



Starlight Service: Celebrating loved ones at Christmas

The disabled veterans living at The Royal Star & Garter Homes were joined by family, friends and supporters for the annual Starlight Services, held at St Alphege's Church, Solihull, on Saturday 2nd December and St Matthew's Church, Surbiton, on Sunday 3rd December.

The special festive services celebrated loved ones, past and present, through music and readings. Stephen Linstead from the Solihull Ministry Team commented, *"We were delighted that the Starlight Service was held here at St Alphege's Church. It was a great pleasure to see so many residents, staff and volunteers here. We have a very close relationship with The Royal Star & Garter Homes and hope to have for many years to come."*

The Solihull Home's Lead Physiotherapist, Nicola Eva, remarked, *"The Service was beautiful and very moving. It was lovely to see so many people connected to the Solihull Home both past and present."*



St. Alphege's Church, Solihull



Residents at the Surbiton Service

The Charity's choir, The Star & Garter Singers, sang Christmas classics such as *Ding Dong, Merrily on High* and *Moonlight Serenade* at the Surbiton Service. Rosemary Lever, whose good friend, Ken, sadly passed away at the Surbiton Home in the summer, commented, *"The Starlight Service was delightful. It was lovely hearing the songs from the Star & Garter Singers and the many contributors throughout. It did a wonderful job at bringing comfort to those attending in memory of a past resident."*

As part of the services, the congregation were invited to hang star-shaped messages to loved ones on the Christmas tree. Afterwards, everyone got together for mulled wine and mince pies.

Ends

For further information please contact:



MEDIA RELEASE



**The Royal Star
& Garter Homes**
Caring for the nation's military family since 1916

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About The Royal Star & Garter Homes:

The Charity provides award-winning care for veterans and their partners who live with disability or dementia.

The Royal Star & Garter Homes is a charity founded in 1916 to care for the severely injured young men returning from the battlegrounds of the First World War. Today we provide specialist care to the whole military family in our friendly, state-of-the-art Homes. Disabled ex-Servicemen and women, and their spouses, can all benefit from our pioneering approach to nursing, dementia and therapeutic care.

We are in the process of building new Homes around the country to provide specialist nursing care for disabled ex-Service people in the best modern surroundings, including dementia care facilities to address this growing need. The Charity has award-winning Homes in Solihull, West Midlands, and Surbiton, Surrey, which also enables the Charity to offer interim care for young disabled Service personnel. Following the successes of the first two Homes, a third Home in High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, is being built, with a planned opening in 2018.

We are proud to have enjoyed Royal patronage since our foundation, including that of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II from 1953 to the present day.

The Charity celebrated its centenary in 2016: providing specialist care for disabled veterans since 1916.

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