



NEWSLETTER

JAN
2025

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We've had a simply wonderful Christmas this year at West Heanton. There were so many celebration days, trips out and activities organised in the run up to the Big Day and the house looked spectacular all dressed up. Bakers in the Day Centre were kept busy and our kitchen team sent out day after day of delicious dishes. It's testament to them that everyone stayed home for their Christmas Dinner this year, we had a full house!

Christmas morning was a delight with gifts being exchanged and visitors arriving. Our team worked so hard to make Christmas so magical this year. I know you appreciate them taking time away from their families during the festive period as much as I do. Thankyou all for the lovely gifts sent in for the team, we are looking forward to our Team Thankyou Grand Draw on 24th January where these, and other gifts, will be given out at random, something for everyone.





On 4th Dec we held our annual Elf Day fundraiser for The Alzheimer's Society, this is always a fun day full of games and dressing up. Two naughty Elves took the bus out for a trip to see the Christmas lights and decorations at Homeleigh Garden Centre. We held the raffle, a sweepstake for Elf names and a guessing game. We would like to thank Lundy Shore, The Black River Inn, The Plough and our community for their kind donations to our raffle.

Thankyou all for helping us to raise £175.00.



Christmas Carol Service

We concluded the year with a heartwarming Carol Service, and it was wonderful to see so many friends and family members in attendance. This special service holds great significance for our clients, particularly those who find traveling challenging. We're grateful that our preachers come to us throughout the year, ensuring everyone can access the services they desire. The services are always interactive and entertaining, adding to their charm. Thank you all—it means a lot.



We had a delightful surprise when a member of the audience gave an impromptu performance of Jingle Bells, soon inspiring the whole room to join in and sing along with her. Our incredible kitchen staff worked their usual magic, preparing a delicious feast for us to enjoy after the service. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the team who put in countless hours behind the scenes, from organizing and baking to helping everyone get ready. Finally, a very big thank you to our friends and families for joining us and making the celebration even more special.



Tom's Draw

Thankyou to everyone who has taken the time to nominate a team member for Tom's Draw this month. Here are some of the wonderful nominations received...

Always asks "how can I help?". The nicest person. Lovely to work with

Being amazing and covering the end of a round at short notice when already running behind.

It was a lovely Christmas service enjoyed by everyone. Thank you for all the extra work to make this happen.

It was an amazing spread of food at the Christmas carol service which was enjoyed by everyone

Not only her caring skills are amazing but no maintenance issue is too much for her either.

Dedication to the cause of care planning with website logging out without warning.

For winning an award for West Heanton at the prestigious Lloyds business awards of the year. What an amazing achievement.

Nominated because she is attentive , caring and shows kindness, a client had mentioned they enjoyed visits from the carer who talks about bats!

The December winner is... Vicky Stafford!

Selected in a random draw, Vicky was nominated by a team member:

*"For your willingness to help out wherever and whoever you can.
Thank you Vicky."*

Well done Vicky, you've won a £50 Marks & Spencer voucher. The draw is now open for everyone to nominate for next month.

Congratulations



Heartfelt congratulations to Emma and her husband, Tom, on the arrival of their precious baby boy, Jaxson. Born just before Christmas, Jaxson weighed in at a healthy 8lbs 10oz. What a wonderful gift he is!

For our Football Club meeting, Becky introduced an exciting new addition: her hover football and goal. The hover football, resembling an automatic hoover, provided endless entertainment as it glided across the floor on a cushion of air. Whenever someone kicked it, there was a rush of anticipation to see if it would make it into the goal! We discovered some serious strikers among us and it quickly turned into a lively and competitive session.



In addition to the hover football fun, we also delved into the fascinating world of football history. Using the Football Encyclopedia, we explored various fun facts and trivia about the origins and evolution of the sport. It was a fun and educational session that brought out our competitive spirits and expanded our knowledge of football.

Winter Weather. As anticipated, this winter has brought its fair share of adverse weather conditions. We've been contending with storms that bring high winds, cause floods and result in trees falling across roads. Our team is accustomed to these conditions and we are a resilient bunch. If it's possible, we will find a way through!

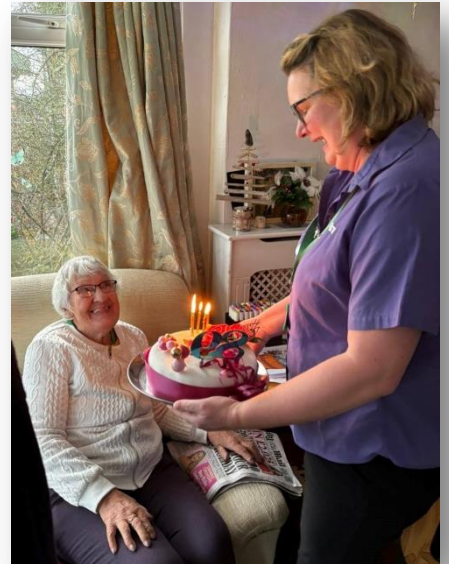
This determination sometimes involves driving miles around closed roads, getting a lift in a 4x4 or tractor, chain-sawing through fallen trees or clearing drains to re-open roads. I've only ever known the bottom of our lane to flood once before, but thankfully, it was a flash flood and cleared within a few hours.

When such events occur, we can be understandably delayed on visits and slower to answer phones, as our carers are finding alternative routes and our office team are busy working in the background to find solutions and reroute homecare rounds. We appreciate your understanding and patience during these times. Please stay safe, everyone!



December Birthdays

Adding to the festive cheer, we also celebrated several special birthdays in December with parties, cakes, gifts and family get togethers.



There are many more photo's and videos of everyone on our facebook page, please do follow to keep up with everything, here are some of the highlights from December 2024!





And finally, we would like to send our thanks to you all for a wonderful year. We wish everyone in the West Heanton Community; our clients, our team, our friends & families, our healthcare colleagues, our suppliers and all of our readers a Happy New Year from Tom and the team!

We can't wait to see what 2025 brings (keep your eyes peeled for a sensory room project!)

and remember our doors are always open for visits, suggestions, feedback, employment and volunteering.

