

Fiddick's Forum

Fiddick's Nursing & Retirement Home 437 First Ave Petrolia ON PH (519) 882-0370 FAX (519)882-0370



Celebrating January

Braille Literacy Month

Soup Month

Fruitcake Toss Day

January 3

Cuddle Up Day

January 6

**Make Your Dream Come
True Day**

January 13

Popcorn Day

January 19

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 21

Australia Day

January 26

Puzzle Day

January 29

New Year, Lasting Traditions

Another new year begins, and all around the world people will be popping champagne, singing “Auld Lang Syne,” and kissing loved ones at the stroke of midnight. But just why, exactly, do we repeat these New Year’s traditions year after year?

Bubbly champagne is the drink of choice on New Year’s. Its invention is often credited to Dom Perignon, the Benedictine monk who oversaw the wine cellars of his abbey in the year 1697. While others saw bubbles as a problematic sign that wine had spoiled, Perignon perfected the production of this new fermented drink known as champagne. From its beginnings in the abbey cellar, champagne was regularly used in religious celebrations such as consecrations and coronations. It then made the natural transition to secular celebrations, most notably at the soirees of the French aristocracy. As champagne became cheaper and more accessible, it became the classiest beverage to offer during the holidays.

Scotland’s national poet Robert Burns penned the words to “Auld Lang Syne” in 1788 and sent them to the Scots Musical Museum, requesting that his lyrics be set to an old Scottish folk tune. The phrase *auld lang syne* roughly translates to “for old times’ sake,” and, fittingly, the nostalgic song is about preserving friendships. The tune was often sung at funerals, farewells, and other group celebrations. It finally made it to America in 1929, when the Guy Lombardo Orchestra played it at a New Year’s celebration in New York’s Roosevelt Hotel.

No New Year’s party is complete without a kiss at the stroke of midnight. In ancient times, the winter darkness was the domain of evil spirits. At New Year’s masquerade balls, scary masks were torn off at midnight, and a kiss was shared as an act of purification to chase away malign spirits. For centuries, New Year’s has been a time of celebration, nostalgia, and hope.

A Birthday Mystery

Happy birthday to Sherlock Holmes, who is believed to have been born on January 6, 1854. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, the creator of Sherlock Holmes, never explicitly stated the date of his fictional detective's birth, so how, exactly, have we arrived at this birth date?



The January 6 date was first asserted by Christopher Morley, a literary essayist and Sherlock Holmes superfan. Morley decided on the date after noticing Holmes' penchant for quoting Shakespeare's play *Twelfth Night*. He deduced that Holmes' birthday must fall on the twelfth night after Christmas, which is January 6. On that date in 1934, Morley arranged a meeting of the Baker Street Irregulars, a group of Sherlock Holmes fans and scholars who gathered together to enjoy all things Sherlockian over the course of a few days, including lectures, dinners, cocktail parties, and performances. Morley's group has included such esteemed members as Isaac Asimov, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Harry S. Truman. The original Baker Street Irregulars appeared in various Sherlock Holmes stories. They were a band of street kids who aided Holmes in gathering tidbits of information.

Sherlock Holmes scholar William S. Baring-Gould corroborates the January 6 date in a roundabout fashion. He points out that in Doyle's final Sherlock Holmes mystery, *The Valley of Fear*, Holmes awakes very cranky on January 7. Why is he cranky? He must have a hangover. Why a hangover? He was up late celebrating. What was Holmes celebrating? Baring-Gould postulates that it was his birthday. However, many attest that this is all rather shoddy detective work.

Not everyone agrees that Sherlock Holmes' birthday is January 6. Many instead celebrate Holmes' birthday on December 2, the real-life birthday of Dr. Joseph Bell, the surgeon and professor after whom Sir Arthur Conan Doyle modeled his detective. Yet all agree on the year 1854, for in a 1914 tale, Holmes was described as 60 years old. Elementary, my dear.

Fiddick's Family Council

Our next Family Council meeting will be on **Wednesday, January 30th at 4:00pm** in the Victoria Way Conference Room.

We are looking for new family members to join! (No commitment is required month to month)

We will discuss the results of the Family Satisfaction Surveys for 2018 and how we plan to improve in 2019. Come to receive the latest updates and plans for our home!

If you have any questions please contact Brooke at bmcgill@fiddicksnursinghome.com or Family Council President- Kim Nelles (nelleskf@gmail.com).

Happy New Year!

Goodbye to 2018! Hello 2019!

Thank you to all of those families who came out to our annual Family Christmas Dinners! We would like to thank our cooks and all of the staff who helped to get the residents ready. December was filled with lots of Christmas caroling, baking, eating, and celebrating.

We now look forward to the New Year. Can you believe it is 2019?!

We will be planning some fun stuff in the new year and look forward to large events that you will all be invited to be a part of. As always, you are welcome to attend scheduled programs with your loved ones and we encourage you to do so.

Happy New Year!!



Message from Mike

2018 has come and gone so quickly, and as it comes to a close I would like to thank all of our Residents and their families for allowing us to care for their loved ones, as it is our privilege. The Fiddick's team is appreciative and thankful for being given this opportunity.

I would like to wish all our residents and families the very best in 2019. If we can do anything more for anyone, please do not hesitate to ask.

Happy New Year.....

Michael Fiddick, Administrator

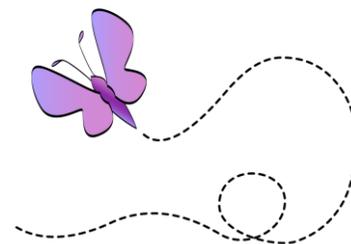


Fiddick's Nusing Home Welcomes...

Grace Duncan
Priscilla Harkins
Grant Kersey
Ellen Card

And mourns the loss of...

Carmen Ziolkowski
Sylvia Free



Infection Control Corner

As flu season continues until April ... A few quick reminders to our visitors:

Please protect your loved ones and refrain from visiting if you are ill.

Please utilize the hand sanitizers located at the front desk upon entry to the facility.

Please cover your cough and wear a face mask if coughing.

Please be proactive and protect your loved one by receiving your seasonal influenza vaccine ☺



Resident Birthdays

Retirement Home

Tom Case- Jan 6th
Don Morrice- Jan 8th
Terry Welsh- Jan 23rd
Bob Chapman- Jan 25th
Betty Love- Jan 25th
Cam Allen- Jan 28th

Ruby Hall

Grant Kersey- Jan 5th
Tracy McCordic – Jan 14th
Bernie Lebert – Jan 25th
Fran Lyons – Jan 27th
Doug Paisley- Jan 30th

Victoria Way

Joan Labelle- Jan 3rd
Dougald McCallum- Jan 17th
Helena Dawson- Jan 20th
Ruth Glydon- Jan 23rd

Fairbanks Court

Ernest Gray- Jan 13th
Joanne Wright- Jan 16th
Donna Watson- Jan 24th
Len Jerome- Jan 28th

Barclay Lane

No Resident Birthdays



January Birthdays

In astrology, those born between January 1–19 are Capricorn's Goats. Goats are focused on lofty goals; these hardworking and determined souls will prevail with grit and resilience. Those born between January 20–31 are Water Bearers of Aquarius. Water Bearers are deep-thinking intellectuals, unafraid of exploring outlandish ideas. Their strong sense of community makes them good friends and valuable team members.

Betsy Ross (folk hero) – January 1, 1752
Zora Neale Hurston (writer) – January 7, 1891
David Bowie (musician) – January 8, 1947
Alexander Hamilton (politician) – January 11, 1755
Faye Dunaway (actress) – January 14, 1941
A.A. Milne (writer) – January 18, 1882
Edgar Allan Poe (writer) – January 19, 1809
Benny Hill (comedian) – January 21, 1924
Virginia Woolf (writer) – January 25, 1882
Bessie Coleman (aviator) – January 26, 1892
Tom Selleck (actor) – January 29, 1945

Making Sense



In January of 1776, just months before America made its Declaration of Independence from Great Britain, American propagandist Thomas Paine published his pamphlet *Common Sense*. In *Common Sense*, Paine not only set forth a list of compelling reasons for independence but he also was able to transform the colonists' vision of themselves. Paine argued that England was not the parent country of America and that colonists were not simply aggrieved subjects. Rather, colonists had fled to America from the whole of Europe, seeking peace from violent oppression and self-realization from monstrous tyranny. Many historians believe that Paine's pamphlet was the glue that united average folk with American political leaders, turning a colonial squabble into a full-fledged war. Paine's 47-page pamphlet sold 500,000 copies, and although it was published anonymously, Paine's name would enter history books alongside heroes like Washington and Revere.