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UPCOMING EVENTS - PLEASE ASK FOR MORE INFORMATION

SPELLMAN SPOTLIGHT

4th November, 2024

Kindness | Dignity | Compassion



Photo from the VFF Celebration Event

SPELLMAN CARE CELEBRATE VFF STATUS

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Former members of the Armed Forces across the region will benefit from enhanced person-centred care and support, after local care home group Spellman Care became the second full care home group in the country to meet the standards required for the Veteran Friendly Framework.

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EVENTS

ACROSS SPELLMAN CARE



Spellman care celebrate VFF status (continued)

Last month, Spellman Care marked their achievement of becoming a Veteran Friendly care home group with a celebratory event at their home in Skipton, Craven Nursing Home. The event featured a delightful 1940's themed afternoon tea with live music, complete with classic games and wartime memorabilia. A special presentation, prepared by a resident at Steeton Court Nursing Home, added a personal touch to the celebration. Guests enjoyed the nostalgic atmosphere further enhanced by a beautiful classic car on display.

The event welcomed a range of esteemed guests, including representatives of the Royal British Legion Skipton Branch, featuring their new Chairman, Gordon Bell. Two soldiers from the MOD Careers Office, Major

Mick Lynch from the Royal Yorkshire Regiment, and Kathryn Glass from the Veteran Friendly Framework also joined the celebration. Martin Flint-Johnson, Armed Forces Advocate at Airedale Hospital, further enriched the gathering. Members of the public, residents, and relatives from across the Spellman Care group of homes rounded out the attendees, creating a truly special atmosphere. (Continued on page 3...)

OUR TEAM

COLLEAGUE DEVELOPMENT

The training re-created real life scenarios which our teams encounter every day, challenged our own perspectives and helped staff to see from the resident's point of view.

The training began from the moment action was called, with a studio set up within the Home allowing staff to be fully involved with the videos development. The filming even extended out into our landscaped dementia garden!"

The training was launched on the Home's monthly Wellbeing Wednesday event this week, and will be available on the Wellbeing and Development Hub for the foreseeable future.

Jenny Newiss, a colleague who featured in the video also added "It was a great opportunity to get involved in filming our own dementia training in the Home. I was able to reflect on my own experiences and help bring these to life, showcasing our person-centred approach to supporting those living with dementia. The better we know our residents, the better we can support them by recognising and responding to their behaviours."



OUR TEAM

COLLEAGUE DEVELOPMENT

Springbank Care Home Launches Innovative Dementia Training
Springbank, a care home in Silsden, has launched a groundbreaking new training initiative as part of the Spellman Care Wellbeing & Development Hub.



The Wellbeing and Development Hub was launched in January as part of a wider wellbeing project, to provide staff with a platform to access a variety of resources covering mental wellbeing, physical wellbeing, staff discounts, administration and personal development.

Springbank’s initiative contributes to the personal development section of the hub, introducing an interactive training video and supporting booklet titled ‘Dementia: Beyond The Diagnosis’.

Lisa Pickles, Home Manager at Springbank said “Training has always been a key part of our staff development. Utilizing the Wellbeing and Development Hub to share interactive videos such as ‘Dementia: Beyond The Diagnosis’ helps us take training to the next level, providing staff with an interactive training session, tailored specifically to the residents they support.’

The training video was filmed at the home, and features a variety of Springbank team members, with hypothetical situations based on real life resident experiences.

April Howie, Deputy Manager added “We chose to develop our own in-house training video, delivered by our own staff members, to help improve engagement and learning. (Continued on page 7...)

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The aim of the VFF is to better support the practical, emotional and social needs of the Armed Forces community in care homes across England, by providing training and resources to assess and improve the care they offer. It will help tackle loneliness and has the scope to deliver improved health and wellbeing outcomes for the 25,000 veterans living in care homes in England.



To achieve their Veteran Friendly status, Spellman Care was required to meet eight standards. These included: noting Armed Forces status within care plans; addressing social isolation; and signposting to support services, such as their local Royal British Legion branch, and other charities that provide support for veterans or partners of veterans.

“We are absolutely thrilled and proud to be recognized as a Veteran Friendly Care Home Group,” said Philippa Young, Group Operations Manager at Spellman Care. “This accolade is a testament to our unwavering commitment to providing exceptional care for all residents, especially our valued veterans.

By embodying our core values of kindness, dignity, and compassion, we’ve created a supportive community where veterans feel cherished and connected.

Initiatives like our Veterans Cafes, specialized staff training, and fostering connections with the Armed Forces community have been instrumental in building a thriving environment where friendships flourish. (Continued on page 4...)

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It's incredibly rewarding to witness the positive impact these efforts have had on our residents' lives."

The VFF is a collaboration between Armed Forces charities Royal Star & Garter and Royal British Legion, and NHS Veterans' Covenant Healthcare Alliance (VCHA), with funding support from the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust.

Kathryn Glass is the VFF Project Lead at Royal Star & Garter and responsible for supporting and assessing care homes going through the scheme.

She said: "The applications submitted by all four of the Spellman Care homes were of an exceptionally high standard and a testament to the dedication, passion, and commitment the group has for providing high-quality person-centred care for residents and colleagues alike.

I would like to thank all Spellman Care colleagues within the organisation for their hard work and commitment to undertaking this framework and for being so welcoming to the VFF Team.

This programme will benefit both current and future residents, along with current and future staff, who are able to access enhanced training and guidance to better engage with the unique military experiences that their residents and partners have lived through.

Having all the homes within the organisation receive VFF status is a testament to the commitment from Spellman Care to the Armed Forces Community both as residents and as employers."

CURRENT PROJECTS

INTERGENERATIONAL LINKING

Springbank Care Home to Break Intergenerational Boundaries

To mark National Grandparent Day on Sunday 6th October, Springbank Care Home were proud to announce their latest initiative, 'Adopt a Grand-Friend'.

The scheme, led by Deputy Manager April Howie, hopes to build new friendships between young people in the community and residents living in the home.



"We're really excited to build on our links with the local community, following on from the success of our monthly 'Slippers and Nippers' group, our previous 'School's out for Summer' events and regular visits from friends and families" said April Howie.

"The Adopt a Grand-Friend scheme will give local young people the opportunity to link with our residents, bringing together generations to create lasting bonds and happy memories.

Intergenerational activities can benefit a child's communication skills, social behaviour and increase confidence and self-esteem, so we're really excited to be able to facilitate such an important scheme."

Anyone interested in taking part in the scheme should contact Springbank Care Home on 01535 282424 or email activities@springbanksilsden.co.uk. The home will get in touch to learn more about the young person so they can buddy them up with a friend with similar interests in the home.