

A newsletter from **Rossendale Trust**

RossenTales



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August 2022

WorkTaste excels

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Queen's Jubilee

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Oakwood grows

-More details inside



The
Rossendale Trust

Rachel Bamford and Richard Johnson enjoy a dance at the Queen's Jubilee.



Jonathan Tench (right) - Tenant and Mandy Blackwell (right) - Tenant enjoy a day out at the Great Orme.



Hello, and welcome to our August newsletter.

This month's edition is full of great stories of events and opportunities which have taken place over the past couple of months at Rossendale and beyond, we are grateful for life getting back to 'normal'. The wonderful celebration for the Queen's Jubilee was such a fantastic event for tenants and staff and it was lovely to see everyone coming together again and enjoying themselves.

New activities have been introduced at Oakwood and WorkTaste have achieved some fantastic results with this year's cohort of Supported Internships with 85% gaining employment, we are very proud of them all. All of these good news stories and events are fantastic and lovely to read about and we are lucky to still be able to support these types of opportunities given the challenging times we are dealing with currently. Staffing in our sector is difficult, we hear about this nearly every day. Recruitment and selection is an ongoing problem, and the Trust is doing everything it can to improve our staffing levels. We continue to recognise the exceptional work our staff are doing and are offering attractive recruitment bonuses, our HR and management team are working hard around this. We thank you for your understanding during these difficult times and if you could help us by sharing our social media recruitment posts with your friends and acquaintances, we would be grateful for your support.

-Andrea Wright - Registered Manager & Head of Supported Living

Paul makes his big move!



In early June Paul Smith took the decision to move from his shared apartment in Rose Gardens to a new property in Canalside View where he would be living by himself. Paul wanted more independence and a chance to learn new skills.

Family Liaison Officer, Zoe Williams met with him a month later to see how he was getting on.

Zoe asked: What's the best thing about your new apartment?

Paul said: I like it here, I'm happy. I like who I live with, having the whole apartment to myself, having privacy, I like the staff – they're all nice. My apartment is quiet

being on my own and I have my own space. I'm enjoying keeping it clean and tidy.

Zoe asked: Since you moved in what have you been up to?

Paul said: I've been making my own breakfast and lunch, and staff help me to make what I choose for dinner.

I've spent time with some of the other tenants who live in apartments here watching films, having meals, chatting and playing computer games. I've spent time in my apartment playing on my i-pad, listening to music, watching films and tv, and playing on my Switch.

I've carried on with my usual activities going to Oakwood, working in a café, working out at the gym, swimming, going to the discos and seeing my family every week.

Zoe asked: Do you have any plans coming up?

Paul said: I'm going to the cinema to watch the new Jurassic Park film and having a meal out with my friend Gareth over the weekend. I'd really like to go to watch Macclesfield FC with the tenants here who go, and visit Liverpool FC for a tour and to watch a game.

It sounds like Paul has settled into his new home very nicely indeed.



Amanda Sweetmore (left) HR Administrator and Suzy Wallace (right) - Tenant enjoying a laugh together at the Queen's Jubilee.

A Day of Celebrations at Rossendale Hall

After what seems like forever, we were absolutely thrilled to be able to invite our staff, tenants and service users to a celebration of the Queen's Jubilee. The grounds of Rossendale Hall were alive, filled with chatter, laughter and great music as people from across the Trust gathered for a traditional afternoon tea.

Everyone was treated to a sumptuous selection of sandwiches and cakes and of course tea! Live music was enjoyed by all and many even got up for a dance or two. It was a delight to see the grounds full with people while friends and colleagues enjoyed socialising once again.



Julie Barnes (left) and Sarah Burke (right) - WorkTaste Coaches enjoying a cuppa at the Queen's Jubilee.



Paul Smith (left) Tenant enjoying the Queen's Jubilee with two Oakwood Volunteers.



Jaxx Band entertaining the crowds.



Richard Chapman (left) - Tenant, Louise Coales (centre) - Quality & Compliance Manager and Christine Black (right) - Tenant having a royal good time.

It was a wonderful way to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee and so perfect that we could all do this together as those who were there explained;

"Everyone enjoyed themselves and everyone had a smile on their face! It was so, so nice that we could all be together. It was a brilliant day!"

"I feel lucky to have joined such a lovely, hard-working team! It was lovely to see everyone together enjoying themselves."

"We definitely need more events like this, great for the tenants and great for the staff too. What a lovely day. "

"What a wonderful place to work, with wonderful people! So lovely to be able to celebrate with the staff and tenants. Everyone loved the afternoon and the weather was kind to us!! What a lovely way to spend a day at work!!! "



Thank you to all at Macclesfield Town Council who supported our event.

This event could not have happened without the generous support of **Macclesfield Town Council**. A huge thank you to them and to local businesses **Brown or White Catering & Louise Brown Bakes** for the amazing food and the very talented **Jaxx Band** for entertaining us all.

4 times the winner



David Clifford (top) Group Leader and Lucie Bevan (bottom) Tenant hitting the Manchester streets.

The Rossendale Trust has supported tenant Lucie Bevan to complete her fourth Great Manchester 10k.

Supported by staff member and Group Leader, David Clifford, Lucie was able to experience the fantastic atmosphere that is synonymous with the Manchester event along with thousands of other participants.

David explained that "It is a real honour and pleasure to support Lucie on the Great Manchester 10k. This year we really soaked up the atmosphere. Lucie loves to hear the crowds, the cheers and the music as we move around the course. Crossing the finish line with Lucie and watching as she receives her medal is always a special moment and I feel very proud that we can make this happen for her."

As part of their journey to the finish line, Lucie and David also decided to raise sponsorship for the Trust and have raised over £400. This is fantastic sum of money which will enable us to support other tenants like Lucie in a variety of activities.

Tracey



It is with great sadness that we must share the news that tenant of the Trust Tracey Mathers has recently passed away.

Tracey moved to Rossendale when she was just 21 years of age.

Everyone at the Trust has their own warm memories of Tracey as a lovable character, full of mischief who loved to watch TV shows.

Tracy will be sorely missed by all who knew her and we have no doubt her memory will continue to bring smiles to the faces as as people remember the times they spent together.

If you would like to make a regular or one off donation to the Trust - scan here!



MDD is Back!



We are delighted to be able to welcome back our 'Make a Difference' Day volunteers.

For many years now our 'Make a Difference' Days have been hugely popular with our corporate supporters. Providing their staff an opportunity to step away from the paperwork and make a real difference to a local charity – engaging in team work, physical graft and having a whole lot of fun. When the pandemic took hold, we were unable to welcome these willing teams of volunteers to the Hall and we really have missed them.

There are so many jobs to do around the Hall and grounds to keep it in tip top condition, and without 'Make a Difference' days, we simply can't do it all ourselves. Our first team of enthusiastic volunteers from Astra Zeneca came on a sunny May day and set to work on the outside areas, painting fences, weeding, cutting back the grass and just generally making the grounds a much more pleasant place for tenants and visitors.

Since then we have been joined by more teams from Astra Zeneca and Royal London and we have many more teams lined up over the coming weeks. We have lots for them to do including more outside work, painting, erecting marquees and preparing for our annual Fete on the 14th August at Rossendale Hall (see p13).

Ladies Lunch Mottram Hall



A fabulous time was enjoyed by nearly 100 ladies who attended our Ladies Lunch at Mottram Hall. A wonderful venue for this popular event. Once the doors opened our guests wasted no time, with a glass of fizz in hand, they soon started shopping.

Sue Heaven, Head of Fundraising and PR opened the event with a presentation about the Trust and the services we offer, explaining also how we are funded and where the money from fundraising goes.

The talk clearly resonated with the audience many of whom described us as a "phenomenal charity".

Entertainment was provided by magician Nick Barnes who performed amazing magic tricks at the tables. leaving many of us baffled and questioning "How did he do that?!"

Post lunch the team from SOS Bramhall took to the catwalk to show off their latest summer fashions and of course once they had taken place, there was still more shopping to be done! Ladies spent the afternoon catch-

ing up with friends and colleagues while they browsed the various shopping stalls. It really was a lovely occasion.

This event has raised over £3000 for the Trust and we couldn't be more grateful.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this possible - to our event sponsors **SAS Daniels, Harts Accountants** and **Prism Solutions**. Thank you to our stall holders **SOS Boutique, Jola Designs, VRJJ Candles, Caroline Anthony from Skin Tropics, Bibi Emjay Jewellery, Mal & Kevin Boardman and Jewellery by Deanne**.

Thank you also to magician **Nick Barnes** for entertaining our ladies and **Folk & Tale** who captured some beautiful images of the day.

Finally though ladies, a huge thank you to you all for coming out and supporting the Trust. Without you this event would not have been possible.

The money you have raised will make a real difference to the people we support - thank you!

Oakwood update...



Andy Grainger - Oakwood Service User - celebrates his 50th.

Andy Grainger has been coming to Oakwood now for nearly 20 years and on the 1st July he celebrated his 50th birthday here at Oakwood surrounded by his friends and of course – there was cake!

Jason Blythe, the Oakwood Manager sat down for a brew with Andy:

JB "Happy birthday mate, how do you feel about turning 50?"

AG "I feel alright thanks"

JB "Have you got anything planned?"

AG "I'm not sure yet, I'm going to see my brother in Stockport who has got a surprise for me"

JB "You've been coming to Oakwood now for nearly 20 years, do you like it?"

AG "Oh I do yeah, I love it!"

JB "What's been your favourite moment?"

AG "When I went on a day trip to an Eddie Stobart depot, I've always wanted to do that, and also when I sang karaoke at a Xmas party"

JB "You've seen plenty of changes over the years, what would you like to see at Oakwood in the future?"

AG "I'd love to see the fishing activity return to Oakwood, I loved that!"

JB "Thanks for the catch up Andy, I hope you enjoy the rest of your day"



Annie Mitchell (left) - Service User and Eleanor Dobson (right) - Tenant.

New Activities for July

July saw the start of a refreshed program of activities with some exciting new additions on offer. Every year we survey attendees, asking for feedback and whether there is anything that we don't currently offer that people would like to see on our timetable.

We had some great suggestions and have managed to implement 3 new activities, a healthy cookery session focusing solely on healthy meals, a tabletop games session and an indoor multi-sports session in association with Macclesfield Community Sports Trust. July has also seen the return of our drama sessions and the group activity at the farm to work with the animals.

As you can see from the pictures, the new groups are all very well attended and everyone is enjoying the the variety of opportunities that are available.

We asked people in the table top games session what they thought:

Eleanor confirmed "It's good, a brilliant idea" and Chris agreed "It's good fun"

We feel very fortunate to be able to offer everyone who attends a wide variety of activities and to cater for everyone's interests. By constantly reviewing and adding new activities we are also able to make more space for new people to access Oakwood and meet the ever-growing demand for our service.



Emma Heard (left) - Service User and Ashley Rose (right) - Tenant enjoying some fish & chips on a narrowboat.



Sam Bates (right) - Oakwood service user enjoys some indoor hockey with his friends.

Adam's Theatre

Adam has spent several weeks in his Wednesday afternoon art session working with one of our volunteers Felicya on a project that is close to his heart. Adam is a huge fan of the theatre and musicals and wanted to create his very own stage, with the support of Felicya and his dedication you can see from this picture what a fabulous piece of work he has achieved!

Now for his directorial debut!



Donna Leesom and Toby Eyres at Buckingham Palace.

Toby Eyre recently received a Royal invitation to a Buckingham Palace garden party in recognition of his phenomenal fundraising. Toby has completed an amazing 16 London Marathons and each time has raised money for The Rossendale Trust.

As part of his fundraising efforts, Toby, a motor cross enthusiast, organises an annual Tower Trophy Charity Trial race at Sutton Common. Over the 16 years Toby has been fundraising for the Trust he has raised tens of thousands of pounds.

During his visit to the Buckingham Palace, Toby was fortunate enough to meet HRH Duke of Cambridge, Prince William and a host of celebrities as well.

Sue Heaven, Head of P.R & Fundraising at the Trust said "Toby first visited the Trust as a boy scout many years ago. Having seen the impact of the work that we do, Toby has remained a loyal supporter since that time. It takes a huge commitment to train and run a marathon and to raise sponsorship, but to do this for 16 years really is an exceptional achievement. We are delighted that Toby has received this very special recognition from Buckingham Palace, we couldn't think of anyone more deserving of this."

Toby is not ready to hang up his trainers yet as he has already started fundraising for his 17th London Marathon taking place on October 2nd this year!! If you would like to donate to Toby's fundraising then you can do so here -

www.justgiving.com/campaign/rossendalerunlondon2022



Emily Haworth (left) - Tenant, Jane Hitchener (centre) - Oakwood Activity Leader and Leah Preston - Oakwood Activity Leader are all smiles at the Queen's Jubilee.

More great photos
in next month's
edition of
RossenTales



Barry Haines - Tenant feeding the sheep over in Buxton.



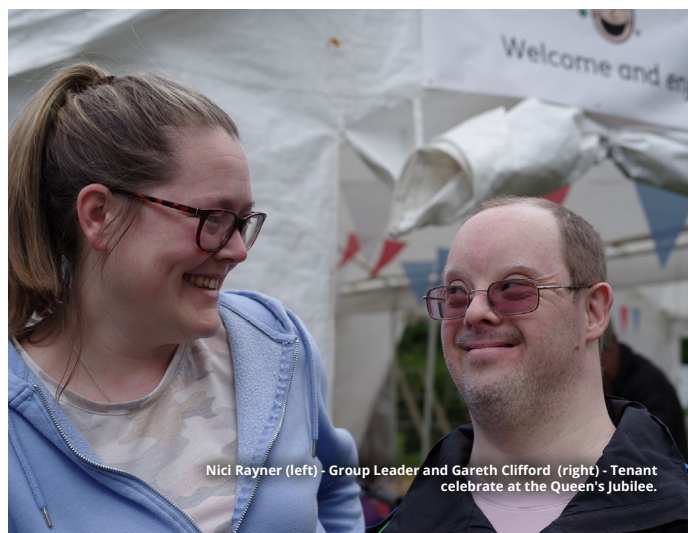
Richard Johnson (left) - Tenant and Linda Pass (right) - Senior Care Support Worker dance the Queens Jubilee away.



Mark Goodwin (left) - Tenant and Lauren Whittaker (right) - Care Support Worker at the Queen's Jubilee.



Gareth Clifford (left) - Tenant and Loraine Carey (right) - Care Support Worker enjoying some summer sun.



Nici Rayner (left) - Group Leader and Gareth Clifford (right) - Tenant celebrate at the Queen's Jubilee.



Eleanor Dobson - Tenant serves up a pasta meal.

We continue to get great photos of our tenants from right across the Trust, supplied to us by our care teams & staff. Here are a selection of just a few, many more can be seen on our FaceBook pages:

[@TheRossendaleTrust](https://www.facebook.com/TheRossendaleTrust)



Our wonderful fete is back after a BIG sleep. We are shaking off the dust from our banners and finding what we need to make this year's event one to remember!

We are fortunate to have permission to park on Farmer Barber's field opposite the hall which will enable us to fill all of the grounds with fabulous stalls and activities and provide plenty of off-road parking for all our visitors.

We have something for everyone! Our popular tombola, of course. The BBQ which is sponsored and run by a team from local businesses this year. Children's rides and games, coconut shy, plant sales, cream teas, cake stall, beer tent and many other supporting stalls.

And don't forget our Grand Prize Draw which has an amazing first prize of a half carat diamond pendant (worth £1600) and of course lots of other fabulous prizes. Tickets are only £1 each or £5 a book. You got to be in it to win it!

Tickets will be available on the day or you can purchase them now from reception at Rossendale Hall or online by visiting <https://rossendaletrust.org/raffletickets/>

We need your help to make it a **BIG SUCCESS!** Can you donate something towards the tombola perhaps? Or bake something for the cake stall? Or even volunteer a few hours of your time on the day? We would love to hear from you. Please leave your contributions and details at reception if you can or email - info@rossendaletrust.org. Thank You!



Walk 9k with your K9 in August and raise money for the Trust. Sign up here:

www.rossendaletrust.org/events/wagathon/

Fashion Show

Featuring staff and tenants as catwalk models

THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 29TH
DOORS OPEN 6.30 PM
SHOW STARTS AT 7.30 PM

**Tickets
£10**



**Masonic Hall, Riseley Street,
Macclesfield SK10 1BW**

Includes welcome drink. With clothing supplied by SOS Boutique and Marks & Spencer. Many other interesting stalls!

We are thrilled to confirm the return of our Fashion Show featuring staff and tenants from The Rossendale Trust. Definitely one of our most popular fundraising events, we hope you can join us as we celebrate our return to the catwalk.

This year the show will take place at the Masonic Hall, Riseley Street, Macclesfield. Working in conjunction with **SOS Boutique**, Bramhall and **Marks and Spencers**, Handforth Dean, our models will be dressed to impress in the latest autumn fashions.

Tickets are £10 and include a glass of fizz on arrival. The doors open at 6.30 p.m. for a bit of pre-show shopping. We will be joined by a variety of businesses on the evening – clothes, accessories, jewellery and giftware will all be available to buy.

The fashion show will feature our tenants supported by staff (or is it the other way round)? On the catwalk from 7.30 p.m. each tenant will be walking out to their chosen song or theme tune. The show is all about celebrating those people that we support, as they confidently take centre stage on the catwalk.

Put the date in your diaries, it's an event not to be missed. Tickets can now be purchased via our website - Fashion Show Tickets www.rossendaletrust.org/events

Tenants forum goes digital

Tenants from around the Trust got together in June for the first Tenants Forum since before Covid. Some joined in person, others on Teams.

Everyone gave a snapshot of what's been happening where they live, how Covid and the isolation it brought made them feel, what they've been up to recently, what they'd like to do, and what they knew about the Trustees.

Some of the ideas for future activities were more parties, a return of our annual Fashion Show, a 2022 Bake off as well as many other brilliant ideas. The tenants who joined in enjoyed the mixture of Teams and face to face, and the easy read agenda made it easy for them all to follow what was happening and join in on the conversation, making sure their views were heard. We all look forward to the next meeting.



Andrea Wright (left) - Registered Manager & Head of Supported Living presenting at the Tenants Forum.

Celebrating Success at WorkTaste



Jessica Kennedy (left) - Tytherington Club, George Malkin (centre) - WorkTaste participant and Julie Barnes (right) WorkTaste Coach.

WorkTaste really does make a difference to the people we support, and the successes achieved by our Supported Interns over the last 12 months is proof of this.

Since September 2021 we have been supporting young people from Macclesfield College and Cheshire South & West College to gain experience in the workplace. All the people we have supported have had hurdles to overcome so that they can feel confident and comfortable in the workplace, working alongside colleagues and contributing to the business.

As result of their hard work, commitment, and enthusiasm to learn we are delighted and so very proud to share news that many of our interns have now secured paid employment, volunteer roles or are undergoing interviews for employment. They are all ready and able to move on without the support of a WorkTaste coach and to now become independent in the workplace.

So, from everyone at the Trust, congratulations to;

- Ella Clarkson – now employed as a receptionist at The Rossendale Trust
- George Malkin – now employed in the café bar at the Tytherington Club
- Josh Prior – now working in the canteen at Siemens
- Bradley Jones – now working at Alvaston Hall as a porter
- Connor Murphy – now volunteering at British Heart Foundation
- Jack Langford – now working at Marks & Spencer
- Michael Swales – now working at Swansway
- Nathan Slinn – now working with Compass Group, catering providers at Bentley Motors, Crewe
- Tom Crockford – now working at Taste 4 Life café, Everybody Leisure, Crewe
- Samuel Knight – now working as an Archiving Assistant at The Rossendale Trust
- Claire Kent – Currently going through an interview/induction process for Screwfix
- Adam Parker – now working at Henry's café in Prestbury.
- Andrew Couperthwaite – undergoing an interview for a kitchen assistant role at Macclesfield College
- Vicky Frith – has successfully completed her internship at Cleaning Team
- Jimmy Plant – has successfully completed his internship at Alderford Lake

Colin Gillespie – WorkTaste Manager

Wedding bells



Congratulations to Laura and Jason who tied the knot on June 25th.

Laura's brother Ben Hayes is a tenant at the Trust and has benefited from taking part in WorkTaste placements including at the café bar in Arighi Bianchi and working at B&Q.

Laura and Jason very kindly asked their wedding guests to make donations to the Trust in lieu of wedding gifts and as a result over £3000 has been raised. This money will support WorkTaste and future placements for our tenants.

Laura said "We had the absolute best time on Saturday (at our wedding) - Ben was on the dance floor all night. I am so grateful to everyone who has donated so kindly".

From everyone here at the Trust many congratulations and thank you!

Did you know?

Oakwood support over 100 individuals every week to participate in activity sessions.

BECOME A WORKTASTE COACH

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disabilities to enter
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Or call 01260 251509

£500

*Full T&C's can be found www.rossendaletrust.org/work-for-us/TCWT



Find out more at: www.rossendaletrust.org/work-for-us

This month's Fantastic 5 lottery has been drawn.
It's a great way of supporting the Trust during lock-
down and at anytime.

The lucky winners - your cheques are on their way!

If you would like a chance to win one of 5 fantastic

cash prizes - *you can sign up by visiting*

www.rossendaletrust.org/fantastic-5-sign-up-page/



The Rossendale Trust



Supported Living



Oakwood



WorkTaste

RossenTales Online is published by The Rossendale Trust. If you have any comments about the newsletter please get in touch. Write to Karl Downing at the address (right) or email karl.downing@rossendaletrust.org

VISION

To create an environment in which people can develop and grow, enabling them to have ownership of their own lives and futures.

MISSION

To meet the needs of people in our care by supporting them to live a full and meaningful life.

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