

Senior General Manager Focus

In June, all Barchester homes across the country celebrated Staff Appreciation Week. While our team is valued and appreciated throughout the year, having a dedicated week to recognise their hard work and commitment was a wonderful opportunity to express our gratitude. To mark the occasion, we received hampers filled with sweets, chocolates, and fizzy drinks. This thoughtful gesture was a lovely way to thank our staff for their continued dedication and the exceptional care they provide every day.

During our indoor beach-themed event, all of our staff were treated to fish and chips from a local takeaway, followed by delicious ice cream from a visiting ice cream van. It was a wonderful opportunity for everyone to relax, enjoy themselves, and be recognised for their efforts. As Senior General Manager, I cannot express enough how grateful I am to each and every member of our team. Their hard work, dedication, and commitment are what make our home such a special place, and their contributions play a vital role in ensuring everything runs smoothly each day.

Our Activities and Kitchen teams have been working hard to ensure everyone at Hundens stays well hydrated during the recent warm weather. Promoting good hydration is a daily priority, with a wide range of refreshments always available to residents, staff, and visitors. With temperatures rising, we recognise the importance of drinking plenty of fluids, which is why we have been offering additional refreshments, including cold drinks, ice lollies, and ice creams throughout the day. To make hydration both enjoyable and engaging, our activities team has also been hosting smoothie and milkshake-making sessions, giving residents the opportunity to create and enjoy a variety of delicious, refreshing drinks.



July Dates for your Diary

- Wednesday 1st July, Mad Hatters Tea Party.
- Tuesday 7th July, we will be celebrating World Chocolate Day!
- Wednesday 8th July, a visit to the Gretna Green pub.
- Thursday 9th July, our visiting hairdresser, Maggie is coming today.
- Friday 10th July, our Wag and Co friendship dog, Bailey is visiting us.
- Wednesday 15th July, our Wag and Co friendship dog, Rico is visiting us.
- Saturday 18th July 11am-1pm. Our Summer Fair & BBQ with a live performance from visiting entertainer, Pete Johnson.
- Sunday 19th July, we will be Celebrating National Ice Cream Day. Ice creams all round!
- Wednesday 22nd July, a return visit to Pendragon Sensory Rooms.
- Thursday 30th July, we will be celebrating International Cheesecake Day, creating our very own cheesecakes to enjoy.

Bringing The Beach to Barchester

Each month we host a Monthly Residents Meeting. This meeting aims to allow our residents the opportunity to express what they're happy with, what they're unhappy with, any activities they would like to see happening, and any good ideas that they may have. Whilst doing the monthly meetings, there is always one reoccurring want... **To go to the beach!**

Whilst we have had regular outings to Seaton Carew and even Whitby, our residents simply love the beach. Fish 'n' chips and ice-cream are a real dose of nostalgia. So, we brought the beach to our home.

We had sandpits, buckets and spades, even a paddling pool! Of course, we purposely planned this in line with our weekly Fishy Friday! We went one step further by inviting a local ice cream van to our home. Each of our residents enjoyed a refreshing ice-cream, and in line with Staff Appreciation Week, our Senior General Manager also treat each staff member to a delicious ice cream too.

The beach often brings back happy memories of family holidays, childhood trips, and time spent with loved ones. Reminiscing about these experiences can be comforting and enjoyable. Feeling the sand, listening to the sea, watching the water, and smelling the ocean can provide positive sensory experiences that are engaging and uplifting. To promote this, our activities team used an Active Minds sensory set to bring the sounds and smells to our session.

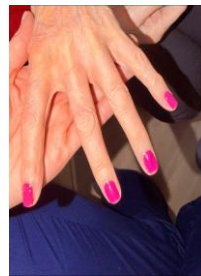
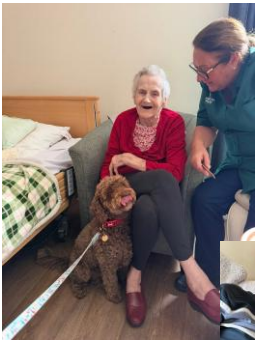
For care home residents, beach-themed activities can be especially beneficial because they recreate many of these positive feelings and memories, even when a trip to the coast isn't possible. Activities such as enjoying ice cream, listening to seaside sounds, playing beach games, or discussing favourite holiday memories can spark conversation, encourage social engagement, and support emotional wellbeing.



What we've been up to throughout June...

We have been delighted to finally see some warmer weather! Our residents have thoroughly enjoyed spending time outdoors in our garden. Some of our Darnton Suite men have begun to jet wash it so it looks summer ready for our upcoming Summer Fair & BBQ! We are hoping that the weather will be as nice as it has been recently so we are able to host our event outdoors. Fingers crossed!

Our two Wag & Company friendship dogs, Bailey and Ricko, continued their visits throughout June. Bailey joins us on alternating Fridays, while Ricko visits every Wednesday. Our therapy dog visits bring so much joy to our home. Anyone who has met Ricko will know that his owner, Ian, enjoys the visits just as much as Ricko does! Ian is always happy to chat with everyone he meets, helping to make each visit even more special. As both Ian and Ricko are still relatively new to Hundens Park, it has been wonderful to see how much they enjoy spending time with us. We always look forward to their visits and appreciate the happiness they bring to our residents.



Pamper sessions continue to be greatly enjoyed throughout our home. Relaxing hand massages, nail care, and hair styling for our residents, alongside visits from our regular hairdresser, Maggie all help to promote confidence and ensure everyone looks and feels their best.

Our much-loved visiting entertainer, Pete Johnson performed a pre-Father's Day special for us on Friday 19th June. As always, he came fully prepared with our favourite musical hits and his very best dance moves.

We also celebrated National Cheese Day in the best possible way, with a delicious variety of cheeses and crackers, perfectly paired with an array of non-alcoholic wines and beers. Great flavours, great company, and a wonderful time shared together!

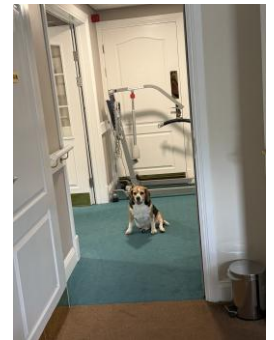
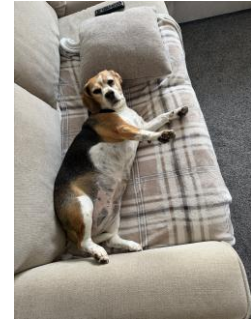


SPOTLIGHT ON...

Willow the beagle!

Whilst Willow is not one of our official therapy dogs, her visits bring just as much happiness and joy to our residents, staff, and visitors.

Willow is an almost 9-year-old beagle who belongs to our Head of Activities, Chloe. Willow can be best compared to the Disney character, Eeyore. Willow comes in weekly to spend the day at work with Chloe, she has a gorgeous temperament and thoroughly enjoys coming in to see everybody. Willow wanders freely around our home visiting our residents in their rooms throughout the day before crashing out, and snoring VERY loudly behind our reception area desk at approximately 2pm. She then spends the remainder of her day snoring on the sofa at home, and has to be awoken for her tea.



What we've been up to throughout June

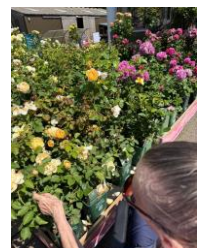


Garden Centre Visits

This month we have enjoyed visits to both Dobbie's and Strikes Garden Centres. The combination of wandering around the garden centre, soaking up some sunshine in the outdoor section, and then finishing with a good lunch in the café is hard to beat. Garden centres have a way of feeling both relaxing and inspiring at the same time, especially when the weather cooperates.

Pendragon Community Centre

We enjoyed a lovely outing to Pendragon in Northallerton for a fantastic sensory experience. With fully equipped hoists available, every resident was able to take part and enjoy a calming and relaxing session.



Hundens 'Hens' Update

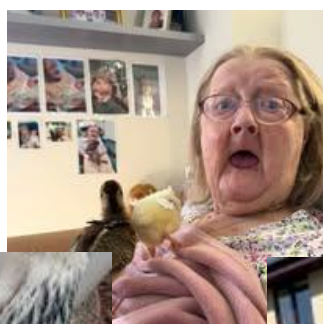


As part of an Easter experience, we received seven eggs along with all the specialist equipment needed to hatch them into baby chicks, delivered to us at Hundens Park by Incredible Eggs North East. We were absolutely delighted when all seven eggs successfully hatched. Watching the chicks emerge was a moment full of anticipation, and the joy that followed was truly special. It quickly became clear just how much happiness and positivity they brought into our home.

We made the lovely decision to keep all seven chicks, who became known as "The Hundens Hens." They lived with us for around three months in their ever-evolving outdoor home, which was kindly gifted by the family of our wonderful resident, Georgina.

More recently, we were saddened to discover that five of the seven chickens were actually cockerels. With this in mind, we made the difficult decision to rehome all seven birds so they could remain together. They were taken to a local farm by a friend of our Head Chef, Sarah, where they can live happily alongside other chickens.

While we were sorry to see them go, what was originally intended as a 10-day experience instead brought around three months of joy, learning, and happiness to our home.



LET'S TALK *Facebook*

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook at @ Hundens Park Care Home – Barchester Healthcare

Over on our Facebook page you can see what activities have taken place within Hundens Park. With multiple posts per week, it is always lovely to take a look and see all of the smiling faces.

We also advertise our upcoming events and outings as well as celebrations that have happened throughout our home.

More about life at Hundens...

Sadly, we have said goodbye to our visiting Zumba instructor, David as he moves on to a new venture. David delivered fun and engaging Zumba sessions which helped to promote our resident's physical wellbeing. Although we are sad to see David leave, we are hopeful that we will be able to secure new exercise sessions in the near future.

Thank You

From all the team at **Hundens Park** we'd like to say a big thank you to you all for all your support and understanding over the last few months. We'd love you to leave us a review if you haven't already at www.carehome.co.uk or alternatively you can complete a freepost, paper version available in reception.

Celebrations in our home throughout June

Our employee of the month for June is...
Our wonderful Care Assistant, Rose!
Rose is an asset to Hundens, she has recently qualified as a Nurse, we hope she will join our team as a Nurse in the near future.
Rose, we are yet to meet anyone who doesn't have a positive thing to say about you! You are incredible, a very well done to all at Hundens.

Hundens Park

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