



Thorngate Almshouse Trust

Thorngate Living

Russell Churcher Court
care home

Welcome to Thorngate Living at Russell Churcher Court

Thorngate Almshouse Trust is a modern and progressive charitable registered social landlord, offering independent assisted living and residential care from three locations in Gosport, Hampshire.

The Trust's Russell Churcher Court is a comfortable, modern residential care home offering 24 hour care for up to 44 residents. Every resident has their own large, self-contained en-suite room where they are encouraged to have their own furniture and belongings to make themselves at home. Russell Churcher Court welcomes those living with dementia into a safe, protective and caring environment and offers a respite facility.

Russell Churcher Court is purpose built, incorporating the latest technology, modern systems and best practice. Professionalism and care standards are of the highest level and the home provides a welcoming, warm, happy and friendly environment for the residents who also enjoy a full calendar of varied activities and entertainments.

The Court's own modern kitchens provide tasty, healthy meals made from the best fresh and predominantly

locally sourced ingredients. Menus, based on seasonal produce, are prepared by the Trust's professional catering staff.

Russell Churcher Court accepts both privately funded and local authority funded residents. Top up fees are not chargeable to local authority funded residents so, in accordance with the aims of the Trust, no individual is excluded on the grounds of their ability to pay.

Our facilities

Each large bed sitting room is en-suite and is fully double glazed with a small kitchen area to allow those residents who are able to do so to make tea and coffee if they wish. Telephone points and TV sockets are provided. Connections to cable television are also available to residents who wish to pay for this service. All rooms have a pull cord for urgent assistance.

Included in the fees are all meals, care and laundry.

There is also a guest room for the convenience of visitors who wish to stay overnight.





Russell Churcher Court has a good range of communal spaces. The light and spacious lounge has doors opening onto the garden. The large dining room is used for many of the social activities as is the newly built conservatory. In addition, the gardens on the Melrose gardens complex are a relaxing comfortable space and available to be enjoyed by Russell Churcher Court residents.

Russell Churcher Court prides itself on the varied activities and entertainments it schedules. The activities co-ordinator organises regular interactive pastimes such as crafts demonstrations, flower arranging and quizzes. Entertainers, including singers, perform in the lounge and the annual visit of small farm animals is always very popular with both residents and their family members. Many residents also participate in the internet clubs run in the Melrose Gardens lounge and are welcome to attend the lively coffee mornings also held there.

Respite care

Respite care offers a welcome break for both carer and the cared for. Russell Churcher Court offers two respite rooms within the care home. These are available for booking in advance and offer those who do not need to move into full time residential care a break from their current home. The respite facilities are also often used when family carers need a break or are going on holiday. The facility offers prospective residents an opportunity to try Russell Churcher Court for themselves and see whether full time care is suited to their needs.

To talk about the possibility of respite care, even if only for a few days at a time, please contact the Manager on 023 9252 7600 or via rccinfo@thorngate.org.uk.

Food

The Trust employs a professionally trained catering team, led by an experienced catering manager. Each resident's nutritional needs and appetites may be different and the catering team ensures food is produced not only to the highest standards using fresh ingredients but also that portions are correctly sized and nutritious. The team also caters for special diets.

Russell Churcher Court's kitchen staff like to get into the spirit of special occasions, so Halloween, Valentine's Day etc are celebrated with gusto. Christmas and New Year are special times of year and the catering team ensure that these are well catered for.

Funding

Many residents' families worry about funding. Our private fees are extremely reasonable because we are a charity. Those residents who are assessed and accepted for funding by Hampshire County Council do not have to pay top up fees beyond the 'Hampshire Rate'.

Funding by Hampshire County Council is determined through an individual financial assessment carried out by Hampshire Adult Social Services, and the level agreed will depend on a number of factors such as savings and pensions.

Contact details

To discuss whether you or somebody you care for might benefit from Thorngate Living at Russell Churcher Court, get in touch today:

Yvonne Musgrove
Registered Manager
Russell Churcher Court
Melrose Gardens
Gosport
Hampshire PO12 3BE

Tel: 023 9252 7600

Email: rccinfo@thorngate.org.uk





Thorngate Living – sheltered housing

The Trust also owns and manages 112 self-contained flats for independent assisted living in Gosport. The flats are for single people and couples who are over 55, of limited financial means and who have a connection to the Gosport area.

Uniquely all our flats across our three locations in Gosport benefit from 24 hour resident wardens. We also have our own in-house professional maintenance team ensuring any maintenance or repairs are carried out quickly and to an excellent standard.

Visit thorngate.org.uk or call Stella Crampton on 023 9253 4999, to find out more about Thorngate Living's sheltered housing.

Almshouses

Almshouses are a special sort of housing charity, regulated by the Charity Commission. Larger almshouse charities like Thorngate, may also be Registered Social Landlords (also called Registered Providers) and are therefore also regulated by the Housing Regulator, the Homes and Communities Agency. If they provide residential care, as does Thorngate Almshouse Trust at Russell Churcher Court, they are also registered with, and regulated by, the Care Quality Commission.

The history of almshouses can be traced back to the 10th century where the terms *bedehouse*, *hospital*, *maison dieu*, *almshouse* and others described the provision of accommodation for those in need. The first recorded almshouse was founded by King Athelstan in York in the 10th Century, and the oldest still in existence is thought to be the Hospital of St Oswald in Worcester that dates from circa 990. By the middle of the 1500s, there were about 800 mediaeval hospitals spread across the country but following the dissolution of the monasteries, only a handful remained, and these were re-founded on secular lines, and rebuilt in the new domestic collegiate style.

Currently there are around 1,700 groups of almshouse charities in the United Kingdom today, most offer sheltered housing to those in need, but a few like Thorngate, offering both housing and care.



History

As early as 1794 a William Thorngate is listed as trading as a grocer in Middle Street (the old name of Gosport High Street). William Thorngate's sons, John Batty and his younger brother William, were substantial local landowners. William also owned land jointly with Emmanuel Churcher, a local solicitor who founder 'Churchers' in Gosport High Street. These three gentlemen conveyed land to Trustees of the Thorngate Charities in 1866 and 1867 to enable almshouses to be built to accommodate 'poor women of good character, being spinsters or widows, of not less than 50 years of age'.

Thorngate Almshouse Trust was founded in 1868 by the Thorngate family. It was registered as a charity in its current form in 1981.

A redevelopment of the Trust's properties was carried out between 1971 and 1984 with further improvements in 2013 and 2014. The accommodation offered today consists of modern well-equipped one bedroom flats for retired single people and married couples.

Thorngate Almshouse Trust is run by a Board of Trustees and an executive management team. The Trust is registered with the Charity Commission, the Homes and Communities Agency (as a social landlord) and the Care Quality Commission (for Russell Churcher Court).





Thorngate Almshouse Trust

Providing comfort and security to those in need since 1868, and committed to developing the highest standards of housing and professional care in a supportive, respectful and friendly community.

Our Values

To continuously develop the highest standards of care and accommodation for the elderly and frail in our community.

Encourage independence and individuality within a supportive, safe and friendly environment.

To foster and ensure inclusivity, diversity, responsibility and respect amongst our employees and residents in a stable and progressive workplace.

To be integral to the social fabric of Gosport and to benefit society through the involvement of young people and other local organisations.

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Corporate Communications

Thorngate Almshouse Trust

Tel: 023 9252 7600

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Registered Charity No: 226587 | Homes & Communities Agency Registration No: A2394

