

The Willows Whisper

May

May

by Christina Rossetti

I cannot tell you how it was,
But this I know: it came to pass
Upon a bright and sunny day
When May was young; ah, pleasant May!
As yet the poppies were not born
Between the blades of tender corn;
The last egg had not hatched as yet,
Nor any bird foregone its mate...

CONTACT US



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(Registered Manager)



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14 - 16, The Lant Shepshed, Leicestershire LE12 9PD
The Willows Website | 01509 650559

REFERRAL PROGRAM

Do you know someone seeking a Care Home for a loved one? If you refer to resident, who comes to live at The Willows, you can receive a reward!

We are offering:

£250 vouchers if the resident comes to stay with us on a respite stay or £500 vouchers if the resident you refer comes to our Home permanently.

If you would like more information, please speak to Priya Patel or Yvonne Manton.

Contact us on 01509 650 55

For more updates follow us on social media!



**Exceptional
Excellence**

May Day

The first thing to come to mind when thinking of May Day celebrations is Morris dancing. May Day has been a traditional day of festivities for many centuries, usually in small towns and villages, with people celebrating springtime fertility of the soil, livestock, and people.



This used to and may still be incorporated with village fetes and community gatherings, and as seeding is usually completed by this date it was a convenient timing to give farm labourers a day off. May Day traditions in the UK used to involve crowning a May Queen and dancing around a Maypole, where traditional dancers circle around with brightly coloured ribbons.



*This month The Willows will be joining the rest of the Country and celebrating VE Day with our residents....
One of our favourite “dress up” days of the year!*

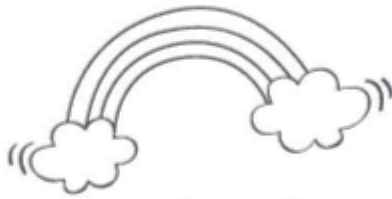
VE Day looks back to 8 May 1945, when Nazi Germany officially surrendered, and World War II came to an end in Europe.

The war continued in the Pacific, but the victory in Europe meant that the eventual total victory of the Allies was virtually inevitable at that point.



The defeat of Germany in 1945 resulted in a massive celebration. Crowds poured into Trafalgar Square in London and streamed up to Buckingham Palace, where they saw Winston Churchill and their King and Queen standing out on the balcony. The world had been saved. Britain had survived and triumphed against incredible odds. All was joy and a sense of relief in the knowledge that peace had finally come. Later, parades, wreath-laying ceremonies, street parties, a thanksgiving service and concert in London, and brightly lit beacons spread throughout the country came to characterize VE Day. The whole modern world is largely a product of the outcome of World War II, and the UK still remembers that every eighth of May.



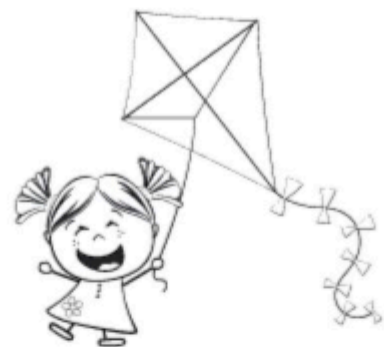


Spring



N G V S L C T J E D F P Z O R L B
E T O I P H R A S B I J E D M V G
L Z R M T A O C N I A R G T Y Q N
I P E J S N Y K F W H S L A I F I
A Y B E G M D E P T E Q E W C K R
D S O K R E N T Y L W H J B U I P
M U P H T B I L D E N O C Z A F S
K N T C D A W D G P L D B G P L M
F S E I R Z U N O S A E S N U B L
W H Z N A P R S M Y T L F M I W S
P I F C L E A N I N G E B H K A V
T N U I B M V R Z O F R C A W H R
M E D P H C R A M B E K L N S T G
X L F J Y A S N G L S H O W E R S
H B R E A K O P L V C Z U F Y D K
C F T X M U B A S I L W D H G N E
W I H P E D L J R Y Q B S A O X R

APRIL	BASEBALL	BREAK
BREEZE	CLEANING	CLOUDS
JACKET	KITE	MARCH
MAY	PICNIC	PUDDLES
RAINBOW	RAINCOAT	SEASON
SHOWERS	SPRING	SUNSHINE
THAW	UMBRELLA	WINDY



Tree Valley Academy



This month we say 'Happy Birthday' to:



Doreen - 1st



Louise - 15th



Marie - 5th



Georgina - 15th



Jennifer - 8th



Betty - 26th



Colin - 13th



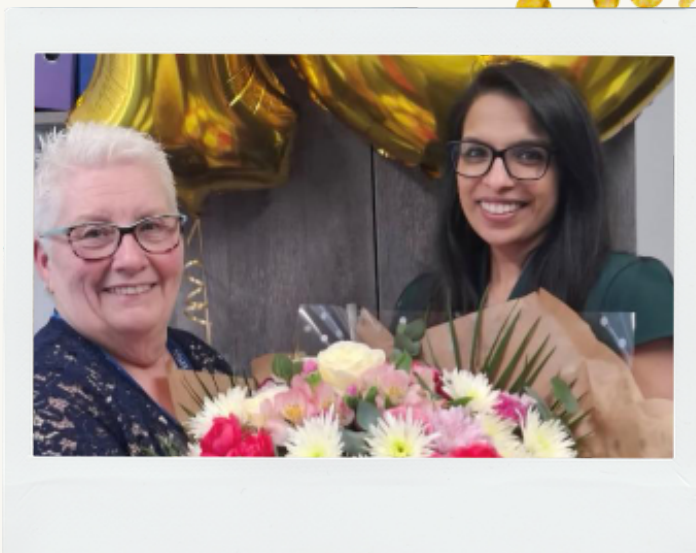
Pauline - 28th

Celebrating a Decade of Dedication

In April we rolled out the red carpet for the heart of our home – the incredible team members who've been with us for over 10 years. Their loyalty, compassion, and unwavering commitment to our residents are nothing short of outstanding. That includes our two phenomenal 'boss ladies' who have led our home with skill and grace since 2016, shaping the warm, family feel we're so proud of. Our founders and directors joined us to honour these milestones, sharing stories, laughter, and heartfelt thanks.



Yvonne wrote on our Facebook:
"We couldn't have done it without every single member of staff past and present. It has been a privilege to share the last 10 years working alongside the best of humankind. The love that each and everyone of you show by turning up each and every day doing a hard and sometimes taxing job is difficult to explain. You do it with love, devotion and usually with a smile. On behalf of our lovely residents, Priya and 3ab Care thank you for being part of our family."



Celebrating a Decade of Dedication



Priya added:

"Reaching 10 years is something I'm incredibly proud of, but it certainly hasn't been a journey taken alone. We as a team and family have taken every step together with dedication, resilience, and compassion. I'm truly grateful to work alongside such committed individuals who give so much to our residents and each other, every day. This milestone belongs to all of us"

And what's a celebration without a feast? Our talented kitchen team, led by the amazing Sharon, worked magic behind the scenes. Sharon came in at 5am to make sure every dish was not just delicious, but beautifully presented – a true labour of love...

To all our long-serving colleagues: congratulations on this remarkable achievement.

Your dedication is the foundation of our home, and we couldn't be prouder to work alongside you!



When Barry's 'pets' visited The Willows!

Pigeons have been Barry's favourite pastime, since, well, forever. His squad comes in every colour of the rainbow and every age from 1 to 3 years – basically the toddlers-to-preschoolers of the bird world. They're trained to race, which means they have better cardio than most of us.

Barry brought a few VIPs to show our residents. Everyone was buzzing to watch them launch like feathery little fighter jets. We kept our fingers, wings, and everything else crossed that they navigated their way home safely. Their mission was to fly from Shepshed to Birmingham. Flight time took approx. 20 minutes and every pigeon was accounted for when Barry got back home.



***Relatives meeting: 14th May 2026 May 2026
3:30pm – 4:30pm***

***Yvonne will be holding a Relatives meeting
on 14th May, and you are all invited. On the
agenda this month is:***

- GSF Accreditation update: We have submitted!***
- Our recent Infection Control Inspection***
- Update on our Refurbishment plans in the home.***



MAY EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Wednesday, 6th May
Boogie Beatz Chair Exercises
with Hannah at 3pm

Thursday, 7th May
Tea Party in 1940s style
with fabulous Melody Flyte

Friday, 8th May
VE Day celebrations

Sunday, 10th May
Morris Dancers from 3pm

Thursday, 14th May
Waleys Dart Days
(darts for seniors) from 2:30pm

Sunday, 24th May
Church Service
conducted by Simon Clarke
and Word Of Life Church
Shepshed, starting 3pm

There's always something to do...
Our much-loved regular schedule continues:

- ✨ Pamper & Spa Days**
- 👩‍💇 Hairdressing**
- 🎨 Arts & Crafts**
- 🎲 Social Lounge Activities**

APRIL ACTIVITIES

The sunny days are finally here! We're encouraging our residents to step outside and make the most of our beautifully maintained garden. Residents are spending time outdoors among the birdsong and blossoms – reading quietly on a bench, breathing in the scent of summer, or just pausing to watch the flowers sway.



APRIL ACTIVITIES

We put our bunny ears on and took some lovely pictures!



APRIL ACTIVITIES

We enjoyed some baking...

