Message from Kat....

What a fantastic return to work I’ve had! It’s been awards, awards, awards. Our own amazing night of celebration was truly a night to remember with so many fantastic nominations – each one a worthy winner. I hope everyone who attended had a great evening – you deserved it. Massive thanks to Laura and the project team who brought the PersonAwards to life in spectacular fashion. Here’s to many more.

Aside from our own awards Persona has also been shortlisted for a Best of Bury award Backing Young Bury in recognition of our approach to recruiting and employing young people. We’ve also had news that we’ve been shortlisted for two national awards with Laing Buisson – one for Pinfold’s excellent work around dementia and the other for the innovation and partnership between Bury Council and Persona in creating the organisation. Watch this space!!

I also have the fantastic news that Debra Guider, our very own Operations Director, is shortlisted for the Bury Woman of the Year award as is Michelle Delaney, one of our closest working partners at Supportive Stem. Good luck ladies – we’ll be cheering you on.

Enjoy this months special edition newsletter with all your usual updates and information and a full breakdown of the PersonAwards.

Kat
Well done to all the Winners of the PersonAwards

- Volunteer of the Year – Graham Peters – Spurr / Elmhurst
- Young Carer of the Year – Maria Hughes – Positive Lives
- Employee of the Year – Lorraine Higham – Grundy Day Centre
- Team of the Year – The Victoria Centre – LD Day Service
- The Dignity Award – Spurr House
- The Innovation Award – Stella Parker, Michelle Walsh and Paula Lythgoe - LDST
- Manager of the Year – Anna Craig – Grundy/Pinfold
- Making a Difference to Customers Award – Support Team for SOK and Ramsbottom Day Service
- Learner of the Year – Debbie Riley – LD Day Service

It was a fantastic night at the PersonAwards which was held at the Elizabethan Suite and was attended by 150 people including Staff, Managers, Sponsors, Board and Bury Council representatives. All guests were welcomed with an arrival drink followed by a celebratory 3 course meal.

The evenings compere was Smug Roberts - star of TV and Film. The Rushettes, a female pop duo, provided the entertainment for the evening.

The event has been sponsored by a number of businesses who work with Persona and we would like to say a massive thank you to them for their support.

Bury Council
Horsfield and Smith
Baxter Life Care Ltd
Unison
Simply Moving and Sleeping
Lemon Zest
Ainsworth and Parkinson
Woodcock, Haworth and Nuttall Solicitors
Search

In addition the event also celebrated the 1st anniversary of Persona stepping out of the Council in October 2015. In has been a great year for Persona and the PersonAwards was a great way to recognise and say thank you for the hard work and achievements made by all staff.

Look out for the up and coming press release. And masses of photos in the next edition of the Newsletter.

And don’t forget to look out for details of next year’s PersonAwards, it could be you!
Well done to everyone on raising over £300.00 each for Bury Hospice and Bury Gateway from the raffle. Thank you all very much.

Feedback from the PersonAwards has been amazing and here is some feedback received about Persona and the PersonAwards ....

Cllr Rishi Shorii, Leader of Bury Council said,

“The positive feedback and enthusiasm captured in the nominations at this year’s PersonAwards was fantastic”.

Kat Sowden, Managing Director at Persona said,

“The sheer volume of nominations we received was genuinely overwhelming. Each one was heartfelt and each one told a story of the amazing difference care and support workers can make to someone’s life.”

One customer said about their mothers care received at Spurr,

“The staff are all stars in my opinion and I don’t know what we would do without them. Staff at Spurr House have always treated my mum with respect and patience”.

One customer wrote about his wife’s attendance at Pinfold,

“My wife is known by every member of staff. They use her name and look after her very well. Whilst she is at Pinfold I attend Bury College to gain housekeeping knowledge that my wife has forgotten, which helps me keep our home as she would wish. We would not be able to do this without Pinfold.”

“I just wanted to say thank you for my invite to join you for a truly amazing night – Very well done!! Also congratulations to all nominees and very well done to all the winners ... Very well deserved and everybody seemed to have a great night celebrating xx”

Michelle Delaney, Supportivestem

“Well done to everyone on raising over £300.00 each for Bury Hospice and Bury Gateway from the raffle.

Thank you all very much”. 
SHOP2DROP LADIES FASHION SHOW!

Following February's sell out, Jigsaw (Bury) is hosting their 2nd Shop2Drop Ladies Fashion Show in time for Christmas!

Tuesday 18th October 2016 from 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM

Bethesda Metro Christian Centre
13 Back Parkhills Road
Bury
BL9 9AU

Tickets are £5.00 per person and can be purchased in advance by contacting Jigsaw: 0161 253 6853 / jigsaw@bury.gov.uk.

There will also be a raffle, hot drinks, cakes & Christmas crafts on sale on the night.

FALLS AWARENESS WEEK
17 - 21 October 2016

Falls are NOT an inevitable part of ageing and many are PREVENTABLE
Debbie Riley a member of staff at The Haymarket LD day service expressed sincere thanks to Dawn Clegg a fellow member of staff. Dawn went over and above to help Debbie with a medical emergency which saved Debbie having to take time off and enabled Debbie to stay in work. Well done Dawn for going the extra mile.

"I am writing to thank you for offering a placement to our Health and Social Care students. Your support is vital to our students. The placements give our students a valuable insight into work practices and cultures and helps our students develop their knowledge, skills, behaviour and capabilities that will help them progress on their course".

Bury College

Sue, a new customer starting at our ReStart service, wanted to thank staff for making the first week an easy one. Sue felt very anxious and nervous coming into the service and staff gave her the support and confidence to use the service on an ongoing basis. Well done Jane, Natasha, Caroline and Liz.

To all the staff at Elmhurst

"Thank you so much for taking good care of Marion. Marion thoroughly enjoyed her stay at Elmhurst. It was very much appreciated by Chris and I knowing that she was in safe hands and being cared for whilst we were away. Thank you once again Graham and Chris"

To all the staff at Pinfold

"Please accept our complete gratitude for doing such a marvellous job. The centre has been a complete lifeline for Rita over the past 3 years. You all do a wonderful job and may you continue to help other families for many years to come. Huge thanks and appreciation”

Nikki
Exciting News for Day Services for Adults with a Learning and Physical Disability as they celebrate the completion of the buildings modernisation programme.

The final piece of the jigsaw was completed in August with the opening of The Hoyles and Victoria centres which allowed us to close the doors for the last time at Wheatfields in Whitefield.

The modernisation has seen a journey from traditional large day centres, such as William Kemp and Whittle Pike, to smaller community centres which are modern, vibrant and part of the local community.

These include Bolton Road Park at Radcliffe, The Elms, The Ramsbottom Centre and The Green as well as a number of Outreach bases.

This plan was originally implemented by The LD Partnership Board and has had the support of many people over the years, parents, customers, elected members and staff, who all deserve to congratulate themselves in working so hard to make this idea come to life over the years.

Persona now has a modern and vibrant day service provision that is local to customers and their families, with facilities that meet customers’ needs and feel homely and warm.

The groups are starting to develop and form links within their local communities and help develop friendships and support for all who live near.

Our building is starting to hold a strong presence in the local community as they are multipurpose use and regularly hosting local events, keep fit classes and children’s parties.

As our customers are now settling in to their new locations, they are now actively looking to develop links within their local communities so watch out for future event’s as we are community based you are welcome to visit us at any time.
Staff and customers from Sunnybank LD day service enjoyed a trip out to sunny Blackpool and Blackpool zoo. Staff and customers from Re-Start day service enjoyed a visit from the Mayor and his consort. Customers at Elton were treated to some beautiful flute playing from Sara Catherine and also had a trip out to Cherwell petting farm. It’s so good to see our customers enjoying the lovely weather we had in September. Whilst visiting Spurr house in September, Deb Jones was introduced to one of Spurr’s favourite visitors, Blade the cat.
Customers from LD day services enjoying fish and chips! Customers at Grundy Day centre had some tasty treats as Persona Head Office staff took part in the coffee morning to raise some money for the MacMillan cancer charity. **Well done to Gary Dawson** from our LD day services who was awarded **Volunteer of the Year** in the **Made in Bury awards**.
What do you enjoy about working for Persona?
Working with a great team and getting to know the customers.

What’s your greatest extravagance?
My Sons wedding and holidays.

Favourite place?
Cyprus—love the island and people and Wiltshire have had many happy childhood holidays.

What makes you angry?
People who are never on time.

Who/ what makes you laugh?
People who are funny without knowing they are.

Favourite film?
The Godfather & Saturday Night Fever.

Your most embarrassing moment?
Reversing my car onto a concrete post whilst two men were watching.

Favourite singer / band?
Love anything I can dance to. Love Northern Soul; Long After Tonight Is All Over—by Jimmy Radcliffe.

Life at home / hobbies?
Love having my grandson Jacob. Walking, dancing and reading. Interested in the paranormal.

Favourite food and drink?
Sunday roast; Chinese food; coffee; vodka and Black Russian.

Who would you want to be on a desert island with, and why?
Family and someone who makes me laugh.
Shelly Fielding from LD day service is going sober for October as part of the Stoptober campaign. Please support Shelly as this is a big challenge for her and the money will also be going to a great cause. Follow the link here to support Shelly https://www.gosober.org.uk/users/shelley-fielding-2/donations/new

If you would like to celebrate the success of someone you support or would like to include an article in the Newsletter please send us your story by emailing us at info@personasupport.org. Or by contacting Deb Jones, Office Manager, on 0161 253 6000 Deborah.jones@personasupport.org. We would love to hear from you.
Time is just flying by and before you know it we will be looking forward to our Christmas dinners. On that note we would like to arrange a couple of weeks in November to collect items of food for parcels that can be distributed with the community to vulnerable people. Please can you help and donate the following:

- **w/c 31 October 2016**—any non-perishable food items, ie, tins / bottles / boxes
- **w/c 7 November 2016**—chocolate!!

Food boxes will be packed by customers in our Day Service volunteering scheme.

**If you would like to contribute please drop items off at any of the following sites Grundy, Sunnybank, Ramsbottom, Elmhurst.**

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**Christmas Cheer—Nominations for food vouchers**

If you know someone who does not take advantage of our wonderful services but that may benefit from them please send their details in and we can send them a food voucher for lunch on us at **Cuppaccino’s, Grundy.**

Please send:

- Name of person you are nominating
- Reason for nomination
- Contact details

To info@personasupport.org
Persona would like to welcome **Becky Nadin** who is the new Customer Service Officer based at Spurr House. I am sure you will all make Becky feel welcome.

Persona would like to say goodbye and good luck to:

- Ian Hargreaves LD Day Service
- Sara O’Shea LD Day Service

It’s such great news that **Persona** have been shortlisted for a **Best of Bury** award in the category **Backing Young Bury**. Also, well done to **Debra Guider** who has been nominated for **Bury Woman of the Year!!**

We’ve also had news that we’ve been shortlisted for two national awards with **LaingBuisson** – one for **Pinfold’s** excellent work around dementia and the other for the innovation and partnership between **Bury Council** and Persona in creating the organisation.

**The Best of Bury**

Congratulations to **Catering with Pride** who have also been shortlisted for an award with **Best of Bury** in the **Community Impact** category.

If you would like to celebrate the success of someone you support or would like to include an article in the Newsletter please send us your story by emailing us at info@personasupport.org. Or by contacting Deb Jones, Office Manager, on 0161 253 6000 Deborah.jones@personasupport.org. We would love to hear from you.
October is **Walk to School** month. So why not ditch the car and give it a go with your little ones. If you fancy something a bit more strenuous why not try Family Zumba where you can work out with all the family. Classes start at Castle Leisure Centre on Saturday 29 October 2016 at 12.30 pm with Persona’s very own Deb Jones instructing!!

For more information, visit www.getsafeonline.org select Smartphones & Tablets then Wireless Networks & Hotspots

Would you like a challenge for the rest of October??

Would you like help to stop smoking or cut down on drinking alcohol?

Would you like to eat healthier and manage your weight?

If you would like help and advice on any of the above or would like to attend one of our support groups contact us on 0161 253 7554 or email lifestyleservic@bury.gov.uk

Did you know that 1 October was **World Vegetarian Day**? Here is a tasty warming autumn veggie dish for you to try at home.....