



Veteran's memory walk for Dementia Action Week

Residents, staff, volunteers and relatives from The Royal Star & Garter Homes in Surbiton enjoyed a memory walk in Bushy Park to celebrate Dementia Action Week. The one-mile route through the Royal Park took in the historic Woodland Garden that was abloom with colourful flowers and brimming with wildlife. After the walk, everyone enjoyed a delicious picnic.

Volunteer Jane Dusmet said, *"It was really nice to take the residents out, to walk along with them, to sing songs. I've now got 'Tulips of Amsterdam' going around in my head! It's really nice that residents are out with their relatives and it's lovely to see everyone enjoying themselves."*



Everyone ready to go on the memory walk

Interim Dementia Care Manager, Reggie Ballos, commented, *"Today has been*



Interim Dementia Care Manager, Reggie, shares a moment with resident Nobby

fabulous. The residents loved being in Bushy Park, a few of them used to come here regularly so it's nice to bring them back. Being outdoors connecting with nature is really important for well-being and can do wonders for people living with dementia."

Alison Cox attended the walk with her mother, Wyn, who is a resident at the Home. Alison remarked, *"I thought today was wonderful. It was very well organised. It's so glorious with all the plants and trees, it gives a calming atmosphere. My mother lives with dementia, she just loves the trees and the greenery... It brings a sense of joy. It feels very safe and secure as well as being a bit different and exciting."*



Resident Wyn with daughter Alison and husband Dominic

Ends



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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The Royal Star & Garter Homes is a member of the National Care Forum – the leading voice for not-for-profit care providers. A national perspective may be available from info@nationalcareforum.org.uk or by contacting 02476243619. More details on NCF available at www.nationalcareforum.org.uk.

