

Welcome to Haberdashers House

In 2019 the RHN opened Haberdashers House, a specialist transitional unit for 11 young people moving from paediatric care into adult long-term care. Making this transition can be challenging for young people and their families, so providing a safe, homely and welcoming environment is crucial to ease the transition process.

Despite profound and significant health challenges, the young adults resident in Haberdashers House are supported to access the community as much as possible. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic the residents visited the local pub, London Zoo, the local shopping centre, and Richmond Park. Each of these trips required a full support team including a registered nurse, health care assistants and various items of medical equipment.

Due to their complex health needs and the restrictions caused by the pandemic, our young patients have had little opportunity to access the wider community this year, therefore the community has had to go to them. Haberdashers House has an onsite activity and leisure programme delivered by the activity coordinators. It includes wheelchair dancing, sensory stories, pampering sessions, baking, games, wheelchair football and arts and crafts.

Here's a look back at some of the activities our younger patients have enjoyed this year.



Meet Health Care Assistant, Kline

Health Care Assistant, Kline Monteron, started working at the RHN at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic in April. Her official RHN uniform hadn't arrived on her first day, so Kline was our first staff member to be issued with one of our colourful sets of donated scrubs.

Gardening Club

Patient gardening is an important activity at the RHN. It provides an opportunity to socialise, and growing flowers and vegetables from seed gives residents and patients a sense of hope and achievement.



The Haberdashers House garden has recently been redesigned, with raised beds accessible to patients in wheelchairs. Thanks to our supporters and volunteers, who regularly donate seed packets, our young residents were able to take advantage of the warm summer weather to start their own vegetable garden.

Film Nights

Film nights are regular events for patients and residents across the RHN. In Haberdashers House staff make hand-made cinema tickets for each film and also help the residents to make their own popcorn.



Sleep Under the Stars Night

8 August 2020 was Global Sleep Under The Stars Night. The staff and residents of Haberdashers House celebrated the event with an evening of star gazing from the unit's garden. The residents also created their own star gazing artwork and began a project to build their own solar system, making individual planets using papier maché.



National Hot Cross Bun Day



Hot cross buns may be associated with Easter, but National Hot Cross Bun Day falls on September 11. At Haberdashers House the event was marked with a day of baking. Staff and residents cooked their own hot cross buns from scratch in the unit's kitchen.

Halloween Story Night

Many of us celebrated Halloween at home in 2020 and the residents of Haberdashers House were no exception. But even though they were unable to go out they still got to enjoy an evening of spooky ghost stories, read to them by members of staff in front of a cosy fire.



Fireworks Night

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, patients at the RHN were unable to attend any fireworks displays. To celebrate the night at home, they made their own 'firework displays' on paper using colourful glitter paints. Some of their artwork was turned into greetings cards to send to their families.

Christmas Stars

All the wards at the RHN are decorated for Christmas, and at Haberdashers House everyone gets involved in the decoration effort. This year, to celebrate the appearance of the Christmas star in the night sky, the patients made their own stars to hang in their day room. They used a variety of materials, including card, glitter and salt dough. A tree branch was foraged from the garden to create a Christmas garland for the fireplace.



New Year's Eve



Like many of us, our residents stayed in for New Year's Eve. In Haberdashers House they made the most of their night in by opening their own bar, serving a range of non-alcoholic cocktails.

