

DOVERS HAS *SO* MUCH TO CELEBRATE

On Tuesday December 9th, Dovers Care Home was pleased to welcome the Mayor of Reigate and Banstead, Councillor Roger Newstead and his wife to celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of its opening.

Dovers was opened in 1948 - when the NHS was in its infancy and geriatrics was a new and controversial branch of medicine - it is one of the oldest care homes in the country, with some of the newest and most innovative ideas. Sixty years on and Dovers now cares for people with dementia.

The celebration on took place in the home itself and was entitled 'A Strictly Cocktail Affair', with a variety of cocktails and a sumptuous buffet available to guests. The Reigate-based English Arts Chorale entertained both residents and invited guests with a selection of carols.



Picture caption: The Mayor of Reigate and Banstead accompanied by his wife, presents Dovers' 60th anniversary certificate to Dr Marcia Purnell, Chair of Field Lane's Board of Governors.

The Christmas event also marked the beginning of Dover's Fine Dining Week – a special week in which residents of Dovers invite their loved ones to join them for a stylish pre-Christmas meal. This elegant, festive tradition offers people with dementia and their families the

opportunity to relax and have a pleasant, restaurant-standard evening without the organisational and other pressures of going out to dine.

The evening also celebrated the beginning of the association between Dovers and the English Arts Chorale and followed on from the previous Saturday's performance of Handel's Messiah in Reigate. In the New Year, this outstanding local choir will be working with Dovers to further develop the home's music therapy provision for people with dementia.

All in all, there is much to celebrate at Dovers – from its increasingly popular and unusually flexible range of day care services for residents and non-residents alike through to widespread and official recognition of the quality of its service.

www.dovers.org.uk