 2.30pm</p>	<p>30 Christmas Tree decorating! Join in the festive fun throughout the day! St. Andrew's Day Mark Twain's Birthday St. Andrew's Day - Scotland</p>	

Answers to last months teaser puzzles:

Question 1) It was Freya

Question 2) Total was 30

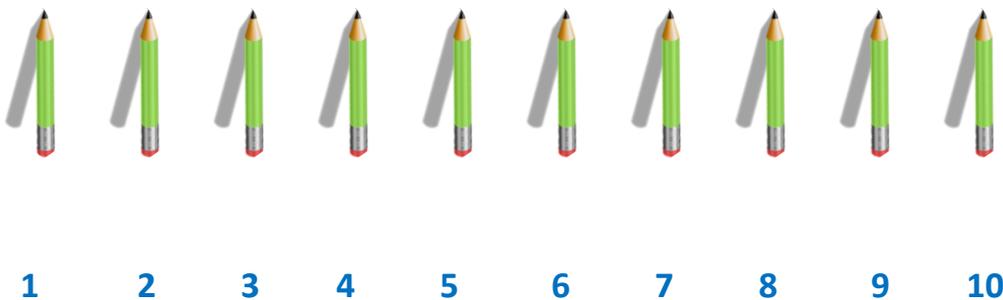
Did you manage to get them??? – well done if you did

To test your little grey cells this month!!

(answers in next months newsletter)

Question 1) There are two commonly used two-letter words that share the same letters. If you take the opposites of those two words, you should now have two three-letter words. What are those new words?

Question 2) Which number pencil is two to the left of the one that's six to the right of the one that's three to the left of the one that's directly to the right of the pencil at number 4?





to all the staff for keeping everyone safe and well

Check out our website,

take a look

www.castlehousecarehomedevon.co.uk

We always need your reviews....

Calling all residents friends and families. We need your reviews. If you like what we do, we would really appreciate a review. If you could make sure all the boxes are ticked and you have commented alongside as well would be very helpful to other families looking for a placement for their loved ones

However, if you have any concerns, please do speak to us directly so we can help. You can review us on www.carehome.co.uk AND Facebook.

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