



As we say goodbye to mince pies and left over turkey sandwiches for another year, we take a look at some of the Christmas festivities we enjoyed at The Lodge.

On the lead up, we got crafty and creative by making our own Christmas cards ablaze with colour and some wonderful designs. Just the thing to brighten up our conservatory area prior to the trees and decorations going up.



Always a pleasure to have monthly visits from Revd Jane and fellow parishioners from St John the Baptist Church. Of course this time of year was opportunity to sing some of our favourite carols. Jane also brought along her husband to provide the music with his guitar. Merrily we

sang, and a what a wonderful way to start the spirit of Christmas on a Monday morning.



Taking a memorable trip through many era's was Colin & Lynn from Doorstep Entertainments. With so many outfit changes too!

As always, there was plenty of humour and we even had a glimpse of Hogmanay from a rather large Scotsman and his kilt, leaving little room for visiting revellers to try their hand at a Highland fling.



Alas,...we still had a go!

It was wonderful to hear and sing along to all the favourites that have graced our TV sets through the years. It was

like having a personal visit from the cast of the London Palladium and we all had front row seats.



TOGETHER
WE
CARE

SING, CHOIRS OF
angels!



This year saw the return of St John the Baptist Primary and Wickham Church of England Primary Schools with their fantastic school choirs and supersingers. Accompanied by their teachers and some parents, the children sang their hearts out with a variety of uplifting Christmas songs. We even had a request session for our lovely residents to pick any of their favourites.

Along the way, we learned some of the 'actions' with our hands in the air, waving and clapping and the occasional stomping of the feet.

A heartfelt moment came too when the children presented a huge pile of letters that they had personally written for our residents. The contents were beautiful, heart-warming and some included the children's own stories and their relationships with their own grandparents. We had poems and even some jokes to make us smile. A special thank you must also go to the teachers for all the rehearsals they did. When asked, one headteacher said "we've been practising since September." With a promise to return, the children said their farewells with plenty of hugs for the residents.

Residents Christmas Party



Our annual Christmas party was wonderful fun with Vanguard Entertainments providing a unique show about the 12 days of Christmas. Including song, comedy and audience

participation. Our arms were up & down with props of doves & French hens. Proprietor, Andrew provided the rather animated display of 10 Lords a leaping! Maria, Amber and Megan were on hand to show us our Elf & Santa hats to wear. Mince pies were out too and a little tippie for some. Also, we had a spot of Christmas Carol'oke, singing the traditional classics along with an elf !



Seasonal fun continued with the delightful Becki singing on Christmas Eve, myself on Boxing day and of course a very tasty Christmas dinner on the big day with gifts for everyone from Andrew & Carole.

Well it's certainly been a wonderful year and what a lovely way to wrap up 2018. From All the staff at The Lodge, may we wish you a very happy and peaceful New Year.

Look forward to the next edition of **Lodge Life**

Until then... See you soon,

Mark