



### Latest Covid Update

Visitors are always welcome in our homes, masks no longer have to be worn. However, we still have to be cautious, so please be mindful and do not visit the home if you have any Covid-19 symptoms and always test before hand if you do show any symptoms. It would be appreciated if you feel unwell that you wear a mask when you visit.

PLEASE NOTE: Consent has been given for all news items, names and photographs used in this edition of Horizon News

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Happy New Year to everyone!



Welcome to our first newsletter of 2023, which as usual is full of wonderful stories and images of just some of the things that have been happening across each of the homes.

One of the biggest highlights from 2022 for me has to be the Christmas party held at Cedar Court. It was an amazing experience to have so many people gathered in the same room, clearly having such a wonderful time, which after the restrictions of the last couple of years as a result of the pandemic made the event even more special.

We are all very excited about the year ahead and future events that will take place throughout the coming twelve months now that we have some level of 'normality' in our lives again. We are always striving to improve the way in which we can enhance the company and I would be happy to hear from anyone who has any ideas to add to our development plan for the coming year.

Best wishes for 2023!

### Training and Development.



2023 is set to be another busy year for training with lots of new initiatives in development. We will be introducing new face to face sessions on areas such as oral health, sensory stimulation, visual communication, intensive interaction and supporting personal relationships. We also have a continuing focus on development with some new workshops being rolled out for our Managers and Deputy Managers.

We are now half way through our first ever development course for aspiring Team Leaders and I am delighted to say that already two thirds of those who joined the programme have been promoted into Team Leader (or equivalent) positions. I look forward to recruiting for a new cohort later this spring and will send out all of the details in due course.

**Kath Howitt, Learning and Development Manager.**

#### Just in case

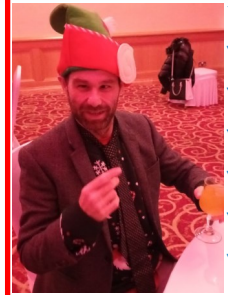
If you enjoy reading this edition of our newsletter and would like to find out more please visit our Twitter page or You Tube channel so you can see what is happening in all of the homes. Both can be accessed through our website [www.horizoncareservices.co.uk](http://www.horizoncareservices.co.uk)





**Horizon Christmas Party 2022**

On Saturday 3rd December, between 1 and 4pm all family and friends of the people we support were invited to “put on their Christmas jumpers” and join the staff and people supported for the Horizon Healthcare Homes Christmas party at the Cedar Court Hotel Bradford. There was food, music, dancing, singing, lots of laughter and a visit from Santa .



**Comments received from the Registered Managers and other staff that attended included**

“Today’s party was fantastic. To see all those people we support having such an amazing time, dancing, laughing, singing and to watch how your teams got involved and totally immersed in ensuring they had a wonderful time was absolutely mind blowing.”

“What a magnificent event!!! I loved every moment of my time meeting the People Supported and their families, some for the first time, and all of you, together with your amazing staff teams.”

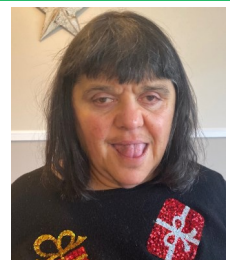
“What an amazing experience, I have never experienced so much genuine joy like that. I had really positive feedback from the parents I spoke to - I feel really blessed to be part of this amazing family.”

“Yes what an amazing day and atmosphere, extremely proud to be part of team Horizon, we had lots of great feedback! “

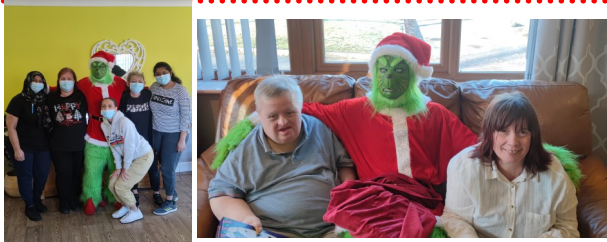
“I have worked in several homes in my career, several of these have been part of a group of homes. I have never had it where a group has been so consistent: consistent in the care provided, consistent in the desire to ensure that People Supported are having the best time, and just consistently brilliant across the board. This was so clear to see on the day. I personally had a brilliant afternoon and am really looking forward to the next one!”



Windsor Court have been doing lots of different activities and have a new person supported; Katrina, who is full of smiles and laughter. Jeffery absolutely loved meeting Santa for his Christmas Eve box! Chris absolutely loves going to Rebound Therapy! He especially loves the trampoline and rolling around with the ladies (therapists)!!! David loved going to see Blackpool lights and visiting Madame Tussauds, but his favourite was playing on the slot machines! Windsor Court also had a joint Christmas party with Roxburgh Lodge which everyone who attended enjoyed.



## Christmas Events Across Horizon Homes



Ferndale Lodge had a special visit from the Grinch before Christmas. Instead of taking their presents and "stealing Christmas" he gave each of the People Supported a selection box; all those present enjoyed the visit, and had lots of fun along with Trevor, the singer, who visited to sing Christmas songs.

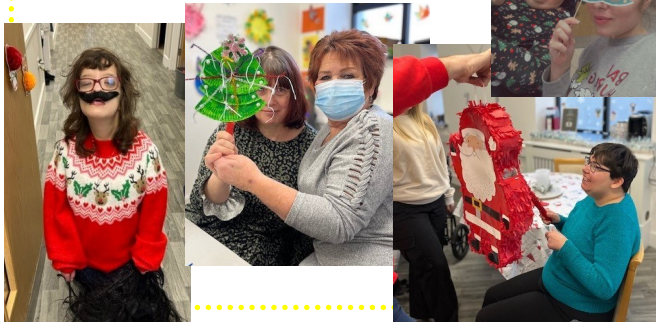


Langley Lodge have been very busy over the festive period. A local church choir visited to sing carols under the gazebo, they had hot chocolate, mulled wine and cakes, which everyone loved. The staff and People Supported organised a community xmas hamper, made up of donations of food and gift items; everyone then handed out leaflets and tickets to local residents and Rachel chose the winning ticket. Some People Supported attended a jazz festival in Almondbury and everyone enjoyed a grazing table, instead of a buffet, for Kelly's birthday which was a lovely treat.



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The Day Service was busy enjoying Christmas activities and having a party theme the week before Christmas.



Fixby Lodge have enjoyed some trips out, Paul and Dom went to Butlins in Skegness for a holiday and Anthony went on a shopping spree and had a coffee at Asda with Mandi and Michelle, this was a massive achievement for him. for which he gained a celebration post. Mandi and Julie also dressed up for Xmas.



There was lots of mischief at Sandhurst Court in the run up to Christmas with the Naughty Elf visiting on a nightly basis! People Supported were thrilled to receive a special goodbye from the Naughty Elf on Christmas Eve, he even left some goodies behind. Sandhurst welcomed a New Baby to the family this month. Ulinda is smitten, however she is certainly avoiding the nappy duties! Other activities which have taken place including ice skating, rock climbing, swimming, and cinema visits.



Beckside Lodge and Sandhurst Court both had Christmas trips out to Lightopia. Bradley, Reece, Ashley and Ulinda from Sandhurst also visited Castle Howard to see the festive lights and market; they were kept warm with hot chocolate.

Hampton House followed in Ferndale's footsteps, and had the Grinch visit them as well. Everyone absolutely loved it, as you can tell by the amazing expressions on peoples faces.



The Grinch did pick up Mia, our latest recruit at Hampton and ran off with her. Thankfully, though, he took her back!

## Staff News— Employee of the Year – announced at the Christmas party on 03/12/2022, award presented by Russell Leese.

The decision, as to who would receive this award, was made by those present at the Registered and Deputy Manager's meeting in November once all the individual services had put forward their nomination with reasons for their proposal.

It was agreed unanimously that the award should be presented to Jade Moore from Roxburgh Lodge; with all the other nominees being recognised in each home where they were awarded a voucher and small gift.

The details regarding each nominee are as follows:-

**Langley Lodge** – Anna Siska, (*shown on the right*) was nominated because she is consistent, has had no sick leave. English is her second language and she was initially worried about communication but her English has vastly improved and so has her confidence, she is calm and receives a lot of compliments.



**Windsor Court** – Gemma Garner was their nomination as she has supported new staff into the role, is person-centred, has lots of new ideas and promotes independence tasks throughout the service.

The nomination for **Roxburgh Lodge** was Jade Moore, she is very supportive, proactive, a keen carer, and outstanding in all aspects. She works full time as well as being at University studying for a degree in Health and Social Care. She is a Team Leader and has completed all her training. On top of that she is also a mum and a carer for her husband.

**Beckside Lodge's** nomination was Karen Williams who has worked for Horizon for 9/10 years on nights, always goes over and beyond. She is a Keyworker for Kathryn, is helpful, caring, and even comes in on her days off.

**Ferndale Lodge** – Sharon Beck, was nominated as she has moved from Support Worker to Team Leader. She is efficient, diligent and caring; does anything she is asked; has had some great ideas for activities; covers shifts at short notice; is quick to recognise issues, and has completed the Team Leader Development Programme.

**Fixby Lodge** nominated Kirsten Dean, who is always positive. She is an aspiring Team Leader and has stepped up to shift leader. She has been supportive to staff and management, is approachable, and always ready to listen. Kirsten is currently studying for Level 2 Diploma, can always be relied upon to get the job done, is the Can do Champion, and has supported new staff who have struggled with English as a first language, which has had a massive impact on the team and the individual. 6 out of 8 people supported have voted for Kirsten which speaks volumes !!

**Hampton House** – The staff team of 32, of which 28 voted, 20 voted for Rebecca Douglas the Registered Manager. Their nomination stated that she is a good listener and always puts Hampton House first and foremost for staff and the people supported.

The nomination for **Sandhurst Court** was Nancy Williams who is generally lovely, has a very good approach with staff, goes above and beyond for people supported and as a keyworker she has a very good relationship with the family. She is very caring, and uses personal experiences as she has a daughter with Learning Disabilities. She works well with management team and puts the home and people supported first.

**Cranmer Court** nominated Zaiynab Makwinja who is a Team leader and has completed the Team Leader course. She has painted the sensory room in her own time, has had no sick leave and is willing to cover night shifts at short notice. She is very good with the management team, a positive advocate for Cranmer Court.

Pat Maragh, seen below with Kathryn, at Beckside Lodge was recognised for 5 years service. She is a valued member of the team especially since her promotion to Team Leader where she has become an integral and highly effective member of the management team. Pat is massively person-centred in her approach and always keeps everyone entertained.



On the 15th January 2023, the local newspaper, the "Telegraph and Argus" reported that the CQC, *The independent regulator of health and social care inspects and regulates care homes, dentists, GP practices, hospitals, mental health services and much more* In the most up to date list 311 care homes in Bradford have been rated by inspectors, but only 6 are placed in the "Outstanding" category, of which Beckside Lodge is one.

