

# Abbey Together

The newsletter of Amesbury Abbey Group

November 2025



## Countdown to Christmas

As the festive season approaches, the Manor & Abbey have been a hive of activity. From the annual fireworks display to the heartfelt Remembrance Day events, not to mention the joyous celebration of Mr and Mrs Jaques' 70th Wedding Anniversary, there's been so much to enjoy. We've also hosted two wonderful Christmas fairs, plus been on all manner of outings. What a marvellous bunch of people we have living with, and working for us. Thanks to all for really making November noteworthy! Christmas here we come...



*Naam*



## Fabulous Fair at the Manor

We enjoyed a brilliant Christmas shopping extravaganza at Sutton Manor with wonderful stalls, delicious mulled wine and the first mince pies of the year. Thanks to all who supported and to Jo for organising. A great event that the residents much appreciated. Lots of presents were ticked off lists and a few treats-to-self were purchased also!





# Bang On! Fireworks Night

What a fantastic evening. The annual fireworks event definitely didn't disappoint. Heath's display had the crowd oohing and ahhing with every rocket and Pun, Cath and Yvette kept everyone well fed and watered with hot dogs, jacket potatoes, tomato soup, mulled wine and hot chocolate.

The weather was perfect and it was lovely to see so many residents, relatives, staff and their families in attendance - plus a good representation from Sutton too. Looking forward to next year already!





## Preparing for Remembrance

Many hands make light work! Staff and residents alike had fun rolling up their sleeves preparing the candelabras ready to sparkle and shine at our Remembrance Day fine dining event. Residents thoroughly enjoyed reminiscing about polishing the silver as children and it turned out to be an incredibly evocative morning and happy morning remembering our formative years!



# 70 Years of Wedded Bliss

Happy 70th Wedding Anniversary, Mr & Mrs Jaques - would that we could all find a lasting love like yours. Another incredible cake from Yvonne, which put the icing (!) on a weekend of celebrations.



# A Moment of Remembrance

A very special service of Remembrance at The Manor, organised by Jo, and conducted by the marvellous Rev'd David Mapes. Wonderful to have members of the Holy Trinity Church join so many of our residents from the nursing home and independent living to remember together. Much appreciated by all.





# Christmas Fair at the Abbey

Another brilliant Christmas market, this time at Amesbury Abbey in a marquee in the park, which looked glorious with huge swathes of jewel-toned leaves carpeting the lawns. Lots of great stands and much Christmas shopping completed. Huge thanks to Nona and Lorraine for organising.



# Crafty Creations

We've had a lot of interest in creative activities at Sutton Manor of late and so Jo has been working on putting together some new sessions. Flower arranging is back, and Watercolour Club is up and running. We have some super talented artists! What a first session.



# Christmas Sparks

There's nothing like a bit of retail therapy, and some of our ladies were out in Hedge End, shopping like Christmas was coming early! Thanks so much to Jo for organising. It's always fun to get out and about.

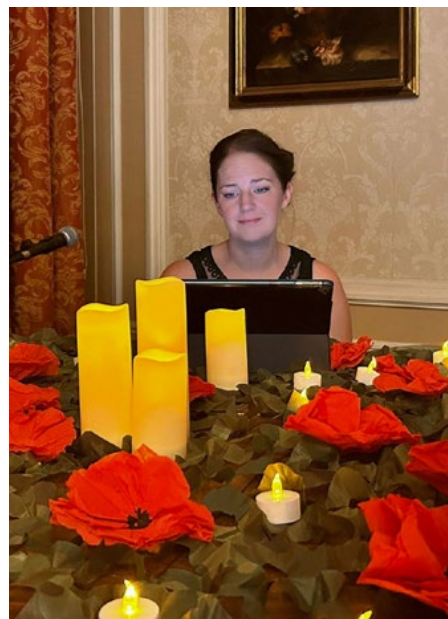




## Fine Dining, Fond Memories

What a beautiful and emotional night. The Remembrance Fine Dining Supper, organised by Nona, was incredibly special. A wonderful setting, delicious food, prepared and served by serving TA member, Head Chef Yvette and Head Waitress Catherine and their teams. The Dining Room was lit by sparkling candelabras, white linen and a sea of poppies. The residents enjoyed a phenomenal menu.

However, it was the beautiful piano playing and voice of Hannah Sandhu accompanying a brilliant slideshow put together by David CR of pictures of ex-service men and women we have cared for since we opened, which brought...



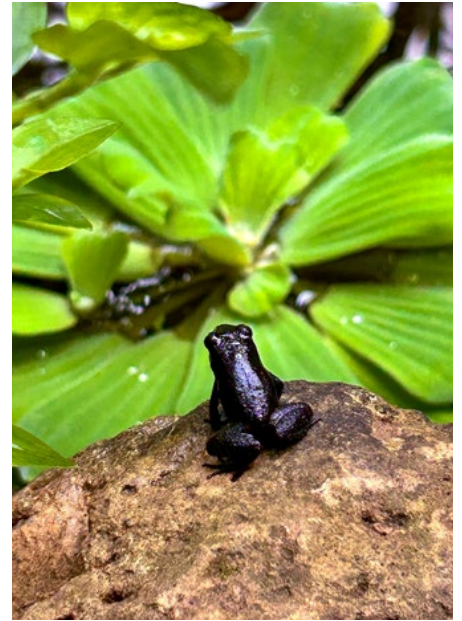


...a silence and tears to the eyes of many of our staff and residents.

From Sir Arthur Sanders, our very first resident back in 1974, to more recently Air Chief Marshal Sir David Harcourt Smith, their images - many shot at Amesbury Abbey at the time - were a sharp reminder of the amazing lives lived, courage and bravery of individuals we should never forget.

What a privilege to care for these heroic souls. Huge thanks to all involved. Very proud of each and every one of you for making this night happen.





## Trip to Living Rainforest

Residents of Sutton Manor nursing home enjoyed an amazing trip to The Living Rainforest in Newbury. What a brilliant place. The animals and the environment are incredible. A little Amazon on the doorstep! Highly recommended.





## Artful Afternoon at Fisherton Mill

Abbey residents enjoyed a lovely afternoon out in Salisbury at Fisherton Mill. Great retail therapy across a wonderful selection of independent artisan producers and a fab gallery to enjoy.

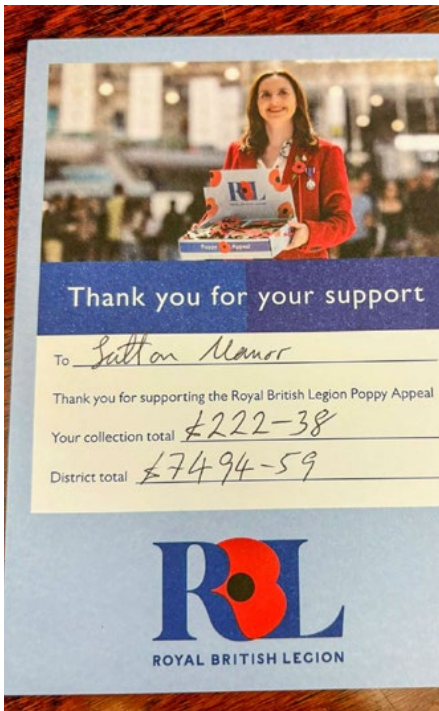


# Tip Top

There's a new topper in town on the Sutton Post Box, and it's really rather special and on theme.

Thanks so much, Sue!

NEWS



# Poppy Appeal Success

Wonderful effort from the Manor! Raising over £222 for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.