Yew Tree Nursing Home Ltd

November 2026

Yew Tree Gazette

Is it too early to say the "C" word?

Of course, we mean Christmas the biggest social time of the year here at Yew Tree and a very special time for our residents, families, friends and staff!

Our Activities Team has been busy planning a fun-packed programme of Christmas activities and events for everyone to enjoy, with plenty of festive cheer along the way.

Friday 4th December – Elf Day
We'll be kicking off our Christmas celebrations with Elf Day in aid of Alzheimer's Society. Our staff will be getting into the festive spirit and dressing up as elves throughout the day, while the Activities Team will be running various fundraising activities.
More details will follow very soon!

Thursday 10th December – Residents' Christmas Party
Our annual Residents' Christmas Party will take place on Thursday 10th December 2026. The party will get underway at 2.00pm, followed by a fantastic Christmas Buffet. Expect plenty of music, festive fun and Christmas cheer!

Friday 11th December – Nursery Nativity
At 10.30am, our lovely neighbours from the nursery will be visiting Yew Tree to perform a special little nativity for our residents. We're sure it will be a wonderful festive morning and one not to be missed.

Monday 14th December – Family Meal Day
As always, we will be holding our very special Family Meal Day on Monday 14th December at 12.30pm.

This is an event we hold every year and it is always incredibly popular with residents and their families. Places are limited, so we kindly ask families to book early to avoid disappointment.

Thursday 17th December – Christmas Carol Service
We're delighted that Ridgewood High School will be visiting us on Thursday 17th December to serenade our residents with a special Christmas Carol Service over lunchtime.

Tuesday 22nd December – Christmas Music Bugs
We'll be finishing our Christmas events with a special Christmas Music Bugs session at 10.30am and, of course, there may just be a very special visitor joining us...

Santa Claus!

Come and celebrate Christmas with us!

All of our Christmas events are open to residents, families, friends and guests, and we hope you will join us throughout the festive period.



Christmas is Coming to Yew Tree!

From Monday 23rd November, our staff will be getting into the festive spirit as we begin decorating the home in preparation for the Christmas period.

There may be some extra activity, movement and a little disruption around the home while the decorations are being put up, and we apologise in advance for any inconvenience this may cause to our residents, families and visitors. We will, of course, do our very best to keep disruption to a minimum.

Decorating Your Bedroom

Residents who would like to add a little Christmas magic to their own bedrooms are very welcome to do so! Whether it's a Christmas tree, lights, decorations or something personal from home, we would love to see residents making their rooms festive and personal.

For everyone's safety, any electrical Christmas decorations or items brought into the home must be PAT tested by our Maintenance Team before they are used.

Please simply hand any electrical items to the Maintenance Team, who will check them before they are plugged in.



Let's work together to make Yew Tree look wonderfully festive for the Christmas season!

Winter Menus

As of 10th November 2026, we have officially launched our Winter Menus here at Yew Tree.

This season, we are placing an emphasis on traditional, home-cooked British favourites, bringing some much-loved winter dishes to the dining table and adding a little extra comfort during the colder months.

We hope you enjoy our new winter menus. Your feedback is always welcome, so if there is a particular dish you enjoy, something you would like to see added, or you have any suggestions, please speak to a member of the Management Team or Kitchen Team.

Christmas Menus

Throughout December, we will also be introducing a selection of festive and themed menus to complement our Christmas celebrations and special events.

Keep an eye out for more details, or you can find the latest menus displayed in the dining room.

We hope you enjoy the flavours of winter and all the festive treats to come!

Kind People Happy Moments Brighter Days

Our Nursing Home Activities Plan November

Lest We Forget

A month of friendship, fun and happy memories

Week 1

New Month, New Memories

To Do	Monday 30	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday 1
Morning (10:00am)	St Andrew's Day						All Saints' Day Church Service or Quiet Reflection
Afternoon (2:30pm)	Karaoke						Afternoon Tea & Chat

Week 2

Autumn Days Together

Sharing laughter, friendship and special moments

To Do	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning (10:00am)	2 Gentle Exercises	3 Music Bugs 10am	4 Knitting & Crochet	5 Guy Fawkes Celebration Morning	6 Baking Together	7 Creative Colouring	8 Church Service or Quiet Reflection
Afternoon (2:30pm)	Rocky 2:30pm	Graham 2:30pm	Games Afternoon	Vee Sweeney 2:30pm	Film Friday	Suzie 2pm	Afternoon Tea & Chat

Week 3

Keeping Spirits Bright

Because every day matters

To Do	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning (10:00am)	9 Arts & Crafts	10 Puzzle Morning	11 Paulo Pinto 11am	12 Baking Together	13 Children in Need Cake Sale Morning	14 Garden Time (Weather Permitting)	15 Church Service or Quiet Reflection
Afternoon (2:30pm)	Trevor Santini 2pm	Izzy 2:30pm	Remembrance Day Celebrations	Board Games	Brave the Shave in aid of Children in Need	Karaoke	Afternoon Tea & Chat

Week 4

Fun, Friendship and Good Company

Creating smiles and brighter days

To Do	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning (10:00am)	16 Gentle Exercises	17 Music Bugs 10am	18 Pamper Morning	19 Knitting & Crochet	20 Puzzle Morning	21 Family Time Morning	22 Church Service or Quiet Reflection
Afternoon (2:30pm)	Kelvin 2:30pm	Arts & Crafts	Games Afternoon	Victoria	Melissa 2:30pm	Movie Afternoon	Afternoon Tea & Chat

Week 5

Grateful Hearts Make Happier Days

Community ♥ Friendship ♥ Wellbeing ♥ Happiness

To Do	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning (10:00am)	23 Baking Together	24 Gentle Exercises	25 Debbie Miles 11am	26 Arts & Crafts	27 Puzzle Morning	28 Family Time	29 Church Service or Quiet Reflection
Afternoon (2:30pm)	Karaoke	Steve 2:30pm	Music & Memories	Creative Colouring	Film Friday	Colouring Afternoon	Afternoon Tea & Chat

Community ♥ Friendship ♥ Wellbeing ♥ Happiness

Congratulations, Lisa!

We are delighted to announce the promotion of Lisa Gilmour to Kitchen Manager, effective from 16th November 2026.

Lisa has been a valued member of the Yew Tree team for some time and currently works as our Head of Department for Domestics. During her time with the home, Lisa has shown great commitment, dedication and a willingness to support both our residents and colleagues.

Lisa is also a trained Chef, bringing valuable experience and knowledge to her new role within the kitchen.

As Kitchen Manager, Lisa will be taking responsibility for the day-to-day running of the kitchen and will be looking at ways to develop and improve the service over the coming months, including making some positive changes to our kitchen operations and catering provision.

We are very excited to see Lisa take on this new challenge and look forward to seeing her ideas and experience brought into the kitchen.

Please join us in congratulating Lisa on her promotion and wishing her every success in her new role!

Kushall Kumar – Healthcare Assistant

This month, we are delighted to recognise Kushall Kumar as our Employee of the Month.

Kushall has consistently demonstrated a kind, caring and respectful approach towards our residents. He takes the time to listen, support residents with dignity and make sure they feel valued and cared for.

He is a reliable member of the team and is always willing to go the extra mile, whether supporting colleagues during busy periods, helping wherever needed or simply taking those extra moments to brighten a resident's day.

Kushall's positive attitude, teamwork and commitment to providing person-centred care have not gone unnoticed. His contribution to the home and the support he provides to both residents and colleagues are greatly appreciated.

We would like to say a huge thank you to Kushall for all his hard work, dedication and commitment.



Congratulations, Kushall — well deserved!

Thank you for everything you do for our residents and for being such a valued member of the Yew Tree team.

Look Out… The Naughty Elf Is Coming!

Throughout December, from Monday to Friday, Yew Tree will have a very special visitor and he's a rather naughty little elf!

He'll be hiding around the home, getting up to all sorts of mischief and causing a little festive fun wherever he goes.

So, as you're moving around the home, keep your eyes peeled and see if you can spot him!

Where will he turn up next?
What mischief will he be getting into?
Will you catch him in the act?

There's only one way to find out…

Let the Great Yew Tree Elf Hunt begin!

Residents, families, visitors and staff are all invited to join in the fun throughout December. Keep looking, keep guessing and, most importantly, don't let the naughty elf get away with it!

Kind People Happy Memories Brighter Days

Our Nursing Home Activities Plan December

A month of friendship, fun and happy memories

Week 1 — A Magical December Begins

Christmas Cheer ♥ Friendship ♥ Festive Fun

To Do	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning (10:00pm) ♥		1 Festive Arts & Crafts	2 Christmas Baking	3 Christmas Card Making	4 Elf Day	5 Festive Singalong	6 Church Service or Quiet Reflection
Afternoon (2:30pm) ♥		Bingo Afternoon	Christmes Quiz	Paulo Pinto 2pm	Film Friday	Suzie Law 2pm	Afternoon Tea & Mince Pies

Week 2 — Festive Friends and Special Times

Sharing laughter, music and Christmas spirit

To Do	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning (10:00pm) ♥	7 Gentle Exercises	8 Music Bugs 10:30am	9 Knitting & Crochet	10 Christmas Arts & Crafts	11 Nursery Choir 10:30am	12 Festive Colouring	13 Church Service or Quiet Reflection
Afternoon (2:30pm) ♥	Mellssa 2:30pm	Shake Rattle and Roll 2:30pm	Izzy 2:30pm	Residents Party	Film Friday	Karaoke Fun	Festive Afternoon Tea

Week 3 — Christmas Traditions and Togetherness

Making memories in the most wonderful time of year

To Do	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning (10:00am) ♥	14 Family Xmas Meal	15 Festive Baking	16 Christmas Decorations	17 Carol Singing	18 Christmas Quiz	19 Northeast Producers Panto 1:30pm	20 Church Service or Quiet Reflection
Afternoon (2:30pm) ♥	Trevor Santini 2:30pm	Steve 2:30pm	Board Games	Zoolab 2pm	Film Friday		Carol Singalong

Week 4 — The Christmas Countdown

Festive fun, good company and Christmas joy

To Do	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning (10:30pm) ♥	21 Festive Exercises	22 Music Bugs 10:30am	23 Christmas Crafts	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27 Church Service or Quiet Reflection
Afternoon (2:30pm) ♥	Christmas Bingo	Grahem 2:30pm	Kelvin Letich 2:30pm				Relaxing Christmas Movie

Week 5 — A Warm and Joyful Festive Week

Rest, velax and enjoy the senson together

To Do	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Morning (10:00am) ♥	28 Christmas Werd Crames	29 Testive Arts & Crafts	30 New Year Reminiscences	31 New Year's Eve Celebrations
Afternoon (2:30pm) ♥	Karaoke Afternoon	Board Games	Quiz Afternoon	

Community ♥ Friendship ♥ Wellbeing ♥ Happinees