

SING-A-SONG

INTERGENERATIONAL CHALLENGE

Comic Relief Red Nose Day was on Friday 24th March 2017 and was the start of NAPA's Sing a Song Challenge.

At 3 pm on that day NAPA invited every care setting in the UK to sing the same song together. The song was..... Sing, by The Carpenters. We have been blown away with the number of people that got involved. Around 8049 residents/tenants had the opportunity to sing, in addition, who knows how many staff members, relatives, volunteers or community group members joined in!

We have seen some great stories and photos of everybody's celebratory events, the publicity was amazing. There were radio interviews, TV appearances, newspaper articles and much more! We are really looking forward to seeing the entries for The Carry on Singing Challenge!

We are delighted to announce the winner of the Sing a Song prize draw and the £250 cash prize:

Madelayne Court, Chelmsford - Runwood Homes





Music-loving care home residents enjoy a sing-along for Red Nose Day

Lime Court, Harwich made the paper

Music loving care home residents enjoyed singing in harmony to raise money for Red Nose Day.

Residents at Lime Court Care Home, Dovercourt, raised money for Comic Relief by joining in a national Sing-a-Song initiative.

The charitable Dovercourt residents took up the challenge with gusto, welcoming Clare Leach from choir group Harwich Sing to lead the singing and raising £73 in the process.

Clare said: "I have the privilege of visiting Lime Court and Alexandra House once a week to do music sessions with the residents.

"I honestly think it's one of the most fulfilling experiences you can

have to sing along with the elderly folk and interact through music and musical games.

"There was so much fun and happiness."

She added: "Sarah Meashen, the entertainment coordinator at the home, did such a brilliant job organising everything."

The Fremantle Trust 'on song' for NAPA Challenge

Residents and employees across the Trust's care homes in Aylesbury (Lewin House), Farnham Common (Farnham Common House) and Wing (Carey Lodge) took part in the Sing-a-Song Challenge with a performance of The Carpenters' 'Sing' at 3pm on Comic Relief's Red Nose Day. For resident Shirley Merle, aged 83, at Lewin House, the Sing-a-Song event was particularly reminiscent of her years spent as a jazz singer touring London with her husband, a very talented pianist and their band. Commenting on the initiative, Tina Fox Pearson, activity coordinator at Lewin House, said:



"The NAPA Sing-a-Song was a lovely opportunity for everyone to come together and sing a meaningful song that is likely to have held personal memories for some.

"It was a great way of connecting people and a symbol of community knowing that across the Trust other people were singing The Carpenters' iconic track at exactly the same time."



Thornbank, Greensleeves Homes Trust

Residents were joined by pupils from a local school and also the Mayor to support the Challenge to sing. The pupils then went round the home and entertained everyone!

Castle View, Colten Care

Castle View residents invited in the Woodbury Hill singers, Sunny Days nursery children, the local church and folk from the community. The singing lifted the spirits of all who took part and money was raised for Comic Relief Red Nose Day. Afterwards they all enjoyed various cakes and plenty of cups of tea.



Prestbury House, Porthaven Care Homes

Macclesfield football club have produced a DVD of their community involvement with Porthaven's Prestbury House Care Home. The singing at the stadium included the song "Sing" By The Carpenters. It was also used as their background music for the event. Check it out at <https://youtu.be/PFrW46pDQEK>



Belong villages hit the high note in NAPA Sing-a-Song challenge

Tracy Paine, Operations Director of Belong, said: "The NAPA challenge was a really lovely event. It was wonderful to hear residents, apartment tenants, staff members and guests from all five of our villages singing the same song, in unison, over Skype. Music is such a powerful reminiscence tool and it was wonderful to see so many people enjoying themselves. I think I can say on behalf of all the villages that a lot of fun was had by all."

Here are a few more photographs of residents enjoying themselves on the day



The Old Vicarage, Leigh



Darwin Court, Avery Healthcare

Meadowside, Fremantle Trust



What could you do with £1000

We hope that you will want to Carry on Singing and to encourage you to do that we have a **£1000** prize for the best entry. This is how you can win it.

1. Arrange a series of short singing sessions with your local community connections from 24th March through to June.
2. Be innovative about where and how this might happen. Perhaps you could take residents to the local senior school or college rather than have them visit you. Of course you can stay in your home and invite lots of different groups in.
3. Connect with the community in public settings. Could you sing in the local bandstand, on the beach or in the shopping centre.
4. Get local people to join in and support your singing.
5. Choose a few songs that your residents really enjoy singing, but please make sure they are from the 1950s onwards.

To enter the **Carry on Singing Challenge** we have a simple set of questions for you to answer - this can be downloaded from our website www.napa-activities.co.uk/events or you can request one by emailing Gianna - project@napa-activities.co.uk Send your entries in by **30th June 2017**.

