



We enable support that makes a positive impact

Message from Kat

As Persona had its 11th birthday on 1st October, it feels like the perfect moment to pause and reflect on how far we have come together.

Reaching 11 years is a significant milestone. It represents over a decade of growth, learning, overcome challenges, and, most importantly, thousands of moments where you've made a positive difference in people's lives.

We've seen lots of change along the way and of course many of you will have fond memories of people we have said goodbye to, services we no longer provide and buildings we no longer use. Every journey has its highlights and its challenges and it is those things in combination that make us the unique organisation that we are today.

Compared to 11 years ago, we:

- support more people
- provide more services
- provide good employment to more people
- employ more people with lived experience
- have a greater impact on the wider Bury community
- make better use of digital opportunities to improve our approach
- have achieved a huge amount

None of this would have been possible without the passion, resilience, and kindness of our staff, the trust of people we support, and the confidence of families and partners who have been part of our journey.

As we celebrate this milestone, we also look forward. Autumn is a season of renewal and preparation, offering a chance to reflect on our achievements while embracing new possibilities. With our REACH values and purpose that have guided us along the way front and centre, we are excited about what the next chapter will bring.

Happy 11th Birthday, Persona. Here's to celebrating our journey so far and looking ahead with confidence to the future together.

Kat



This quarter's highlights

3 - Highlights	18 - Recognition
6 - Stories	20 - Compliments
8 - Staff News	22 - Service News
14 - Wellbeing	29 - Special Feature
17 - Digital Update	30 - Upcoming Events

If you're reading this online, you can click for more information where text is [blue and underlined](#).

Connect

Take
Notice

Be Active

Keep
Learning

Give to
Others

BURY 10K



After the dizzy heights of our 10th birthday, with a Bury 10K running team, this year's Bury 10K was much quieter for Persona.

Myself, John O'Connor and Alex Needham took to the streets of Bury with the distinct feeling that we probably hadn't trained enough and we may be heading for some personal worsts!!

Nevertheless, we were up for the challenge - if someone is prepared to close a busy road to let people run on it then it would be rude not to!!

Whatever your running ability there is something incredibly exhilarating about the Bury 10k. I can't decide whether it's because of the:



fact that you can run, undisturbed up the middle of the road from Bury to Tottington?



crowds who cheer you on and have 'power up' touchpoints ready and waiting?

joy of getting to Carmelo's after the relentless uphill climb from Bury to Tottington and realising that it's almost all downhill from there?



or, crossing the finish line?



"There's no such things as a bad run - you'll always feel better for having done it"
- that's what John O'Connor always tells me and he's absolutely right.

Running the Bury 10k is something everyone should try at least once - there's nothing quite like it!

Let John know [here](#) if you're inspired for 2027!

Kat

Connect

Take Notice

Be Active

Keep Learning

Person Awards 2026
Celebrating excellence

Our winners...



Respectful Award
Kerrie Eastwood



Enthusiastic Award
Bury Care Academy



Adaptable Award
Nicola Williams,
Hayley Kendall & John Tuohy

We transformed the Bolholt Country Park Hotel into an enchanted forest for our annual awards ceremony, where we shone a light on those who provide enabling support that makes a positive impact.

Guests included Council Mayor Mohammed Tahir Rafiq, and the Mayoress, Cllr Tamoor Tariq, Lynn Ridsdale the council chief executive and her team members, Will Blandamer, executive director and Adrian Crook, director of community commissioning.

 **Sensio**

yourhippo

Sona.

A&P

Connect

Take Notice

Be Active

Keep Learning



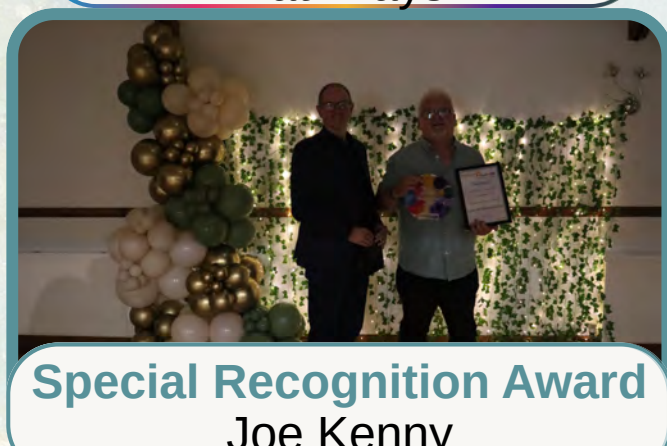
Caring Award
Lisa Greenhalgh



REACH Award
Persona Employment Pathways



Honest Award
Tessa Burges



Special Recognition Award
Joe Kenny

After a three course meal accompanied by live music from Dawson, our compère, Smug Roberts, introduced the awards and raffle.

The prizes included:

- 2 nights at REACH Retreat
- an acoustic guitar
- a hamper
- a bouquet of flowers

We announced our winners, who were chosen by our sponsors listed at the bottom of the page.

To end the night, we filled the dance floor.

For pictures and a video, go to personasupport.org/awards

LIVE MORE WITH DEMENTIA UPDATE

In October, an independent evaluation of this year-long project found evidence to support the value Live More has delivered, which our Shared Lives team experienced first-hand in families across Bury. Live More's impact was measured across three key areas:

Live More's impact:

for people living with dementia:

- improved mood and wellbeing
- people reconnecting with hobbies and interests they enjoy
- independence, dignity and control: people were enabled to choose how they spent their time
- real relationships - matches felt informal and carers were regarded as friends

"Mike's visits have been invaluable for Dad's quality of life."

"You have been there when I really needed someone to talk to."

for families:

- their own identity and sense of self returned
- gave them real opportunities for quality, worry-free time to themselves, which gave them chance to 'switch off' and stay well
- relieved the pressures of caring and improved their family life

for the wider community:

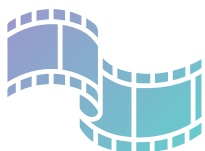
- reconnected people with their own communities, a sense of belonging and genuine contribution
- prevented family carers reaching crisis point
- supported people to stay at home for longer and making connections with other support options
- filled gaps in social care needs, like helping people access appointments and benefits, preventing illness or falls

These human benefits are priceless in themselves, but Shared Lives Plus (the national UK membership charity for people living and working in Shared Lives) also shared that **Live More has "created £5.96 in social value for every £1 invested – reflecting wider benefits such as improved wellbeing and reduced pressure on families and services"**.

Sulyn Waddon, Shared Lives dementia support worker said:

"This project has been a vital link, as the gap between what's needed and what's available is huge."

Congratulations to Joe Kenny, Shared Lives carer, who won the Special Recognition Person Award this month for his work on the project.



Shared Lives Plus have made a film to showcase the difference Live More has made to people's lives across Greater Manchester - you can watch it here. You might even see some familiar faces and places! Follow the link above to read the report in full.

ANOTHER FESTIVAL SUCCESS!



You might remember Cameron from our July newsletter; he worked at Parklife with the support of the Persona Employment Pathways team and even won Star of the Weekend! Well, since our last newsletter, he's been busy!

Cameron worked two weekends at Live at Wythenshaw Park and we hear he really enjoyed it:

"I am really enjoying my job. I get to meet and speak to a wide variety of people and the atmosphere is always changing, so the work never feels boring. Overall, it's a fun and exciting experience."

With Zabeena to help him prepare for the weekend, keep him motivated and build his confidence on the job, he's learnt that he can be responsible and professional even in a busy working environment.

"I'd definitely recommend Persona Employment Pathways because they are supportive, understanding and genuinely want to help people succeed".

To read more about Cameron's journey, [click here](#).

OPENING DOORS TO INDEPENDENCE

As schools and colleges across Bury welcome students for open days, our Persona Employment Pathways team were keen to share a different option; supported employment.

Students from Elms Bank School and College visited The Green Café, where they met our specialist job coaches to learn about developing different skills, gaining a qualification and finding a job or volunteering role.

Students said they had an interesting day as they hadn't heard about PEP: "I didn't know anything about PEP" said one student; "can I work here and get paid?"

To read more, [click here](#).



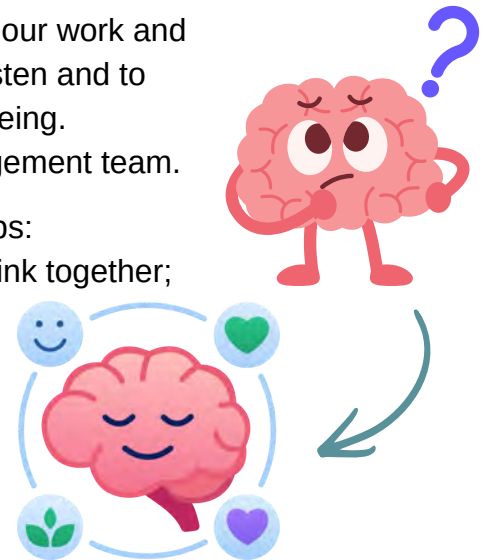
STAFF WORKSHOPS - WHAT'S NEXT

Although our staff workshops are annual, the work doesn't happen once a year.

This year's workshops explored where the pressure points are in our work and what gets in the way of work feeling great. The purpose was to listen and to take on board your ideas of how we can improve workforce wellbeing. Since then we've spent time exploring this further with our management team.

There were **three main themes** that came out from the workshops:

- **Communication:** create regular opportunities for teams to think together; space for open conversations across Persona. Close the feedback loop so that people can see how their ideas lead to action.
- **Trust:** build trust through everyday behaviours and strengthen collaboration around shared goals.
- **Systems:** design systems around the realities of everyday work. Make good work easier through practical systems.



So far we've spent time reviewing meeting arrangements.

Meetings are a key method of communication in any organisation, but they only work well if:

the right people
are at them

people understand
their role in them

they serve a
purpose



Connect

Take
Notice

Be Active

Keep
Learning

We've been looking at our Persona-wide meetings and committees to ensure it's clear what their purposes are and who should be attending.

It's become clear we have a group of frontline managers who are not included in these meetings and have to get updates from their manager.

This can mean that people feel out of the loop or don't understand why certain decisions or changes are made. To fix this, we are going to change two of our managers' meetings each year, to include frontline managers. The first meeting is set for January 2027, where we'll focus on how we communicate across Persona - what works and what could make it better.



We are also going to:

- invite frontline managers to our quarterly People Committee which focuses on workforce and health and safety topics
- look at standardising some of our job titles to make it clearer who is a frontline manager

Some managers are experimenting with different approaches to team meetings and the concept of 'team'. This includes how they recognise teams and tailor meetings for specific groups, as well as bringing teams together for area meetings when needed. These changes will help us improve our communications and building trust.

We'll create opportunities for people at all levels of management to clarify expectations and time to work together in problem solving and learning.

We've also be working on simplifying the systems we use.

So far, we've taken huge steps in the implementation of Sona as our roster management system.

Our vision is that we have three primary systems for:

- roster management
- care management
- Microsoft 365

We want as much of our activity as possible to take place in those three systems, we should only use a different system when necessary to avoid duplication and reduce pressure points.



EMPOWERING CREATIVITY

We're happy to share the exciting progress we've made at Persona Prints! We've completed our first cohort of pre-assessments with people we support in our learning disability day services and at St Mary's, which help us understand who can move to the six week trial assessment. Our hope is that they will move into year-long skills placements, enabling them to create and make orders for the community.



We've also hired our creative enterprise lead.
Meet Connie:

I'm a graphic designer and illustrator from Bury and I have experience running my own small printmaking business.

I take a lead on Persona Prints, where I work with people to help them learn new skills and run our enterprise.

I was drawn to this role because I want to empower people with learning disabilities to get creative and show off their talents. I like to see the difference that inclusive and accessible environments can make and to work in a creative, supportive studio space.

My role is creative, inclusive and supportive.



We want to ensure people we support are involved in shaping the future of the enterprise and are contributing ideas and creativity to the design process. Rather than simply participating in production, people will have opportunities to share their ideas, produce designs and help define the identity of the business.

We've completed some assessments with people we support in our learning disability day services and at St Mary's to find people who would like to do a six week trial, in the hope of moving onto a year-long skills placement.

So far we've produced a range of items in the testing phase including personalised mugs, t-shirts, coasters and tote bags.

The current product range is being reviewed as part of the enterprise's development and sustainability planning.



SHARE WHAT YOU THINK ABOUT CARE

Your opinion and the opinions of people we support are really important and the government wants to hear from you.

The Casey Commission is looking at how adult social care can be better and what changes the government can make to make care better.

The government wants to hear what you think if:

- you get adult social care
- someone you know gets adult social care
- you don't use adult social care now

There is a [new website](#) where you can share your ideas about adult social care and vote for other people's ideas about adult social care.

You need to tell the government what you think before November 2026.

Please share this with people you support and ask everyone you know to share their ideas about adult social care, so that everyone's voice is heard. In adult social care there should be 'nothing about us without us'.

We never know when we or someone we love might need care and support - this affects everyone.



ARE YOU MAKING THE MOST OUT OF MEDICASH?

Medicash* is a health plan with a variety of benefits to support your health and wellbeing.

In the app, you can:

- have digital hearing and vision checks
- claim money back on things like dental, physio and optical appointments
- get health and wellbeing support
- add your children onto your plan for an extra cost

It also includes shopping discounts, which could help you save money in the lead up to Christmas!

For more information and a video, [click here](#).

**This is only available to staff on Persona Wellbeing T&C's*



OUR STAFF SURVEY RESULTS

Thank you to everyone who completed the staff survey during this years Staff Workshops.

Your feedback is valuable in helping us understand what's working well and where we can make improvements to shape a better workplace for everyone.

**THANK YOU
SO MUCH**

We are pleased to see of the 16 questions asked, 14 of these scored an average of 8 or more, with the lowest scoring questions being in relation to:

- staff feeling recognised for their contributions - 7.4 average score
- staff believing there are opportunities to develop their career - 7.7 average score

As a result of this feedback we are looking to take a number of steps to explore these areas in more detail as part of our themed quarter, focusing on outcomes - read more on page 16.



Additionally, we are looking to introduce a new part of the Sona system known as Praise which will allow managers to recognise their teams and it's been great to see so many nominations here as part of the years PersonAwards – find out more about this on page 4.

If you have any further ideas or suggestions of steps we can take in these areas or other area, email these into info@personasupport.org

CLOSURE OF THE ZEN ROOM

For a few years now we have had the wonderful opportunity of the Zen Room, for you to access massage and other alternative therapies and be proactive in maintaining your health and wellbeing.

We've been lucky to have members of our team who had talents outside of their day job to provide the therapies in this space. Recently those people have picked up other opportunities outside of Persona, so we've had to review our approach.

Unfortunately the level of use of the Zen Room doesn't warrant us bringing in new therapists at this time. However, if you have Medicash in place, you can still use that to access alternative therapies and claim back that way, but this would need to be with a provider that you find yourself, rather than at the Zen room.

We're sad to see the Zen Room go but we're hoping to introduce some new wellbeing offers soon.

Connect

Take
Notice

Be Active

Keep
Learning

RACE EQUALITY IN OUR WORKFORCE

This month we are really excited to be starting a piece of work on race equality in the workforce with the support of the IMPACT centre.

IMPACT is a £15 million UK centre for implementing evidence in adult social care. It is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and the Health Foundation.



The team includes academics, people who draw on care and support, and policy and practice partners.

We were delighted to be successful in our bid to conduct a project to look at race equality in our workforce.

Over recent years we have changed our recruitment processes with the intention of removing unnecessary barriers. This has been really successful and we've seen the diversity of our workforce increase significantly.

The purpose of the IMPACT project is now to help us understand how inclusive and cohesive our workforce is and what we can do to ensure that our culture supports everyone to thrive.

We are at the beginning of the discovery and scoping phase and will be working collaboratively with colleagues from IMPACT to shape the project's focus and approach. We will share more information, including opportunities for staff to contribute, once this initial work has progressed.

Our IMPACT coaches are:

Dr Marion Oveson



Lisa Field



They will be visiting a number of teams as part of the discovery phase so please share your experiences with them. They are here to help us as we continually evolve and improve as an employer.

Connect

Take Notice

Be Active

Keep Learning



Take Care of your Back

There are lots of things you can do every day to keep your back well, or to help it heal if you injure it.

The Versus Arthritis charity recommends:

'As far as possible, it's best to continue with your normal everyday activities as soon as you can and to keep moving. Staying active will help you get better.'

Want to know more?

Click [here](#) for links, how to keep moving (no need for gym gear and you only need 2 minutes to start making a difference) and when to see a doctor.

Live Weekly Wellbeing

Our weekly, online sessions have moved to Thursdays at 1.45-2.15pm. They are for all staff and you don't need any experience or special equipment - find out more [here](#).

Support for Your Mental Health

Do you know what support you can get to stay well?

- Choose your own support by phone, messaging or text in **Access Confidential Support Now** [here](#)
- Talk to any of our **wellbeing champions** [here](#), no matter where you work. Nothing you say will be shared unless your or someone else's life is in danger (when they may need to call the emergency services)
- Get professional support from **Your Care via Vivup** [here](#); helpline and counselling 24/7
- Topic pages:
Stress - click [here](#)
Know Yourself - click [here](#)
- **Wellness Action Plan (WAP)** - you can fill this in and share with your manager to get the support that's right for you [here](#)
- Toolkits for:
Stress Talking (for conversations with your manager) [here](#)
Resilience [here](#)
- **Reasonable adjustments** can help you stay well in work [here](#)
- **Night workers** have specific issues that can affect their mental health. If you work nights, take a look at [this](#)

Stoptober



Do you smoke? Wish you didn't?
Get free, in person advice across Bury, the free Quit Smoking app and more [here](#).

Please share these tips with your friends, family & people you support

World Menopause Day

Perimenopause and menopause can make you feel really unwell. Symptoms often start in your early forties but can start even younger.

There are over 34 common symptoms, so if you're noticing any of these in yourself or in people around you, you can get advice, signposting and support [here](#) including:

- podcasts, workshops, websites
- easy reads
- support from menopause champions

Please share this information with people you support and if you'd like to get (peri)menopause updates from time to time, email info@personasupport.org and we'll get you added to the list.



Arthritis Aware

Do you have arthritis?
Do you know someone living with arthritis?

Our [Arthritis Resources](#) page has information about living with pain and with arthritis, self management of long term conditions.

There's a booklist, support contacts like Versus Arthritis & NHS information too.

Looking After the Whole of You

Our Wellbeing Hub is here to help you look after your body and mind together.

The hub's based on the NHS's **Five Ways to Wellbeing** and is split into these different sections:

- Access Confidential Support Now
- Physical Wellbeing
- Mental Wellbeing
- Inspiration for Wellbeing
- Opportunities to **Connect**, **Be Active**, **Take Notice**, **Keep Learning**, **Give to Others**

or you can look for what you need [here](#):

- Eat Well
- Sleep Well
- Manage Stress
- Stay Active
- Know Yourself



Zen Room



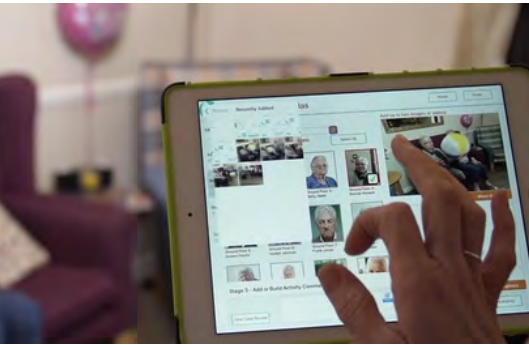
The Zen Room has closed for aromatherapy, Reiki, Indian head massage and reflexology. Read more on page 12 and keep your eyes open for new wellbeing offers coming soon.

Please share these tips with your friends, family & people you support.

PERSONA THEMED QUARTER

Our Current Themed Quarter: Outcomes

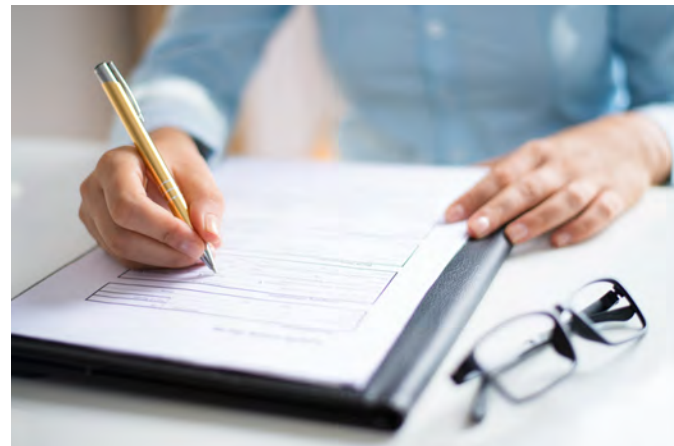
This quarter, we're placing a strong focus on outcomes, ensuring that everything we do supports people to live the life they choose in a way that's fulfilling and meaningful to them. By strengthening the way we record, monitor, and celebrate the positive impact of the support we provide every day.



A key part of this work will be the introduction and implementation of our new outcomes monitoring process within Care Control. Colleagues across all services will receive guidance and training to develop their understanding of outcomes-based support and how to effectively record progress, achievements, and aspirations. This work is important because it helps ensure that outcomes are not simply recorded as activities, but as genuine improvements in people's quality of life.

Throughout the quarter, we will be sharing examples of what good quality outcomes look like and exploring what makes them truly person-centred. Good outcomes should reflect what is important to each person we're supporting, with a focus on their own goals, strengths, preferences, and ambitions.

By concentrating on the difference our support makes to people's lives, we can better recognise and build on people's existing strengths and abilities, encouraging independence, confidence, and personal growth.



We will also be looking at how outcomes can capture the things that matter most in life, such as experiencing joy and happiness, developing interests and hobbies, strengthening relationships, participating in the community, and creating new opportunities.

Ultimately, our commitment is about helping people achieve a greater sense of fulfilment and purpose in life. By working together and embedding high-quality outcomes recording into everyday practice, we can clearly demonstrate the positive impact of our services and ensure that every person we support has the opportunity to thrive, achieve their goals, and live the life they choose.

We look forward to sharing learning, celebrating successes, and recognising the fantastic work taking place across all of our services throughout this exciting themed quarter.

Together, we can make outcomes meaningful, measurable, and most importantly, beneficial to the people we support.

Click [here](#) to read more about our Themed Quarters

SONA - FOUR MONTHS ON

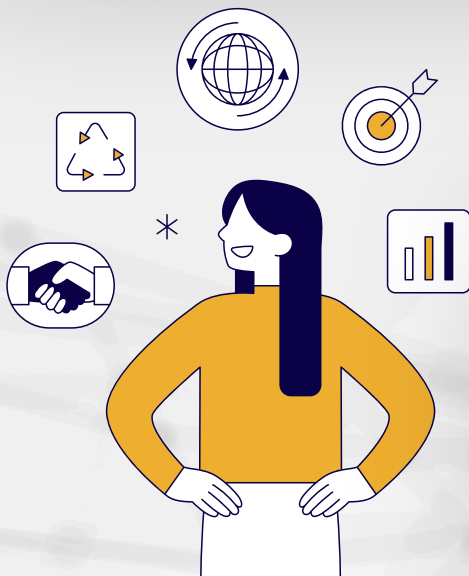
Over the past four months, Sona has become an integral part of our day-to-day operations across Persona.

We would like to say a huge thank you to all colleagues and managers for embracing the changes, demonstrating our **adaptable** value, and showing patience and understanding while any challenges along the way have been addressed.

It has been fantastic to hear the positive feedback from both colleagues and managers about the rollout of the system and the benefits it is already bringing to people, teams and the wider organisation.

We've been told how easy it is to:

- view your roster in the app
- pick up additional shifts via the open shift market
- request annual leave
- get key updates and messages via chats and the news feed



Having successfully completed the implementation phase, we've now transitioned to a business-as-usual approach. This means our focus is shifting towards making the most of Sona's full functionality, exploring future developments and enhancements, and identifying new ways the system can support colleagues and help us work more effectively.

**Thank you for your continued support and engagement
as we continue this journey together**

It's great to see so many staff being recognised for living our values.

Here's a selection of this quarter's High Fives - congratulations to everyone!



Birks Drive Team

Respectful

The team are **respectful**, supportive, and collaborative in their approach to both colleagues and people they support. They have a good understanding of each other's strengths and areas of expertise, enabling them to work effectively together and make the best use of their skills. Everyone undertakes their responsibilities to the best of their ability and works collectively to ensure that workloads are shared fairly across the team. The team's person-centred approach, brings their own unique qualities and skills when supporting people, which complement one another and contribute to the high standard of care provided. The positive team culture, mutual **respect**, and shared commitment to delivering person-centred support are key factors in the team's success.

Coral Mulligan

Enthusiastic

I was at a recent CQC presentation and sat behind Coral, it was great to see her so engaged and give some great feedback, I know she is new to her current role so let's hope we see more of Coral in future events representing young people coming through Persona.

Nicola Hepburn

Adaptable

She goes above and beyond for Woodbury, she takes pride in her job and takes time to get to know people, going out of her way to do activities they enjoy and make them feel comfortable. She is very passionate about Woodbury - giving her own time to make sure things are right. She makes sure everything is suitable to people's dietary needs. She is an asset to Persona.

Bev McGrath

Bev is a pleasure to work with; it feels like she has always been part of the team. She is eager to learn new things, goes out of her way to get to know people, and is all ready becoming a popular member of the team. She is happy to share her valuable experiences with our team. Thank you Bev for your time it is much appreciated at Grundy Hub.

Anna Craig

Caring

Anna has been very supportive and **caring** throughout a very difficult time, and has done everything possible to support me at work. I am very grateful and thankful for all your continued support Anna, you have gone above and beyond to ensure my work life balance has been manageable for me and you deserve to be recognised for all your kindness.

Louise Proudfoot

Louise has worked for supported living for nearly 30 years and she's a valued colleague who goes out of her way to help other colleagues as much as she can. She is diligent and **caring** to people we support, always putting their needs first.

Living the Values - Above and Beyond

This quarter's winners of a £50 gift voucher of their choice were...



Shared Lives Team
Respectful



Amita Savani
Enthusiastic



Bolton Road Team
Enthusiastic



Carmen Gillon-Weerasinghe
Enthusiastic



Cathy Stimpson
Enthusiastic



Donna Baggaley
Enthusiastic



Maria Burke
Enthusiastic



Queensberry Team
Enthusiastic



Thitiphan Pavion
Enthusiastic



Zabeena Akhtar
Enthusiastic



The Green Team
Enthusiastic & Adaptable



Beverley Yates
Adaptable



Ramsbottom Team
Adaptable



Workforce Team
Adaptable



Hoyles Team
Caring

Well done & congratulations to you all!

I just want to say thank you to Dawn as she is an amazing support worker and has made Paul feel so comfortable, increasing his confidence to be able to move to The Willows. Her continued work is appreciated and needed by Paul and his family as they have built such a lovely bond.



Elmhurst & Woodbury
Short Stay

Thank you so much for looking after my lovely mum, Kathleen, for the past couple of months. The care and kindness you have shown has made this difficult time much more bearable for us both, and is greatly appreciated. She has fond memories of Elmhurst. Thanks again and best wishes, Paul.

To all the staff at Grundy Hub, I would like to thank you all for the love and care you have shown Stuart. A special thanks to Debbie and Jane when picking him up and bring him home. Thank you all so much, Sandra and Stuart.

Grundy
Hub

The Green
Community Café

We can't thank the team enough for the opportunity and support they have given our son.



In
Carnforth



Family &
dog friendly



Sleeps
7 people



Wheelchair
accessible



Free leisure pass
(up to £116 a week)



Wi-fi, smart TVs &
waterfall showers

2027 bookings are now open!



External bookings: £189 per night

Special price: £115 per night (for people we support,
Persona and Bury Shared Lives colleagues)

For more information, T&C's and to book, scan or follow:

tinyurl.com/REACHRetreatP



Connect

Take
Notice

Be Active

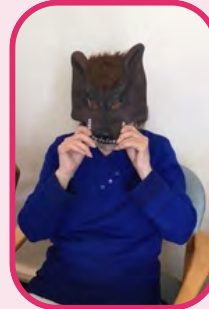
Keep
Learning

Give to
Others

CREATING & PERFORMING



At Escape we've been hard at work creating our beautiful summer boards complete with ice cream and scuba divers.



Grundy Hub got creative with their looks this Photography Day; dressing up with wigs, masks and hats.



Our Knit and Natter group hand delivered some knitted hearts they made to Bury Hospice, after seeing an appeal on Facebook.

The hearts are given as a pair to families whose loved ones are receiving end-of-life care - one heart is for the patient and the other heart is for their family to keep.

The aim is to bring some comfort during such a difficult time.

We were lucky enough to meet Katy, who works on the inpatient unit, and she told us how much comfort these hearts can bring, and we received a thank you card.

We also enjoyed a drink and cake in the onsite café there.

People we support have made a display of leaves, caterpillars and butterflies at Ramsbottom.



Knitters at Elmhurst created some animals and plants for their fish tank display.

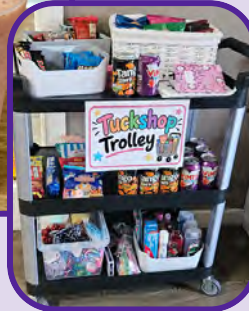
There's been plenty of fun at Elmhurst:
Moondance brought the music over the summer.



For lunch one day
we made pizzas
with all our
favourite toppings.



When it was hot we made our own fruit smoothies
and ice lollies to keep us cool.



We set up a tuckshop
service for people who
are unable to get to the
shop; now the shop
comes to them.

At the moment we've got a few Autumn displays in our services...



We turned paper and wool
into leaves and pumpkins
at Grundy Hub.

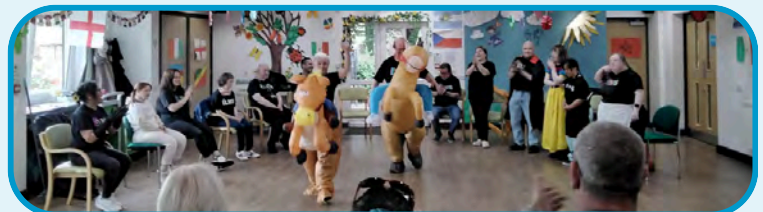
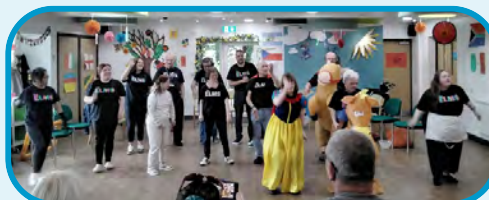


Hoyles have crafted a
beautiful display to
'Welcome (you) to our patch'.



The spotlight was on at The Elms
for their performance of
Snow White and the Seven Influencers.

We invited friends, parents and carers
and everyone had a
great time watching the
production - it was a great
show.



CELEBRATING LIFE



Cathy celebrated her 60th Birthday at Grundy Hub.

Happy Birthday Cathy!

Irene enjoyed two parties - and cakes - for her 70th birthday, one at Fishpool Liberal Club and the other at The Elms.

Happy Birthday Irene!



There were smiles all round as we hosted a baby shower for our customer relations assistant, Megan Miller. The highlight was the 'guess the baby?' game with pictures of our staff.

Congratulations Meg!



OUT AND ABOUT

A visit to Bury Art Gallery was enjoyed by all at The Elms...



...and Michelle and Alex volunteered to tidy the garden and pot flowers.



APPRECIATING DIFFERENT CULTURES

We asked people we support at The Elms which culture they would like to learn about and celebrate. They chose to focus on Mexican culture and the group got to work organising an extra special day.

Over the course of a few weeks, people we support crafted decorations, researched Mexico and created a food and drink menu.

On the day, we had a traditional Mexican lunch along with other foods to try, and we enjoyed party games, mask making, taking pictures in the photobooth and lots of music and dancing.

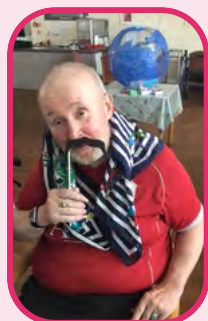


National Fajita Day turned into a full celebration of Mexico at Elmhurst with sombreros, maracas and food.



Food from around the world was on the menu at Grundy Hub with a special focus on India, China, America, Italy and England.

In groups, we each made a globe focussing on a different continent.



MAKING CONNECTIONS

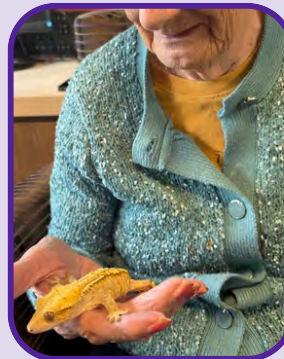


At Elmhurst we've...

...connected over International Friendship Day and made some rocky road together.

...hosted a Macmillan coffee morning.

...held our Summer Fair where we had music, crafting, cake, a raffle, competitions and animals from Wild Science.



It was a day of music, games and endless fun at Elton's Tropical Bash!

We enjoyed playing games, like our home made coconut shy and the human slot machine, while seeing friends we don't see every day.



At the end of our summer 80's bash, we wished Julie Pierce, support coordinator, a good luck in her retirement! Julie tells us 'it's been so overwhelming to know how much people appreciate me for what I've done at Persona and Escape'.



Happy Retirement Julie!

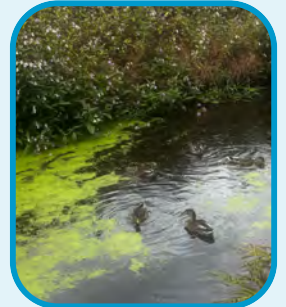


Our Festival of Fun lived up to its name! With tombola, games, fancy dress and homemade bucket hats, there were smiles all round.

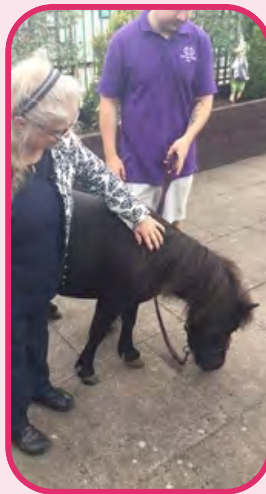
SPENDING TIME WITH ANIMALS



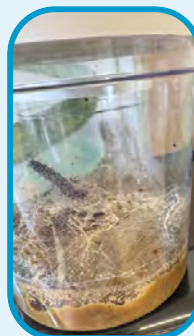
We spent a lovely day with a picnic and walk around Burrs Country Park, but the highlight of the day for people we support and staff at The Elms was watching a heron fishing for its dinner.



We also walked around Hollingworth Lake, feeding the ducks and meeting all the friendly dogs.



Everyone at Grundy Hub was delighted to meet Winnie and Princess, two Shetland ponies who came to visit.



Over two weeks, Ramsbottom was home to caterpillars while they transformed into butterflies then hatched from their cocoons. We watched them change and fed them sugar water before releasing them into the wild.

FUN DAYS

We marked Doughnut Day by indulging in some sweet treats.



The amazing chef at Elmhurst, Annie, put on a gorgeous 'just because' buffet for people we support and their families.



Cream Tea Day called for only one thing!



Choosing their own embellishments and colours, people we support created their own felt bow tie to mark National Bow Tie Day.

Aloha shirts and flower necklaces were out for Hawaiian Shirt Day at Hoyles.





Persona Christmas Fair

DECEMBER

7

10AM - 2PM

Unsworth Cricket Club, Pole Lane BL9 8QL

Everyone welcome

Find out about what we do &
chat to our teams

**Drop in for free:
food & drink
activities
raffle**



tinyurl.com/ChristmasFairP

Connect

Take
Notice

Be Active

Give to
Others

UPCOMING EVENTS

23rd October



**Friends Round
Friday**

23rd October



**Musical
Memories**

25th October



**Coffee, Cake
& Chat**

27th October



**Seated Zumba
at The Green**

27th October



**The Elms'
Halloween Disco**

28th October



**Halloween
at The Green**

29th October



**The Elms' Halloween
Bingo & Raffle**

29th October



**Hollywood Bowl
with Escape**

For more information & events, click [here](#).

Connect

Be Active

Take
Notice

Keep
Learning

Give to
Others

These are the #FiveWaysToWellbeing, approved by the NHS, that remind us how to keep well. You'll see them throughout each newsletter, to celebrate how people are living their best life.

If you'd like to share a story, photos, or an idea,
please email us at info@personasupport.org

We enable support that makes a positive impact

Follow us on social media:



@personabury



Persona Care and Support



Persona Care and Support



@personacareandsupport

Visit our website www.personasupport.org