

## TENANT'S ANNUAL REPORT - 2025

Foreword by CEO CESSAC & CESSA HA

I am delighted to introduce this annual summary of tenant and staff social activities across our CESSA HA and Greenwich Hospital sheltered housing schemes.

Whilst this report captures the events, activities and celebrations that have taken place throughout the year, it also reflects something much more important: the character, warmth and community spirit that exists within our schemes.

As Chief Executive, I place great importance on social activity within our sheltered housing communities. Whilst everyone has different interests, abilities and levels of participation, opportunities to come together socially can play an important role in promoting health and wellbeing, reducing loneliness and isolation, and helping to foster positive, inclusive and supportive relationships between neighbours. The friendships that develop within our schemes are often every bit as important as the homes themselves.

For this reason, the Association actively encourages resident-led social activities wherever there is an appetite for them. Our communal lounges and gardens are provided not only as facilities, but as spaces where communities can meet, socialise and flourish. We have also introduced a modest Social Grant to help support tenant committees and to encourage the organisation of local activities and events.

It is important to recognise, however, that every scheme is different. The size of a scheme, the interests of its residents, the availability of volunteers and the changing profile of the community all influence the level and nature of social activity that takes place. Some schemes naturally maintain a busy calendar of events, whilst others prefer a quieter pace of life. Neither approach is right or wrong, and each community develops its own character and personality over time.

During the year I have been fortunate enough to attend a number of events across our schemes, including tenant meetings, Christmas parties, Veteran's lunches and bingo and quiz evenings. Without exception, I have always been struck by the warmth of the welcome, the good humour of those attending and the obvious pride that residents take in their communities. These occasions are often great fun and serve as a reminder that our schemes are about far more than bricks and mortar; they are vibrant communities shaped by the people who live within them, their shared experiences and their good humour.

I would therefore like to thank our tenant representatives, social committees, volunteers, scheme managers and residents who continue to invest their time, energy and enthusiasm in helping to make our schemes such welcoming places to live.

I hope that you enjoy reading this report and learning more about the many activities that have taken place across our communities during the year.

Joe Petty  
Lieutenant Colonel (Retired)  
Chief Executive Officer

## CESSA HA Schemes

**CESSAC House (56 Flats)** – This scheme is situated on the Gosport peninsular and is a little further from local facilities than most.

- Tenants have enjoyed getting together for Left, Right and Centre games as well as quiz nights,
- Weekly bingo, darts and knitting,
- Weekly Supermarket trips to Morrisons or Tesco's,
- Lest we Forget last visited in Dec 25,
- Christmas songs and carols,
- Tenants attended the HMS Sultan Pantomime in Nov 25 to watch Beauty and the Beast,
- The Veteran's Lunch continues to be a great success with 16-18 attendees each month,
- Annual Easter egg hunt with Tenants grandchildren,
- The Annual Christmas Dinner was great fun, and all attendees enjoyed the Secret Santa,
- Tenants visited Fort Nelson in Dec 25 to visit Standing with Giants,
- They held a Macmillan Coffee Morning raising £233.00,
- Arranged for our local community pharmacy to attend site and conduct Covid and Flu Jabs,
- Raised £140 at Christmas for our Local Gosport food crisis charity.



**Glamis Court (55 Flats)** – Located in Stubbington, a quiet location which offers residents many amenities.

- Regular Coffee mornings with the scheme manager,
- Scheme bingo on a Monday evening,
- Keep fit/ yoga /chair exercise started on Tuesday afternoons,
- Church service last Tuesday of the Month,
- Bus trips to Supermarkets on Tuesday mornings each week,
- Weekly Bingo on Monday evenings,
- Bonus ball,
- Keep fit on Tuesday afternoons,
- Tenants regularly meet for afternoon tea/coffee and a chat,
- Trip to Bartley Lodge, New Forest for lunch,
- Mothering Sunday tea in the lounge,
- Trip to Banbridge garden centre,
- Easter breakfast,
- Easter raffle,
- VE Day celebrations followed by evening disco,
- Afternoon tea at the ferry boat Hayling Island,
- Shopping trip to hedge End,
- Fish and chip supper,
- Lunch at the Forge Carvery,
- Dementia raffle,
- Lunch at Stansted House,
- Halloween evening/music,
- Christmas raffle,
- Anne Dale Junior School choir,
- Crofton Hammond School choir,
- Christmas jumper day and bingo,
- Tenants' Christmas party/meal.



**Dhekelia Court (16 Flats)** – This scheme is located in the middle of Portsea Island. Although there are fewer social events, due in part to the Court’s small population, social events prove to be very popular.

- 4 or 5 tenants meet most mornings for Coffee,
- ‘Lest We Forget’ do three annual concerts each year,
- Fortnightly Fish and Chip Friday is very popular,
- Fortnightly pub outings for a small number of tenants,
- Two tenants work in the Gardens most days to keep it looking beautiful,



**Trafalgar Court (27 Flats)** – In the heart of historic Southsea where there is a vibrant community life.

- There are fortnightly fish & chips events,
- ‘Lest We Forget’ visit three times annually,
- Monthly Chinese Night, which is growing in popularity,
- Weekly Armchair Exercises to keep those joints moving freely,
- Fortnightly Bingo, which is popular,
- Monthly ‘Spud U Like,’
- A number of tenants also spend time in the Gardens to keep it looking fantastic.



**St George's Court (37 Flats)** – Next to Castle Street in Southsea, the Court provides residents with a short walk to the pier and sunny beach.

- Weekly Thursday Coffee Mornings held with regular attendees,
- Bingo every Monday in the Communal Lounge – fun had by all who attend,
- Fortnightly fish and chip lunches delivered by The Master Fryer -most delicious!
- Easter gathering with tenants making their own bonnets,
- In May the 'Lest We Forget Society' came in to play for the residents and returned to entertain the tenants again in October,
- Valentine's Day was celebrated with a very nice buffet organised and provided by the tenants,
- September saw an ex-tenant return to say a proper farewell to their friends,
- In November the tenants went to Fort Nelson Armouries to view The Giants,
- Halloween gathering in the Communal Lounge,
- In December tenants visited the Brewhouse & Kitchen for a lovely meal in good company,
- For those unable to attend the Xmas meal an in-house function was arranged with guests/friends from Castle Road Association invited and staff attending,
- New Year's Eve saw tenants gather to celebrate and welcome in 2026!



## Greenwich Hospital Sheltered Housing Schemes

**Greenwich Court (37 Flats)** – In the middle of residential Somerstown.

- Knit and Natter sessions are held every Monday afternoon,
- Bingo takes place every Tuesday evening in the communal lounge,
- Minibus trips are offered weekly for shopping trips,
- Monthly quiz nights,
- Monthly bacon butty mornings are consistently well attended,
- Old Portsmouth forces and veterans club is organised by a tenant on the last Saturday in every month, which is attended by many residents,
- Several tenants volunteer for Veterans Outreach Service in Portsmouth,
- Greenwich Court marked its 36th anniversary with an afternoon tea to celebrate,
- Multiple movie afternoons were held in the communal lounge,
- The Greenwich Hospital-funded Christmas Party included a singer & raffle and was well attended
- Curry Nights,
- Easter Afternoon Tea.



**Greenwich Place (33 Flats)** – Situated in Saltash, a Cornish town adjacent to the River Tamar Bridge and known as “the Gateway to Cornwall”.

The scheme is close to all amenities and the town which has a lovely sense of community, which at the moment results in a number of tenants volunteering locally for an organisation called Community Enterprises PL12, which encompasses a number of elements including:

- Community Hub, which plays host to events, provides a space to encourage learning, initiate social interactions, multi-generational activities and skill sharing,
- Community Kitchen, also hosting Community Fridge and Larder, the latter reducing food waste and helping feed local people,
- Community Transport, Digital Inclusion and perhaps most significantly, Dementia Voice PL12. The latter flourishes, with fortnightly fun sing-along sessions, walking groups, signposting café and many more things ,

Events within the scheme included:

- Tenants regularly get together in the communal activities room to socialise and make good use of the facilities available,
- Dave’s Chair exercises every morning.
- Every third Friday is fish and chip evening,
- Every Wednesday is ukulele practice where residents are welcome to come and listen to the group,
- Bacon Bap and coffee morning happen every other Thursday,
- Cheese and wine evenings happen every three months,
- Every three months the residents enjoy a sing and social evening in the main lounge.
- The Christmas meal was held at The Windy Ridge Café.



**Trafalgar Quarters (21 Flats)** – Located in Greenwich, London, the Quarters has an important military history. The building dates back to 1813 when it was used as lodgings for officers of Greenwich Hospital.

- January 25th Burns night – Mr Milliken provided food, poems & music,
- March 1st St David's Day – tenants provided food & music,
- 15th Wonky Bingo evening arranged by Mr Turnbull. Who also provided the food,
- April 26th 'Would I lie to You' evening arranged by Mr Turnbull Who also provided the food,
- May 16th Music in Hospitals – Tony Martin – Guitarist
- May 16th Buckingham Palace Not Forgotten Garden Party – Attended by two tenants Miss McIlwain & Mrs Riddall,
- June 19<sup>th</sup>, the SM Kimberley Griggs was invited to join GH & CESSAC leadership for lunch at the Trafalgar Tavern & was presented with flowers and an engraved vase to recognise 25 years of service
- October 24th - Mr Turnbull held a party in the communal Lounge for his housewarming. Tenants provided the food & music. Along with a karaoke session open to all tenants and friends. He also sings in a choir.
- Tenants' Christmas meal at the Yacht – Hosted & Toasted by Mr Kay with some really interesting history of the Greenwich Pensioners.

### **Tenant's reflections after attending the Buckingham Palace 'Not Forgotten' Garden Party.....**

*"We had a fabulous day at Buckingham Palace. The sun shone, the band played, and we met with and chatted to some wonderful people.*

*It was so uplifting and such an escape from the everyday turmoil of the outside world, and there was a true sense of pride and warmth exuded by everyone, which was intoxicating.*

*At the Band Stand, where we were entertained with a medley of songs by The Band of the Irish Guards and The Swingtime Sweethearts, it felt as though you had been transported back in time to a bygone era singing "We'll meet again!" I thought they looked and sounded amazing wearing forties attire and hairstyles!*

*Russell Watson was indeed world class, together with an added unscheduled performance by Matt Goss, (of BROS), who sang a beautiful song he had written for his grandfather, who was a gunner in the 2nd World War, which was so moving. The attendance of HRH The Duchess of Gloucester, culminating in the Beating Retreat by The Band of the Irish Guards rounded off a truly memorable day for us, which will stay with us always."*

