

Summer
2025



Community Newsletter

Paramount Place reaches major milestone with 'Topping out ceremony'

On Wednesday 23 July, we marked a significant milestone in the construction of our integrated retirement community with a traditional Topping Out Ceremony, a celebration of the completion of the tallest building's structural framework. This event offered a special opportunity to recognise the tremendous progress made by our dedicated construction team at McAleer & Rushe.

We were delighted to welcome local representatives from Trinity Theatre, Royal Tunbridge Wells Improvement District, and the University of the Third Age. We were also honoured to be joined by members of the Borough Council, including Mike Martin MP and the Leader of the Council, Ben Chapelard who attended to mark this key moment in our journey.

Local primary school student, Kash, joined the ceremony as our guest of honour after winning Thrive's creative writing competition which invited local school children to express what their town means to them through short stories or poems. Kash also secured a £1,000 donation to his school for creative and learning resources.

Construction continues to progress well on site with window installation and internal fitout works taking place in the coming weeks, getting the development ready to open in late 2026.

Thank you to everyone who joined us to celebrate this exciting moment. We look forward to sharing more progress in the months ahead as we continue building a thriving, connected community for Tunbridge Wells.

Thrive Living
by Retirement Villages

Welcome to Generation Joy!

We're excited to share that we have collaborated with fellow operators in the Integrated Retirement Community (IRC) sector to launch Generation Joy - a national campaign celebrating the vibrant, independent and connected lives being lived in retirement communities across the UK.

For the first time, our sector is coming together under one shared message: later life is something to celebrate. Generation Joy highlights the real stories, voices and faces of people thriving in retirement.

At RVG, we're proud to support more than 2,000 residents who have chosen a lifestyle full of freedom, purpose and joy - and haven't looked back.

What is an Integrated Retirement Community?

An Integrated Retirement Community, or IRC, is a modern and flexible approach to retirement living. Unlike traditional care homes, IRCs offer independent housing - typically one to three-bedroom apartments or bungalows - within a wider community. Residents maintain their autonomy while enjoying the peace of mind that comes from having 24-hour staff on site and access to personal and domiciliary care if and when it's needed.

While every IRC is different, all come with a variety of amenities including cafes and restaurants, leisure facilities and public spaces to enjoy. Hobby rooms and social activity programmes also create regular and accessible opportunities for pursuing new interests, keeping creative and staying active.

Generation Joy is all about:

- ✓ Embracing later life, not just managing it
- ✓ Finding meaningful connection, community and choice
- ✓ Redefining ageing as an active, fulfilling chapter of life

If you're curious about what modern retirement living really looks like, Generation Joy is for you. It's not just a campaign - it's a movement to live well, on your own terms.

Take a look at our resident stories for more
www.retirementvillages.co.uk/thrive-life/behind-the-scenes/resident-stories/



With flexible finance options, transparent costs, and a strong sense of community, IRCs are a forward-thinking choice that enables people to age in place without compromising their lifestyle or independence. It's a future-facing model of retirement that's as much about living well as it is about planning well.



Mike Martin MP visits Paramount Place

The Thrive team had the pleasure of welcoming Mike Martin MP on a site tour earlier this year.

Mike joined our Chief Executive, Tim Seddon and our amazing contractor team from McAleer & Rushe for a walkaround of what will soon become Paramount Place, our new integrated retirement community set to open in late 2026.

Construction has been progressing well since we broke ground last year, and Mike was able to see our vision for Paramount Place coming to life.

Mike Martin MP, said:

"Redevelopment on this site has been long overdue and it's great to see the construction in full swing. Such significant investment in Tunbridge Wells is a message of confidence for our town centre and high streets.

This particular development also means more people living in our town centre which acts as an anchor for businesses and services, which in turn drives economic growth. We all want a town centre that we can be proud of, and I'll continue to champion Tunbridge Wells, support our local businesses and drive inward investment".

Meet the team



Meet Lucy Black, our Marketing Director

Q. How long have you worked at RVG?

I joined RVG in January 2021, and the past four and a half years have flown by.

Q. What makes RVG's approach to retirement living different?

I'm proud of our mission to challenge outdated views of ageing and retirement. What we offer goes far beyond a home, it's a lifestyle investment. From the people and sense of belonging to the peace of mind that everything's taken care of, it's about giving residents the freedom to focus on what they love, while we handle the rest.

Q. What's your purpose at RVG?

I'm passionate about helping people see that they have real, empowering choices. While staying in the family home or moving to a care home may suit some, there are now more options than ever. Integrated Retirement Communities (IRCs) offer the chance to live independently, stay socially connected, and truly enjoy life on your own terms.

Q. What was your dream job as a child?

When I was younger, I wanted to be a journalist - I always enjoyed research, writing and understanding both sides of a story.

Q. Which part of Paramount Place are you most looking forward to and why?

Paramount Place has everything you need, both inside and out - but what I'm most excited to see is the roof terraces come to life. I can already picture residents up there at sunset, relaxing with a drink, chatting with neighbours, or simply enjoying a peaceful moment above the bustle of the town. It's a beautifully designed space that perfectly complements the parks and gardens nearby.

Trinity Encore Classes

At Thrive, we believe staying active and connected is key to maintaining both physical and mental well-being—especially as we get older.

That's why we're excited to highlight Trinity Encore, a fantastic programme at Trinity Theatre designed specifically for adults who want to keep moving, stay social, and have fun.

Trinity Encore offers a welcoming and inclusive environment for all abilities and mobilities. Whether you're looking to get moving, make music, or simply meet new people, there's something for everyone:

Silver Swans – Gentle ballet classes designed for older adults, perfect for improving balance, posture, and grace.

Movers – A seated chair-based exercise class to help improve strength, flexibility, and mobility in a fun and friendly setting.

Singers – A lively singing group where you can enjoy classic tunes from the '50s, '60s, and '70s, no experience required (just a love of music).

Learn more on Trinity's Website here:
trinitytheatre.net/events/trinity-encore-movers



For all enquiries, please visit
[www.retirementvillages.co.uk/
our-villages/tunbridge-wells](http://www.retirementvillages.co.uk/our-villages/tunbridge-wells) call
us on **01892 313 401**
or scan the QR code



Construction Update

The McAleer & Rushe team has been making excellent progress on site and have made the following progress:

- **The main frame of the building is now 90% complete**
- **Scaffolding has commenced on Block A with scaffolding on Block C now complete**
- **Window installation is progressing well with windows installed up to level 4 on Block C**
- **Brickworks are progressing well on several buildings**

We are also proud to share that McAleer & Rushe has achieved an updated '**Outstanding**' score of **46 out of 45** (yes really, they got a bonus point after securing full marks!) from the Considerate Contractor Scheme, for abiding by the scheme's code of practice and presenting a positive image for the construction industry.