

Summer - Autumn 2020 Newsletter



Please see some of the things we have done between lockdown 1 and lockdown 2



A Word from Anna

What a year it's been so far! Last December, we got together with service users, families, staff, Trustees and other supporters of Chester Link to have a lovely big gathering to celebrate the season. We were dancing, singing, enjoying food and fun together with no masks, social distancing or hand sanitiser in sight. Who would have thought that it would be the last time that we could all get together for such a long time?

Sadly, during this year, some of our service users have lost family members and we have supported them through difficult times including seeing their parent for the last time and attending their memorial services. Christmas will be very different for all families this year, and we especially feel for those who have lost loved ones.

We can't all get together this year for a party, but as soon as restrictions lift, we will plan something lovely to hopefully make up for it. We are holding a virtual raffle for our service users on Zoom, let's hope that the technology holds up.

I hope that you enjoy reading about the different activities that service users have enjoyed with their staff since our last newsletter. The photos were taken over a few months and show the different restrictions placed on social care workers and service users over the months. You will see the use of masks and social distancing when it became a necessity, but also some closer contact when individual risk assessments and guidance allowed.

We have received our weekly Covid-19 testing kits for staff, so hope to fit in one or two rounds of testing before Christmas. We have also received information about the roll-out of vaccinations to social care staff in Cheshire West and Chester. We hope that the testing and vaccinations will make 2021 a very different year.

Season's Greetings to you all,

Anna

The tenants have been up to many fun activities



Shirley House made some homemade custard tarts.

Most of the Shirley House tenants went on a day out to Llandudno on the train.



Since the last newsletter we have stopped clapping for the NHS and we have finished our Tuesday night in house discos.



The tenants at Shirley House and Ian joined in with the yarn bombing around Chester.



Fiona

Hello Everyone,
welcome to Autumn



I have had a holiday with Sister Karen in Llandudno. We had fun, went on a boat ride, listened to a band play and lots more.



I really look forward to my Patchwork Choir Zoom sessions; Winnie always comes too.



I went to the Zoo and had a lovely day seeing all the animals. The sun shone all day long.



My Sunflower is growing very well.



I enjoy having lunch at Marmalade, Dawn makes the best salads.



Diane



I have been Zooming with Dial House we have been doing Quizzes, Karaoke, relaxation and lots of things.



I have been watching the Building work at the back of the Library, it will all be new next summer 2021



My brother Paul with Pops the Cat

We all went to Llandudno for the day, I had fish and chips in a cafe, we walked on the pier, I went on the teacups. We wore masks on the train.



I enjoyed the Halloween party, we decorated cakes.



I made some bread as part of the bread making anniversary Zoom session

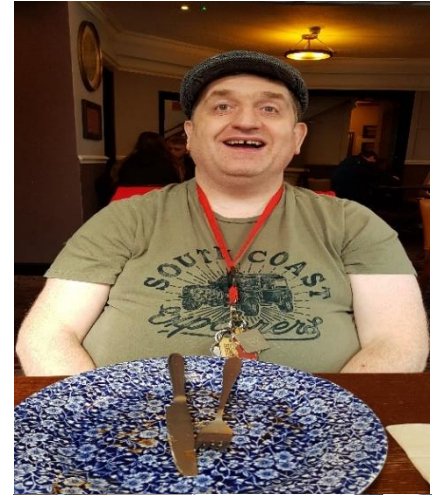


Dan



I made some fruit scones with Elaine. They were really tasty!

I have been out and about into town and have enjoyed some nice meals at Wetherspoons. My favourite is the chicken burger.



It was Halloween. We had a buffet and decorated our own cakes.

We went to Llandudno in September. It was a really sunny day. We had fish and chips and went for a walk along the sea front.



I have been helping with the housework. Even hoovering the stairs!



Julia



I went to an alpaca farm and met Kegan and Raffle. I got to feed them too. Then Kayleigh and I got an afternoon tea.

I went on a sightseeing tour bus around Chester.



I have made my own bread at home as part of the bread making anniversary Zoom session.



I celebrated my birthday and had an amazing cake made by my mum.



Paul

I have made my own bread at home as part of the bread making anniversary Zoom session.



I coloured a poppy for remembrance Sunday!



I enjoyed the Halloween party!

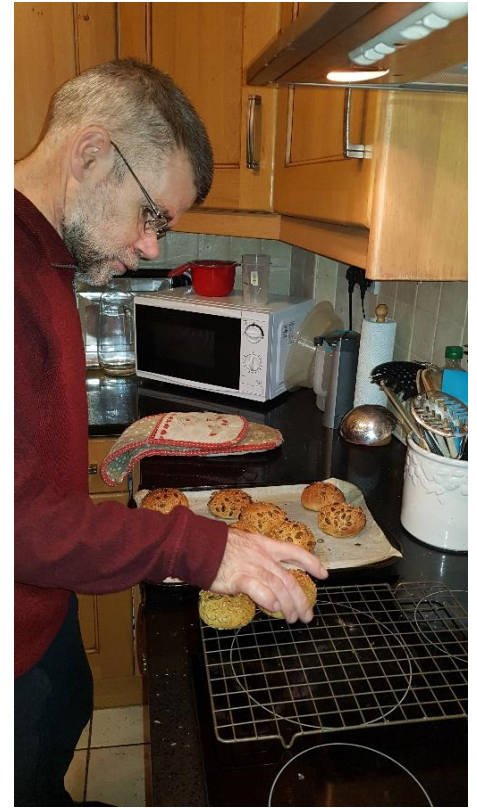


We even decorated cakes.



John

I have been doing lots of cooking in the house. Including making my own bread as part of the bread making anniversary Zoom session.



I celebrated my birthday and enjoyed my cake.



I joined in with the Halloween party and decorated some cakes.

Also I had a lovely day in Llandudno with the rest of Shirley House.

Sian



I have been going on day trips with Brett, Dana and Alison. We even went to the zoo. We did lots of walking, saw all the animals and had lunch there. I bought a cuddly lion at the gift shop!

I got to try out some lovely henna designs with Brett, and I have been doing some craft in my free time, like sewing, which I really enjoy.



I visited Shrewsbury for the day, which I really enjoyed as I hadn't been before. We went to the Harry Potter shop where I treated myself to some souvenirs, visited a yummy doughnut shop, had lunch, and went pottery painting where I made a tile for myself.



Next, I would like to buy more craft activities for me to do, and I am keen to buy a tablet which I can use for ordering things for myself and checking emails. I would like to continue to go on day trips too and possibly find some other activities to keep me busy on my 1-1s.

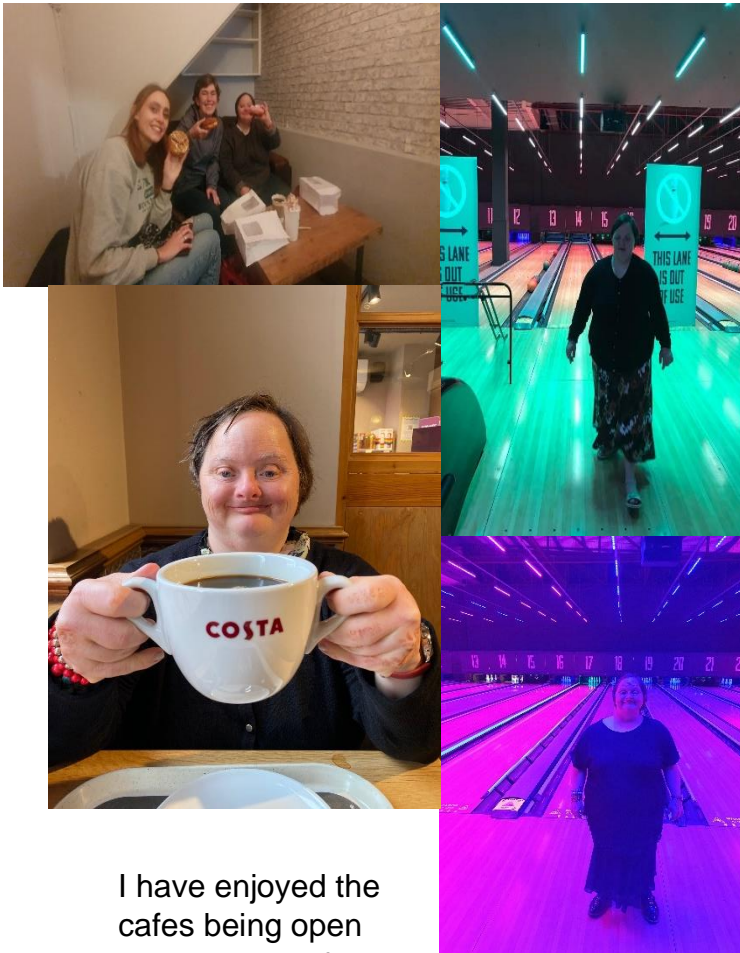


I have been bowling and I found I really enjoyed it



Alison

Although Covid-19 has made a lot of drastic changes in my life, nevertheless I have still kept myself busy. I have been out on a few day trips with Sian, Dana and Brett including the zoo where I loved watching the chimpanzees play. I also went to Shrewsbury where I painted pottery and treated myself to a huge doughnut from planet doughnut. It was delicious. I have also visited the aquarium where I loved watching the piranhas and sting rays swim by.



I have enjoyed the cafes being open and going out for treats

I've also enjoyed visiting my dad again, going out for lunch and playing dominoes and croquet. The bowling alley at Cheshire oaks reopened and I enjoyed my time up there; it makes a change from playing it on the Wii all the time. I also started back at swimming and tried out aqua aerobics to keep myself fit and healthy.



I have also been keeping myself occupied at home including trying out new activities such as henna tattoos. I love to show these off to staff and my friends at canal street. But mostly I enjoy my pamper time in my room including having my very own foot spa. It's a perfect way for me to spend my evening relaxing.

Adam

I have enjoyed picnics in the sun and going to the zoo.



I have been bowling at Cheshire oaks, I even scored a spare and won!

I have been going for walks around Delamere Forest



I held a tortoise at Ambito!

I went on a day out to Liverpool with Dana



Anne



I have been enjoying going for a hot chocolate & cake on my 1-1's.



I have been loving my new tablet which I can draw on and play games.



Staff have been showing me how to do henna tattoos and I love them. This is one I had on my hand before.

I have been practicing my cooking skills.



Ruth

I have got a new sewing machine which I love. I now have 1-1 sessions with Caroline which are great.



We have been making mats for textiles



We had a Halloween party with lots of decorations.



Ian



I have been going for lots of walks, mainly at the country park.

A thank you from Autism Eswatini to Ian for cycling 100 miles and raising money for the charity

As already stated, the support of struggling families of individuals with Autism in Eswatini by Pauline Roberts in collaboration with her son, Ian and Chester Link could not have come at a better time than the time of the COVID 19 pandemic. Through this support, Autism Eswatini distributed food parcels to 5 families in the first round which was in April with a donation of R2,000.00 (\$95, 23) and 23 families for the second round which was in June with a donation of R10,548.00 (\$ 502, 76.) @ Rate 21. A total of 28 families were supported with food parcels during the COVID 19 pandemic. A crowd funding platform was set up through Chester Link to raise funds for Autism Eswatini where Ian Roberts cycled for 100 miles in the month of May 2020. The food parcels were bought and distributed by a team of six volunteers inclusive of the Executive committee for the parents support group. It took the volunteering team three days to distribute the parcels. The following items were bought and distributed;

THANK YOU SIYABONGA
IAN & CHESTER LINK

100 MILES, \$500 & 23 FAMILIES SUPPORTED

Thank you, your donation made a big difference to many families, we hope you have coped with lockdown and that we may meet you one day.

FROM ALL THE PARENTS AND CHILDREN AT AUTISM ESOWATINI

AUTISM ESOWATINI



I have been building a fence at the country park and been putting the posts in and attaching the wire.



Chris

This year Chris has had some really good ups, which included going away for a few days in August. Chris said " it was so nice going for a walk on the beach and having lovely sunny weather." Chris this year also really enjoyed his birthday in November because he started his day with a fry up, followed by games and a film.

Although this year has been tough, Chris says he has enjoyed spending time at home and going for walks. Chris is looking forward to December and hopefully having another day like his birthday.

John



John has been going for lots of walks.



John has been going for lots of drives in his car.



John celebrated his birthday with a cool party hat.



Trevor



Trevor has been going on lots of walks. Especially around Neumann's Flashes and Marbury Country Park.



Trevor has asked for some binoculars for Christmas as he enjoys bird watching.



Joanne



Joanne has enjoyed making a family tree.



Joanne has been knitting a cover for her bed.



Joanne had a party in the house for her 50th birthday with lots of cake and birthday celebrations.



A Word from Roger

2020 has been an extraordinary year. We have all been asked to change so many aspects of our daily lives to beat the Coronavirus challenge. For all our service users that has also meant significant changes to their normal daily routines and a reduction in contact with their families and friends.

Throughout the last nine months their resilience, fortitude and adaptability to change has been an inspiration to see. To support the service users, the Chester Link staff support teams have also risen to the challenge of making every day one to look forward to with different activities and events to fit into the ever changing government advice we have been receiving.

On behalf of all my Trustee colleagues a very big thank you to the service users, staff team and the family and friends for all your efforts for keeping all safe and well during these difficult times.

Finally, that leaves me to look forward to 2021 and a year which I hope will see us get back to normal (whatever the new normal maybe). Wishing you a very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

Roger

Trustees and Board Committees as of December 2020

Trustees

Roger Causer – Chairman

Maria Mannion – Vice Chair

Becky Causer – Treasurer

Karen Robertson - Company Secretary

Helen Caley

James Dick

Antonio Amoratti

Staff

Chief Officer - Anna Maclese
Care Co-Ordinator - Cate Glover
Administrator - Lesley Causer
Staff Co-Ordinator - Kayleigh Parry
Housing Co-Ordinator – Charlotte Bunton
Team Leader - Winsford Lorna Cooper
Assistant Team Leader - Winsford Ann Bentley

Shirley House & Newton Lane

Phil Beare
Helen Parry
Lisa Parry
Kathy Waters
Mike Hayes
Elaine Sinkinson
Cathie McGuinness
Amiee Morgan
Charlotte Bunton
Kayleigh Parry

71 & Benton Drive

Dan Brown
Steph Cooper (Senior
Support)
Jason Dugdale
Pat Graham
Gareth Thomas
Brett Hollyhead
Dana Roberts
Angela Roberts
Chris Sayer Anderson
Julie Wright

Greville Drive - Winsford

Brenda Ankers
Hayley Yoxall
Elaine Holmes
Jean Perry
Lisa Renshaw
Julie Stubbs
Julie Bloor
Relief - Mark Sheridan
James Collier
Jackie Goldstraw
Adam Galletly

Relief

Ellen Brown, Maureen Dowling, Jo England, Arian Ghobadi,
Alison McAvoy, Caroline Thomas, Lauren Pritchard,
Chris Newey, Marc Hamilton