

THE CHARTWELL POST



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Review score by residents and families on CareHome.co.uk



Chartwell House Resident Launches Debut Children's Book on World Book Day

World Book Day at Chartwell House in Broadstairs was a truly memorable occasion this year. Residents, team members, and visiting schoolchildren came together to celebrate the launch of resident, Gerald Gold's debut children's book, 'Two Tree Island'.

Inspired by his lifelong love of reading and the sea and dedicated to his great-granddaughter Willow, Gerald's adventure story follows young explorers William and Anne-Marie as they join the spirited Captain Salt on a daring voyage to a mysterious island. Along the way, they encounter excitement, friendship, and nautical intrigue – a tale that has already captured the imaginations of residents, team members, and local children alike.

To mark the special occasion, over thirty pupils from Cliftonville Primary School, Newington Community Primary School and Bromstone Primary School visited Chartwell House to meet Gerald and join residents for a joyful day of storytelling and shared reading. Gerald, dressed as Captain Salt, read aloud from his book, bringing the seafaring adventure to life for his young audience. The children were captivated by the story, while residents beamed with pride at seeing Gerald's achievement celebrated in such a heartwarming way.

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Gerald has also been personally signing copies of 'Two Tree Island', with £200 in donations received for Books For Africa, a charity working to improve literacy and provide access to books for children across the continent. Through this initiative, Gerald's passion for storytelling is being shared not only within his home but with young readers around the world.

Alongside Gerald's book launch, residents and children enjoyed a day filled with storytelling, as pupils read their favourite books to residents, with Chartwell House also organising a book collection for the three local schools. To commemorate the day, Admissions Manager, Jude Coveney created a beautiful World Book Day wreath, which will be displayed in Cliftonville Primary School's new library – a lasting symbol of the friendship between Chartwell House and the local community.

Reflecting on the day, Jude Coveney said: "Building strong connections with our local community is something we truly value at Chartwell House. World Book Day gives us a chance to open our doors, welcome local children into our home, and create lasting bonds through the love of books. It's wonderful to see residents and children learning from each other, sharing stories and laughter, and creating memories that extend far beyond the day itself."

Bishop of Dover Brings Blessing & Inspiration to Chartwell House Team and Residents

Chartwell was honoured to welcome The Rt Revd Rose Hudson-Wilkin, Bishop of Dover and Bishop in Canterbury, on 19th March 2025. A pioneering figure in the Church of England, she was the first female Chaplain to the Speaker of the House of Commons and a former Chaplain to Her Majesty the Queen. She also played a historic role in the coronation of King Charles III. The visit was inspired by Anna Chaplain, Judith Andrews' commitment to bringing worship beyond church walls, ensuring those unable to attend services still receive spiritual and emotional support. Moved by this, Bishop Rose was eager to experience it firsthand.

During her visit, Bishop Rose delivered a heartfelt sermon centred on the parable of the lost sheep, drawing upon her own personal journey of faith. She shared moving reflections from her recently published autobiography, *The Girl from Montego Bay*, and how discovering God's love gave her a profound sense of belonging and purpose.

Reflecting on her visit, Bishop Rose shared her delight in the homes' atmosphere, saying, "I walked in, and it felt as though I was in Miami. The sun is shining, and I tell you what, I'm going back home to my husband and saying, 'I have found the place where I want us to be later on.' It's beautiful."

For resident Dorothy Thompson, the visit was deeply meaningful. "Well, we are highly honoured to have a presence here, and she's a lovely lady. Very warm and soft. We appreciate her coming here."

"We can't get to her, so she comes to us. It's lovely," she said, before adding, "And she had such special words about Chartwell House. She said some lovely things."

Her daughter, Dayle Brain, echoed this sentiment, saying, "It's amazing for the home as well, because they do so much. Not every home does that, so it's quite special. When my mum first arrived, she was nervous and wanted to go back home. But after a recent hospital stay, she said, 'I want to go home,' and by that she meant Chartwell House. That says it all."

Following the visit, Judith expressed her gratitude for the growing worshipping community, stating, "I'd just like to say thank you to Chartwell House for welcoming us and the church so readily and making it so easy for us to build this community. I really appreciate it from the bottom of my heart."



Chartwell House Named One of South East England's Top 20 Care Homes 2025

Chartwell House has been recognised as one of carehome.co.uk's Top 20 Care Homes in South East England 2025, placing the home in the top 1% of care homes across the region. With more than 2,500 care homes in the South East, this achievement reflects the outstanding care, personalised support, and strong sense of community that residents and their families experience at Chartwell House every day.

This award is based entirely on independent reviews from residents, their loved ones, and loved ones – making it a true reflection of the experiences of those who know the home best. It highlights not only the quality of care, but also the warm, welcoming environment that makes Chartwell House such a special place to call home.



Life Story

The Incredible Story of our Resident: Pauline Gladman

Born on Armistice Day in 1932 in Ilford, Essex, Pauline Gladman arrived later in life for her parents, making her a much-loved surprise. The family lived in Barkingside, where Pauline fondly remembers the historic Fairlop Oak, a tree once famous in the time of Elizabeth I, standing proudly in the middle of the road.

Pauline's childhood was filled with the joy of extended family—her father, one of six siblings, and her mother, one of three, meant she grew up surrounded by cousins. One of her most treasured memories is a family trip to Cliftonville when she was just seven. They returned home on 2nd September 1939, just a day before the outbreak of the Second World War.

She recalls the wartime years vividly—how strict life was, and how different it was without a National Health Service. Despite the fear and uncertainty, she attended school daily, never knowing whether she would see her family again each evening. Yet, she believes this time forged a remarkably strong generation.

Throughout her working life, Pauline held a variety of roles, each of which she found both interesting and rewarding. She spent six years working in shipping and chartering as a stockbroker, before moving into a trade association within an insurance company, where she handled a range of policy queries.

In her final role, she led a team—something she took great satisfaction in—before retiring in Minster in 1987. It was during her working years that she met her best friend, a woman from Germany, with whom she maintained a close friendship for many years.

One of Pauline's lifelong passions has been singing. A trained soprano, she began singing at the age of four and continued well into her eighties, only retiring from performance at the age of 85. She sang in numerous amateur stage productions and was a committed member of many choirs. Her love of music even led her to perform at weddings, including two in Canada.

Pauline has also enjoyed a life rich in travel. Among her adventures, she visited Hawaii, although it differed from her expectations—a high-rise hotel replaced the idyllic village scenes so often depicted on television. Her most cherished holidays were those spent exploring Europe and visiting family in Canada. At one point, she had even planned to move there, although it sadly never came to pass. The only place she wishes she'd had the chance to visit is Australia.

Pauline's life has been one of resilience, friendship, creativity, and discovery. Her stories reflect not only the eras she has lived through but the strength of character and warmth of spirit that continue to shine through today.



Resident Recipe: *Edith's Sausage Rolls*



15 mins preparation

30-40 mins cooking

INGREDIENTS

- 4 Sheets of Puff Pastry
- 300g of Sausage Meat
- Salt & Pepper
- Dried Thyme
- 1 Large Egg
- Flour (for dusting)



METHOD

1. **Prepare your surface:** Lightly flour the work surface to prevent sticking.
2. **Cut the pastry:** Lay out your pastry and cut into desired sizes—halves for long rolls, or smaller pieces for bite-sized.
3. **Make the filling:** In a large bowl, combine sausage meat with 1 tsp dried thyme, 2 tsp salt, and 2 tsp pepper. Mix thoroughly by hand.
4. **Shape the meat:** Roll the sausage meat into logs slightly smaller than your pastry pieces.
5. **Assemble:** Place meat on the pastry and fold over. Seal the edges using a fork or your preferred method.
6. **Prepare to bake:** Line a baking tray with parchment paper. Place rolls a few centimetres apart.
7. **Egg wash:** Beat one egg and brush over the tops of the rolls.
8. **Bake:** Bake in a preheated oven at 180°C for 30–40 minutes, depending on roll size. Ensure the centre is piping hot before serving.



Chartwell House Celebrates 2 Years in Spectacular Style

Chartwell House marked its second anniversary on Saturday 1st February 2025 with a vibrant 'Greatest Showman' themed afternoon that brought residents, families, and the community together for an unforgettable circus experience. Around 200 guests enjoyed an exciting lineup of entertainment designed to captivate all ages.



My father has been living at Chartwell for over 18 months. He is very happy there. The team are kind, caring and very attentive. Everybody is very friendly. They have activities throughout the day to keep the residents occupied. I would recommend Chartwell House to anyone.

Daughter of Resident

National Activity Awards 2025 Honour

Chartwell House has been recognised as Highly Commended in The Service Recognition Award at the esteemed National Activity Awards 2025. This accolade celebrates services or individuals who demonstrate exceptional dedication to developing new and innovative approaches to activity and engagement within social care.



Staying Safe in a Digital World

Chartwell House hosted an engaging and insightful Fraud Prevention and Internet Security event on 4th February. Residents, their loved ones, and members of the team gathered to learn essential strategies for protecting themselves from online threats. Expert speakers Mike Andrews and Gemma Barnes, Local Specialists from Barclays, led an in-depth session on online privacy and fraud protection.

Nutrition & Hydration Week 2025

Chartwell House marked Nutrition & Hydration Week 2025 with a special visit to Thanet Earth who kindly donated some stunning fresh vegetables for our residents to enjoy! Our talented kitchen team got to work, creating beautiful, vibrant salads and a delicious homemade soup, packed full of goodness. A huge thank you to Thanet Earth for their generosity – our residents loved every bite!



Dementia Friends at Broadstairs College

At Chartwell House, we are passionate about building a more dementia-friendly community. In March, our team had the privilege of delivering a Dementia Friends session to the Level 3, Year 2 Social Care students of EKC Broadstairs College, alongside two of their dedicated tutors. It was inspiring to see the next generation of social care professionals eager to deepen their understanding of dementia.



Recognition Awards for our Outstanding Team!

Thank you to all of our team members for your ongoing dedication in ensuring the wellbeing of our residents. The winners at Chartwell House are:

- ★ **Outstanding Care & Compassion**
Joshua Peter-Hughes (Days)
Joshwil Villaflares (Nights)
- ★ **Outstanding Customer Service**
Gabrielle McGuire
- ★ **Outstanding Contribution**
Stuart Moore
- ★ **Outstanding Leadership**
Carla Smith
- ★ **Values Ambassador**
Ivy Kudya

Boutique in Bloom 2025



This summer, we will be holding our annual gardening competition once again; transforming our homes with a splash of colour and bringing our gardens to life!

Whether it's hanging baskets bursting with blooms, vibrant planters, or creative floral displays, together we will make our outdoor spaces as bright, welcoming, and joyful as the communities within them.

For more information about our plans and to find out how you can get involved please speak to Hollie, our Head of Lifestyle and Wellbeing.

Judging will take place in July.

Upcoming Events

At Chartwell House

April

- **Wednesday 11th**
Parkinson's Fundraiser
- **Sunday 20th**
Easter Eggstravaganza

May

- **Thursday 1st**
May Day Celebration
- **Thursday 8th**
VE Day Street Party

June

- **Week of 9th to 15th**
National Carers Week 2025
- **Week of 16th to 22nd**
Care Home Open Week 2025

For all planned events and timings, please contact Chartwell House.

Nostalgia Café

1st Monday of Each Month (11:30am - 1:30pm)
Dementia friendly café and support group offering good company and refreshments



Thanet Stroke Support Group
2nd Tuesday of Each Month (2:30pm - 4pm)
Support group for members of the community affected by stroke. £3 per person

Coffee Connections

3rd Thursday of Each Month (2:30pm - 4pm)
Delicious cakes, hot beverages and a chance to make new friends



CHARTWELL HOUSE

BY BOUTIQUE CARE HOMES

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