

Welcome to
Gibraltar Nursing Home's
Edition 7 2026 Newsletter



newsletter
EDITION 7 2026

EXCELLENCE * PEOPLE-DRIVEN * INTEGRITY * COMPASSION

EDITION 7



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Hello from Verity!

It's hard to believe that summer is nearly over and that we will soon be getting ready for those cosy Autumn months. It has certainly been a summer to remember for us at Gibraltar, with so much going on and so many wonderful moments shared together.

We have loved sharing so many special memories with you all and making the most of the summer weather. From BBQ's and garden parties to plenty of ice cream, we have certainly embraced everything that summer has had to offer!

We recently hosted our Summer Festival, which was so joyful. Thank you so much to everyone who joined us and helped make the day so special. We would also like to say a huge thank you to the many local businesses who kindly donated prizes towards our raffle: Marches Deli, Bumble, Waitrose, Suits You, Stephens Bookshop and Terry's Wild Boar Burgers. Your generosity was very much appreciated.

As anyone who has ever organised an event will know, sometimes things don't quite go to plan! Just one day before the festival, we suddenly found ourselves with no ponies and no hay! Luckily, "Pony Patrol" and "Hay People" came to the rescue and saved the day! Thanks to the money that was kindly donated at our Summer Festival, we will be purchasing a brand new projector for our cinema. This means our family members will soon be able to enjoy an even more authentic cinema experience during our movie matinee afternoons. So, watch this space...

We certainly weren't expecting the weather to be quite so hot over the last few months, and I would like to say a huge thank you to our whole team for managing the heat so well and continuing to provide such fantastic care and support throughout the warmer weather. You are so appreciated.

As summer begins to come to an end, we are already excited about what the next few months will bring. Our activities, events and entertainment will continue as normal, so keep an eye out for everything that will be happening around Gibraltar over the coming months.

Here's to a wonderful summer and an exciting Autumn ahead!

Verity, Home Manager x



Gardening Corner

What have we been up to ?



Mark loves helping in the gardens, he was delighted to present our giant sunflower which was the winner of the tallest flower competition.



Welcoming Bertie Bloomer, the chariman of Gardening Club - Made by Jane Browns mum!!

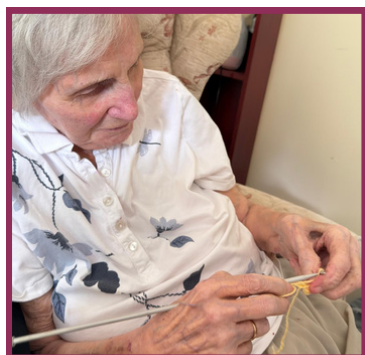


Jeanie enjoyed smelling the freshly picked wild flowers in Beech house, taking in their beautiful scents and colours.

Family members enjoyed getting creative decorating tin cans for our tin can alley for our Country & Western Summer Festival!



Knit & Natter



The knit and natter group continues to be a much loved part of day to day at Gibraltar. Each session is filled with colourful wool and plenty of smiles and conversation.

There's no need to be an experienced knitter, family members are welcome to join for a chat and a cuppa. This group provides a wonderful opportunity to share skills, memories and stories whilst getting creative together.



Our knit and natter sessions are a great reminder that its not just about what we create but the happy moments and friendships we build along the way.





Country & Western Festival



A Country & Western afternoon to remember! If you weren't lucky enough to attend, on Saturday 1st August, our car park was transformed into a lively Wild West scene for our annual summer celebration. Family members, relatives, team members, friends and the local community came together for an afternoon packed with live music, tasty food, ice creams, games, stalls and even some very special four-legged guests! The pony experience from 'Pony Patrol' was a real highlight, evoking happy feelings for many of our family members. There was also face painting, henna, temporary tattoos, sweet treats, a raffle and plenty of opportunities to enjoy the sunshine together.



It was wonderful to see familiar faces returning to the home, including relatives of former family members, and to share such a special day as one big community. A huge thank you to everyone who helped make the event happen, from our fantastic team and COGS committee to local businesses and everyone who came along to enjoy the fun. Best of all, the festival raised more than £450 for our COGS committee, helping to fund future activities, including our gardening club and upcoming events. What a rootin' tootin' afternoon!



Star of the Month

Each month, our home votes for a star of the month to recognise a team member who has gone above and beyond. The award celebrates those who demonstrate excellence whilst living our core values of being people-driven, acting with integrity, and showing compassion every day.



June

Tina Lucas -
Poplar House Lead



July

Dani Jones -
Kitchen Team



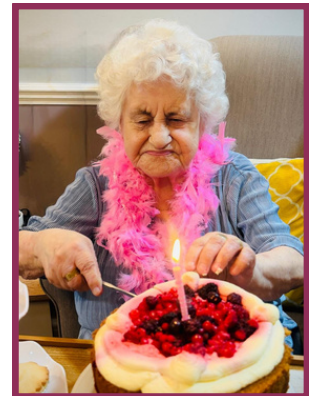
August

Akash Santhoshkumar -
Kitchen Team

*Warm Welcome
to New Team Members:*

Rebecca Jones - Administrator
Fungai Makasi - Registered Nurse
Megan Santini - Care Assistant
Acacia Hawkins - Domestic Assistant
Henry Osayi - Care Assistant

Birthday Spotlight



Here are just a few captures from our family members birthdays and the magnificent cakes made by the Kitchen Team as always!

The WIK Game: Test Your Knowledge

Think you know care inside and out? Prove it!

Learning doesn't have to feel like learning, and that idea began during a family game night when Shrien and Eve saw how much fun everyone was having while playing a trivia card game. It sparked a thought - why not create something just as enjoyable for social care?

From that spark of inspiration, Evolve's WIK board game was born. WIK (world of inescapable knowledge) covers six areas for those working in care. It's a great way to continue testing your knowledge while enjoying a little friendly competition!

We have all played the WIK game during our training days at the Evolve Care Academy, with some of you walking away with cash prizes of up to £100! Now available on Moodle so you can regularly test your knowledge and beat your last score!

The leaderboard is where it gets competitive. Shrien and Eve created the game, but they are no longer top the leaderboard, let's keep it that way! Bravo to Christie Brute, who is currently Gibraltar's highest scorer as we go to print. Well done, Christie!



Blue Light Discount £

Did you know that working in social care means you're eligible for a Blue Light Card? For £4.99, the card gives you two years' access to thousands of discounts across more than 13,000 retailers, including Jet2Holidays, Nike, Apple, Schuh and Hotels.com.

Whether you're planning a holiday, treating yourself to something new, heading out for a meal or simply doing the weekly shop, download the app and see what's up for grabs! Members can also access ticket ballots and launches for gigs, festivals, sporting events and attractions.



Register now at www.bluelightcard.co.uk or scan the QR code.



We are delighted to be working with the Music for Memories Charity. What do they do? Volunteers from Music for Memories have been visiting family members, learning about them, also speaking to their loved ones and the Gibraltar team, asking about favourite films and songs and a little of their life history.

Then they create personalised playlists based for family members' favourite songs, helping them to reconnect with cherished memories and evoke positive feelings enjoy meaningful moments through the power of music. To read more about our time with Music for Memories, visit our [blog](#).



Introducing The Silver Song Birds Choir!

We're excited to share the launch of the Silver Song Birds Choir at Gibraltar.

Bringing together family members, relatives, and team members, the choir is all about enjoying music, making memories, and having fun together. Rehearsals are already underway, with the group preparing for their first performance at our Christmas Fete. As one of our team members said, *"Being perfectly in tune is far less important than having the opportunity to sing alongside other people and be part of something together!"* We can't wait to share their journey and look forward to seeing the Silver Song Birds take flight!





What's Up Next?

- 1st October – International Coffee Day
- 2nd October – Silver Song Birds Choir
- 4th October – World Animal Day
- 5th October – Virtual Travelling Across Evolve
- 6th October – Silver Song Birds Choir
- 7th October – Holy Communion
- 10th October – World Mental Health Day (Wear Something Green)
- 11th October – Creative Card Crafting
- 13th October – The Dough Nuts Bake Off
- 14th October – Touchwood Music and Movement
- 16th October – Silver Song Birds Choir
- 20th October – Silver Song Birds Choir
- 24th October – Creative Card Crafting
- 28th October – Touchwood Music and Movement
- 30th October – Silver Song Birds Choir

As usual, please keep your eye out for later upcoming dates around the home!

Travelling Across the Evolve Care Group

This October, Gibraltar is taking an exciting virtual journey across the Evolve Care Group family! From the 5th October, family members, team and visitors will work together to clock up miles on our gym equipment as we travel the length between each home a part of the Evolve Care Group.

Along the way, we'll be raising money to add into the COGS Committee pot, which ensures every big event and activity is even bigger and better than the last! Keep an eye on our progress as we raise each home's flag on our Evolve map and celebrate every milestone together!



Thank you for reading the 7th edition of our newsletter.
We hope to see you soon!