



▶ **Edition 20**

**Summer 2025**

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

What you can find in this edition of our newsletter

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Update from Russ Leese and Training & Development News | 1     |
| News from around the services                          | 2 & 3 |
| News form around the services                          | 4 & 5 |
| Staff News   | 6     |
| Sports Day and Fundraising Events                      | 7 & 8 |



Welcome to the Summer Edition of the Horizon Healthcare Homes Newsletter.

*What a summer we are having – at the time of writing, we are officially in our third heatwave of the year. Whilst this isn't great for sleeping at night and our lawns are parched because of a lack of water, it does encourage us to spend more time outdoors, partaking in lots of activities in the sunshine. My goodness, all of the homes have taken advantage of the warm weather. You will see in this edition how busy everyone has been across the whole of the company. The fun and the Horizon Healthcare Homes 'spirit', was again clear for all to see and feel at this years summer fun day, which was a tremendous success. Everyone's engagement in the fund raising events held by each home prior to the fun day was simply amazing and massively appreciated.*

*Please enjoy the pictures and stories covering what has been a great summer!*

Russell Leese



**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) We are now on Facebook under Horizon Care Services

#### **Learning and Development**—Lets talk qualifications!

It's no secret that our staff are constantly developing their skills through ongoing training in a multitude of areas. In fact, in their first year alone, new starters have to complete the equivalent of 25 hours of eLearning, 34 hours of face to face training (sometimes more depending on clinical needs), in addition to 'on the job' training and regular competency assessments! But did you know that our staff also complete their professional health and social care qualifications? Following successful completion of their probationary period, all eligible staff are enrolled onto a Diploma relevant to their role. This is a huge investment and commitment, but one which further enhances the skills of our staff teams as well as enabling each staff member to achieve a nationally recognised qualification at no cost to themselves.

As things currently stand, we have 121 staff members already qualified and another 41 staff members undertaking their Diplomas. With more staff due to enrol, this is an ongoing commitment from Horizon Healthcare Homes. Rob Smith, Registered Manager at Cranmer Court who recently passed his Level 5 Diploma in Leadership commented "Completing my Level 5 qualification has been a significant milestone in my professional development, and joining Horizon played a crucial role in helping me achieve it. The supportive environment and structured approach at Horizon allowed me to fully focus on my studies, refine my skills, and apply my learning in meaningful ways. Thanks to this opportunity, I was able to complete the qualification with confidence and ultimately achieve a distinction in my end point assessment - an outcome I'm incredibly proud of". Another of our recent achievers Adele Luciarrini from Sandhurst Court commented the following "Doing my level 2 has allowed me to learn many new things about the wonderful job we do day in day out to support the people we have, it's given me a real sense of achievement and there has been an extremely high level of support from both management and fellow colleagues throughout!" Adele also gained a distinction. Well done to both Rob, Adele and to everyone else who has been awarded or is currently working through their qualification - you should be very proud of your efforts and achievements!!!

Kath Howitt Learning and Development Manager

**News from around the homes**—All of the services have been busy since the previous newsletter was published. Some of the events, visits and activities the People Supported and Staff have participated in include celebrating Easter by completing crafts, egg hunts, roast dinners, attending Easter Sunday services and visits from the Easter bunny, Eid, and St George's Day, with a guest appearance from an inflatable penguin as it was also National Penguin Day, inter-home Spring Flowers competition, a team from Langley Lodge completed a 10k Memory Walk in memory of Perminda; they raised £710 which was donated to SCOPE, and a memorial bench was placed in their garden; Crafty Starz enterprise, represented by Elaine and David from Windsor Court had a very successful day selling home grown plants at a plant fair in the Borough Market in Halifax. They "sold their socks off" raising £305 and both had a lovely time talking to the other stall holders and telling the buyers all about Crafty Starz. The homes also enjoyed watching the Lionesses making history and winning the Euros 2025.

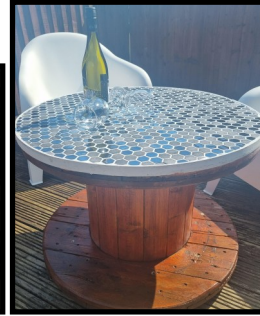


**Birthdays**— Throughout the services People Supported have been celebrating their birthdays. They have marked their special days with visits from family members, cakes, gifts, parties and some chose somewhere special to go out for the day which included Yorkshire Wildlife Park, Ponderosa and the Keighley and Worth Valley Railway.





**Beckside Lodge** - Everyone at Beckside Lodge have been busy visiting different places and completing different activities at home. The People Supported have visited Scarborough, Yorkshire Wildlife Park, Hollingworth Lake, and Ilkley; they have been Ice Skating, Ten pin bowling, enjoyed ice creams at Kendall's Ice Cream Parlour in the sun, participated in a local karaoke and went to the theatre in London. At home they have been gardening, enjoying the wheelchair swing and supporting the Crafty Starz enterprise by recycling a cable drum into a patio garden table.



**Cranmer Court**— Some of the PWS have been helping around the home, for example assisting the window cleaner when he visits. Others have been out and about, trips include visiting Meanwood Park where ice creams were enjoyed, visiting a local farm to see the animals and watching the incredible parade for Leeds Pride celebrations albeit in the rain; at home the team organized a Summer party for all the PWS and staff to enjoy.



Keeping busy at **Ferndale Lodge** has meant day trips to the seaside: Blackpool, Bridlington and Scarborough, going out for lunches, bumping into friends from other services at Greenhead Park, visiting Pendragon Multi-Sensory centre in Northallerton, train rides to Barnsley and visiting Cannon Hall Farm. In house they held an 80's themed party, where both staff and PWS could be spotted wearing some awesome outfits, having quizzes, enjoying the lovely weather in the garden with the



paddling pool and playing croquet, baking, and having fun participating in exercise classes.





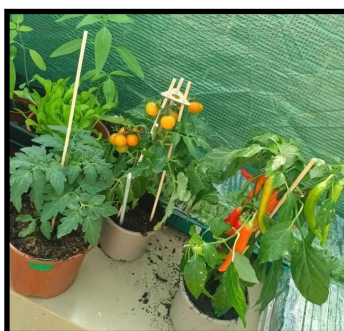
**Fixby Lodge** — the staff and PWS have been out on the town with Chloe and Amy going to the Smile Bar to enjoy the Take That Tribute act. Other PWS have been visiting lots of different places far and wide. They have spent days at the coast both in Llandudno and Bridlington, they have been to The Deep in Hull, local parks and farms, including Meanwood Urban Farm, Blacker Hall Farm, Shibden Park and some of them joined the Picnic in the Park during Learning Disability week where they met Elvis! Other activities have included attending Deighton Carnival, going out for meals with friends, one such occasion was great achievement for Anthony who chose Amy to go on the minibus with him and have some lunch out, and some PWS had fun ten-pin bowling. Andy had his first aromatherapy session and Paul was very pleased with his new car.



**Hampton House**— like the other homes have been going for days out and completing activities at home. Both staff and PWS have started to grow their own produce in their new greenhouse and poly tunnel. They have been baking, having movie nights with pop corn, shopping, out for meals and pamper sessions, going for walks in the local community, visiting Greenhead Park, Pugneys, Shibden Park, Bradley Woods, Hollingworth Lake and Tropical World in Leeds.



**Langley Lodge**— welcomed a new person supported to their 'family' who has settled into her new home very well.



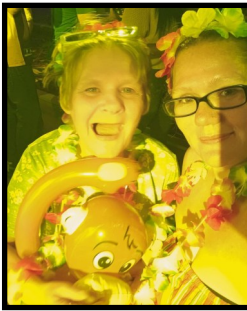
Kelly achieved one of her hopes and dreams by having a day out at York Chocolate factory where she tried

some free samples and purchased gifts for herself and family. Other people have been shopping, to the hairdressers and out for lunches; had a day trip to St Annes seaside, attended the ladies day at Tolsen Museum to enjoy the music and entertainment as well as enjoying different activities at home.





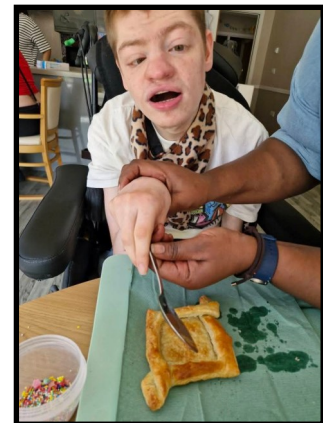
In keeping with other services people at **Roxburgh Lodge** have enjoyed doing lots of different activities. Ben has been on holiday with his family and made lots of new memories and Darren visited the garden centre for some bedding plants which he planted in a special pot in his mum's memory. Some people visited Morecambe to have fun in the sun, whilst others have enjoyed fish and chips in Bridlington and Filey, some others visited the Yorkshire Wildlife Park. More locally they have visited Yeadon Tarn and been out for carvery lunches as well doing crafts at home.



**Sandhurst Court**— as well as enjoying the night life by attending the Hawaiian Themed evening at the Acapulco club where they danced and made new friends, individuals have appreciated visiting different places and sharing new experiences. Visits include trips to Anglers Reservoir, Hemsworth Park and Blackpool Zoo. Some have participated in the street bikes session at Spenborough sports centre, and Ashley S enjoyed an aqua relax session, splashing and floating in the water. Reece and Ashley M went to see Elmer The Patchwork Elephant at the theatre where they were mesmerized by all the colours. At home they have all enjoyed a BBQ and using the paddling pool.



**Windsor Court**—held a Grand National Sweepstake followed by a picnic and ice creams. Paul has had his bedroom re-decorated so it is now a tractor themed room. Other activities include day trips to Blackpool and the zoo, They have had visits from Geoffery the horse, wild parrots and Puppy Buzz, which brought lots of smiles to the PWS; they have also been creative completing different arts, crafts and baking



## Staff News



A massive congratulations to Richard Hookey, the Deputy Manager at Sandhurst Court, who after countless hours of dedication, determination and perseverance he has passed his Level 5 Health and Social Care.

At the beginning of June Julie Heath, Deputy Manager at Fixby Lodge celebrated her 10 year anniversary working for Horizon Healthcare Homes Ltd. The Registered Manager at Fixby Lodge, Mandi described Julie as her rock, putting in huge amounts of effort to maintain the high standards which the service and the company aspires to. As a token of the company's appreciation of your hard work and dedication Roger presented Julie with flowers and a voucher/card at the Fixby Lodge Fundraising event.



Another member of the team to celebrate their 10 Year Anniversary is Heather Seaman, Registered Manager at Langley Lodge. She reached this achievement at the end of July 2025 and was presented with flowers, voucher and a card by Russell Leese at the August Governance Meeting to thank her for all hard work, commitment and the positive difference she makes to the company.

Other staff throughout the organization have been or are due to be awarded with tokens and gifts of appreciation for 5 years service with Horizon are Amber Mulqueen at Windsor Court, Karen Wilcock and Lynda Ingram at Beckside Lodge and Nazia Bibi at Ferndale Lodge. We continue to celebrate our staff on a regular basis having Employee of the Quarter awards within each service, chosen by each staff team for going above and beyond or for continually performing outstanding within their role. Employees who have gained this accolade include Andy Womack who is the Driver/Maintenance person who supports all the services. He was chosen by the Ferndale Lodge team for consistently going above and beyond, and whose



commitment and passion makes a difference to both PWS and staff.

The Employee of the Quarter for Beckside Lodge was Jake Rice for always being supportive doing extra shifts, always positive and happy, starting to settle in to a shift lead role and cooking for all the PWS.



Robert Smith, Registered Manager at Cranmer Court, passed his Level 5 Diploma in Leadership gaining a Distinction, this was celebrated along with members of the Management Team at the August Governance meeting.



The Day Service has been busy with the PWS enjoying an array of different activities, spending time with friends from different services and taking advantage of the good weather playing games in the sun as well as participating in pamper sessions.





**Summer Sports Day and fundraising for Kirkwood Hospice**—On Thursday 3rd July all of the services, people supported and staff gathered at Northfield Hall Huddersfield for Horizon Healthcare Homes annual summer sports day. This is the third year the event has been organized and everyone had a fantastic time participating in Paralympic themed events. These included throwing a foam javelin, discus, shot put, running race, wheelchair race and boccia with staff supporting and encouraging people supported to have a go. Individual Gold, Silver and Bronze medals were awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd places in each event, with points allocated to 'home teams' which were totaled to establish the overall winning service. Cranmer Court claimed the prestigious winning team and Hampton House were runners up. Both homes received a trophy to proudly display within their service. Staff teams from each home, and one formed by the Management Team participated in a inter-home knock out Kickball competition which predictably resulted in being very competitive, but also lots of fun. The overall winners were the Management Team, which included Roger, Russ and Michael, along with Nicola (Operations Support), Jet (Data Technician) and Andy (driver for all services). The final event of the afternoon saw members of the Management Team competing against each other in a running race wearing inflatable costumes. These included a dinosaur, penguin, shark, eagle, alien and a super pig; this was hilarious and they enjoyed it that much they ran the race twice! Huddersfield Red Watch Fire Crew attended the event and two of the crew members were very willing participants in the kickball event and Inflatable race. An ice cream van was also present and everyone who wanted one enjoyed an ice cream or Lolly of their choosing. All in all it was a fabulous afternoon, the weather was great; everyone had fun and enjoyed meeting old friends and new.





## Fundraising—what an amazing achievement by everyone

Another aspect of the Summer Event/Sports Day was to hand over the money raised for Kirkwood Hospice. This year the challenge was set to each of the services to hold a fundraising event prior to 3rd July; all services rose admirably to the task. Events held included a car wash, coffee mornings, tombola's, head shaves, sponsored silence, sitting in a bath of beans, cake sales, raffles, and water drenching whilst in the stocks.

Again everyone had immense fun participating in the activities and we were absolutely thrilled that we were able to hand over the tremendous amount of £4219.56 to Judith, a Community Fundraiser who attended the event as a representative from Kirkwood Hospice. In addition to this Sandhurst Court held a car boot sale which raised £730 for Marie Curie. Well done to everyone who supported the fundraising events in anyway.

**THE  
KIRKWOOD  
SUPPORT  
LIFE.**

