

# MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Sisters hold fundraisers to thank Charity for mum's 'excellent and compassionate care'**

Two sisters have held separate fundraisers to thank The Royal Star & Garter Homes for caring for their mother.

Erica Watkins and Alison Ukleja wanted to show their support and appreciation to the Charity, which has looked after their mother Julie for more than three years at its Surbiton Home.



Erica and her husband Tim walked 86km in Italy, raising over £2,500 for the Charity. Alison held a Prosecco lunch and plant sale, raising an estimated £640 in her home town of Lullington, Somerset, on Saturday 6 July.

Erica and Tim, from Esher, walked from Pisa to Siena along the Via Francigena in Tuscany, at the end of June. Erica said: *"This was a way of thanking The Royal Star & Garter Homes for the excellent and compassionate care that they give to our mother."*

Alison's Prosecco lunch also saw guests make floral headwear, and included a card sale featuring her own art work. All plants sold were also grown from cuttings or seeds from Alison's own garden. She said: *"We come to the Home regularly and see all the fantastic work they do. My mum has benefited hugely from being there, and we felt as a family we should do more to support the Charity."*



The Royal Star & Garter Homes cares for ex-Servicemen and women and their partners living with disability or dementia, and also has Homes in High Wycombe and Solihull.



Senior Community Fundraiser Lauren Baker thanked the pair, saying: *"It's great that Erica and Alison were able to use talents and things they enjoy doing to raise money for us, prompted by the care their mum receives. It will help us continue providing our award-winning care."*



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

Anyone interested in raising money for The Royal Star & Garter Homes can go to: <https://starandgarter.org/how-you-can-help/events/>

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**About The Royal Star & Garter Homes:**

**The Charity provides award-winning care for military 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 men returning from the battlegrounds of the First World War.

Today our friendly, state-of-the-art Homes offer a pioneering approach to nursing, dementia and therapeutic care. We have award-winning Homes in Solihull, West Midlands and Surbiton, Surrey. Our third Home in High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, opened in April 2019.

We continue to expand our services to reach even more veterans. In 2018, we were able to support 186 residents in our Homes and 36 guests at our Day Care service. We also offer interim care for young disabled Service personnel. We provided 11,700 individual sessions of physiotherapy and speech & language therapy last year to support our residents' health, and over 5,600 places to residents for activities, outings and events, to promote well-being.

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.

**Twitter:** @starandgarter

**Facebook:** facebook.com/starandgarter

**Website:** [www.starandgarter.org](http://www.starandgarter.org)



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](mailto:info@nationalcareforum.org.uk) or by contacting 02476243619. More details on NCF available at [www.nationalcareforum.org.uk](http://www.nationalcareforum.org.uk).



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