



Veterans' care Home enjoys successful Summer Fete

On Saturday, 21st July, The Royal Star & Garter Homes in Surbiton held their annual Summer Fete. The Surbiton community enjoyed a lovely afternoon in the grounds of the Home for disabled veterans, mingling with residents and sampling the wide range of stalls.

The event was officially opened by the Deputy Mayor of Kingston-Upon-Thames, Olivia Bault, who gave a short speech and wished everybody an amazing afternoon. The Deputy Mayor then introduced the 1st Hook Scout and Guide Band, who performed an uplifting set of military-themed songs.

The fete is always a fun-filled day for all the family, and this year was no exception. There were plenty of attractions to keep everyone entertained, including the ever-popular tombola, face painting, a performance by local Morris Dancers, plus a fantastic choral performance by the Home's choir, the Star & Garter Singers (made up of residents, staff and volunteers). There was also plenty of opportunity to escape the sun and cool down with a refreshing Pimms or strawberries and cream while browsing the stalls inside the Home. Local children were mesmerised by the extremely popular chocolate fountain.



Charity staff perform alongside Kingstons Morris Dancers



Resident Jean welcomes Pets as Therapy dog, Harvey, to the fete

The Charity's Chief Executive, Andy Cole, remarked, "Today has been superb, it is fantastic seeing residents enjoying themselves alongside all of the visitors. We hold lots of activities that bring the local community and residents together, but the summer fete is something special. It's a wonderful opportunity to connect with our neighbours and I'd like to thank everyone who attended."



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Local resident Mark commented, *"It's a splendid idea to hold a fete, especially one that is so well planned and has something for everyone. My children have loved it and so have I. We drive past the Home quite often, so it is really nice to be invited inside to see what the Charity is all about."*



Volunteer, Jenny, selling resident hand-decorated ceramics

All money raised will go towards providing exceptional nursing, therapeutic and dementia care for the veterans who live in the Surbiton and Solihull Home.



The Star & Garter Singers perform for visitors

Ends

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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.

