

August 2023



A newsletter from Rossendale Trust

RossenTales

The **NEW** and much **IMPROVED** Trust website is now live please visit & spread the word [Rossendaletrust.org](https://www.rossendaletrust.org)



50th Anniversary Garden Party Edition

Rossendale Trust

50
YEARS
ANNIVERSARY



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Hello, and welcome to our August newsletter.

I'm not sure where to start with my introduction to such a jam packed edition of RossenTales. There is so much great work going on at Rossendale that it has to be shared with all of our friends, relatives, staff and supporters. We are part way through our 50th Anniversary celebrations and the special events which have taken place so far have been a wonderful success and there are still more events to come!

In this edition you will see some lovely photos capturing the tenants, staff, families and friends enjoying these special occasions and helping us all to celebrate 50 years of The Rossendale Trust. Also, there are some lovely photos of 'then and now' - there may be some faces you recognise!

As usual we have some great articles from WorkTaste and Oakwood and of course our wonderful fundraisers.

But there is also a lot going on behind the scenes to support our service improvements; please take a look at our brand new website, we hope you like it and find it easier to navigate through – this is just part of our transformation!

I hope you enjoy reading this special edition and thank you to all of you for your continued support. Best wishes.

-Andrea Wright - Registered Manager & Head of Supported Living

A huge congratulations to Debra Thorlby and Rosie Bourne who collectively celebrated an unbelievable 55 years of service at the Trust recently. Debra has worked for the Trust for 35 years and Rosie for 20 years.





King's Coronation Celebrations

The tenants' activity fund gave all tenants across the Trust the opportunity to celebrate the King's Coronation in May.

Each location chose how they wanted to mark this Royal occasion. From afternoon teas at Riverside to a Karaoke Party at Canalside and everything in between - a great weekend was had by all.

Occasions like this really highlight the importance of the activity fund and how it can be used to provide opportunities and experiences for our tenants. Our Summer Fete and Fashion Show allow us to fund-raise for the activity fund and your support at these events is vital and makes a real difference.



Happy New Home

The Trust recognised that due to changing health & mobility needs two of our tenants would benefit from changing their accommodation. Ricky from Canalside View made the move to Bank Street and Andrea from Maple Avenue moved to Rose Gardens. Both moves have been a complete success and Ricky and Andrea are very happy in their new homes - as I am sure you will see from the pictures!





Interviews

Our Tenant's Forum gives our tenants an opportunity to talk about things they would like to see happen at the Trust.

At a recent forum some tenants expressed how they would like to be involved with interviewing for new support staff; helping to get the questions ready and coming up with their own questions to ask the candidates.

Fiona Mason from Rose Gardens was very keen to get involved and has assisted with several interviews recently saying that after her initial nerves it felt fantastic asking the questions and getting to meet new people. When asked if she would like to continue helping with the interviews, she gave a resounding 'yes, definitely – it's good having a say who comes to work here'.



In May, Rosemount Lodge (a Macclesfield based health service for people with learning disabilities) got in touch and asked if any tenants would like to assist them with their interviews for a new Health Facilitator. Christine Black from Riverside spent a morning with the team at Rosemount; discussing what questions they would ask and what answers Christine would like to hear before the candidates arrived. Christine thoroughly enjoyed the process and is looking forward to returning when they are next interviewing.



Gayna, Raymond and Neil, tenants living in Buxton, all recently enjoyed a holiday to Poulton-Le-Fylde.

Whilst away they all got to enjoy some of their favourite things. Ray enjoyed the trip to the zoo and getting up close to the giraffes. Gayna made full use of the hot tub back at the holiday cottage, laughing and splashing around in there and Neil enjoyed his walks around Blackpool and dining out.



The weather was very kind to them with plenty of ice cream being enjoyed and a trip to the arcades.





Speed of Sight

Ben & Ashley enjoyed a day at Seven Sisters Racing Circuit in Wigan with Speed of Sight.

Speed of Sight is an organisation committed to the promotion of opportunity for people of all abilities. They believe that people who can take part in a sporting or physical activity find that it helps with their self-esteem, social interaction, and physical and mental wellbeing. They provide a motor sport experience for people with disabilities. John Clifford supported Ben & Ashley for the day and arriving ahead of time they all enjoyed an ice lolly each before meeting the track staff & driving instructors.

Ben and Ash were given the choice of driving either a Caterham or a Buggy – both chose the Buggy. After the track safety talk they were suited up and fitted for helmets – it was then time to get behind the wheel! The next half hour was spent getting to grips with the cars and gaining confidence behind the wheel.

Once the racing had finished, they were indulged with the full racing driver experience and interviewed & filmed by the 'Track Reporters'.

Rossendale Fete
Sunday 6th August 2023
12 - 4pm

**BBQ-Cakes-
 Cream Teas-Raffle-Tombola-
 lots of great stalls and much more..**
 All in aid of the Rossendale Trust

**Adults £1
 Children free**

Rossendale Hall, Hollin Lane, Macclesfield, Cheshire, SK110HR
WWW.ROSSENDALETRUST.ORG
 Reg. Charity No. 1146771

**Golden
 Golf Day!**
**Saturday
 16th September 2023**
**Marton Meadows Golf
 Club, Marton, SK11
 9HF**

**BBQ
 Kids Fun Zone
 Fun Golf
 Games
 Trophy for
 Winning Team**

First Tee-off at 13:00.

**Raising
 funds for:**

 **The Rossendale Trust**

Find out more & to book your tee time
www.rossendaletrust.org/events
 Reg. Charity No. 1146771

**50
 YEARS
 ANNIVERSARY**

Anniversary Garden Party



Golden Garden Party Celebrations

We managed to order the weather for our Golden Garden Party in July. Having chosen the only dry day that week, the grounds of Rossendale Hall were quickly filled with sunshine and laughter. Staff, tenants and supporters from the local community all joined together as we celebrated 50 years of the Trust.

A delicious afternoon tea was served and guests enjoyed the live music from the very talented Charley Farley's band. There was plenty of singing and dancing as everyone reminisced and shared their memories of the Trust. Guests enjoyed leafing through our collections of photographs from over the years and recognising familiar faces from the past.

Thank you to all who came along to help us mark our 50th birthday. It really was a memorable day and a fitting way to recognise the achievements of the Trust over the last 50 years.

Then and now...



Anniversary Garden Party



Then and now...



WorkTaste updates



Adam Hipwell is a keen supporter of Macclesfield Football Club where he has recently returned to commence a new WorkTaste placement.

Adam is working with Macclesfield Community Sports Trust who run Junior Football Tournaments with local schools in the Cheshire East area on a Wednesday afternoon. Adam helps with the pitch set up, wheeling the nets on to the pitch and manoeuvring them into the correct position. He sorts the bibs, cones and mats into separate colours for the different school teams and also takes footballs to each of the mini pitches that have been set up. Adam is growing in confidence each week.

Adam is developing his health and safety awareness; Lee Folkard, Head of Macclesfield FC Community Sports Trust has worked alongside Adam to show him how to move and position the heavy nets safely. He is also learning how the main pitch is divided into smaller pitches for the tournament and going forwards, Adam hopes to become more involved in setting these up.

Danny Whitaker is a particular hero of Adam's and he has been fortunate to meet him during his placement. As Head of Player Development, Danny is responsible for the Academy training sessions that follow the Junior Tournaments. Adam has helped Danny and some of the Academy Coaches with preparing equipment and he loves to learn about all the different equipment that is used in these training sessions.

Adam's WorkTaste Coach, Lisa Miller, has been impressed with how he listens and follows instructions, uses initiative to organise the bibs by colour as well as into junior or adult sizes. 'Adam is thoroughly enjoying being part of the Macclesfield FC community, he always has a big smile on his face, is enthusiastic and willing to help with any task.'

Lisa Miller – WorkTaste Coach



Chris Welch started working at Bear Grills Café, Congleton in December 2022 where he quickly fitted in and learnt to wrap cutlery in napkins, clear and clean tables, take orders on the iPad, make drinks, deliver food and dry pots.

Sarah Burke, WorkTaste Coach commented 'Chris always remembers his work-related routines and tasks. He has fitted into the team really well and looks forward to his work. He has got to know a few regulars now and easily interacts with new customers offering his usual friendly welcome and smile'.

Mark Winder, owner says 'Chris has taken his new job in his stride, being well-presented, giving a warm smile and a welcome to everyone. The placement has been an ideal opportunity for Chris to learn new skills, interact with staff and customers, he has been fantastic and never turns down a job. Chris is an integral part of the team and has a good sense of humor, he loves a sausage and hash brown sandwich for lunch. Chris maintains a high standard of service to ensure the customer gets the best experience'.

Mark and Bear Grills Café have been linked to The Rossendale Trust for a number of years and love to give opportunities to WorkTaste.

Chris says, 'I enjoy my job and miss it when I am unable to come. It's a good job and I've learnt new skills.'

Sarah Burke – WorkTaste Coach

Oakwood updates



Pilates gets sensory

Oakwood are currently in the process of reviewing all of their activities. The first session under the microscope was Pilates.

Jason Blythe, Oakwood Manager, sat down with the Pilates group and asked them how they would like to see the session develop. Some really great ideas were shared, and the group decided that they would like to add a sensory element to the session. From this feedback, we have now incorporated some sensory features designed to help the group chill out and relax before their Pilates class begins.

The group now have a range of equipment to relax with including head massagers, candles, and light projectors, with even more equipment on the way!

This all came about from the group sharing ideas and deciding what they want their session to look like. Watch this space for more changes as our activity reviews continue!



Volunteer Interview

Simone, Oakwood Activity Leader in the Art room sat down with Felicya who volunteers two mornings a week with the art groups:

Simone "Hi Fel, how long have you been volunteering with the Trust?"

Felicya "Just over a year now"

Simone "Where do you spend your time here?"

Felicya "In the art room offering support with the members of the group"

Simone "What did you do before?"

Felicya "I was an arts therapist and I took commissions"

Simone "What's been your favourite moment so far?"

Felicya "Meeting all the great people involved with the Trust"



Don't be Shy!

Recently Paul Smith and Helen Martin helped to run a coconut shy at the Bollin Valley Countryside Taster Day, run by the Bollin Valley Partnership.

The event is designed to offer people living with a disability a taste of activities that can be accessed in the community, such as archery & crafts and also to have fun playing games such as the coconut shy.

The event has been on hold since 2018 and it was great to see it back. Oakwood over the years have been annual visitors to the day and always loved it.

The event relies on volunteers so without Paul and Helen's help, assisted by Workstate coach Julie and Oakwood Activity Leader Laura, the day just wouldn't be the same, great work guys!

Fundraising News

It's been a busy few months in the fundraising department with running events galore taking place.

Since our last edition of RossenTales we are delighted to announce that Lucie Bevan, completed the London Landmarks Half Marathon, supported by staff members David Clifford and Susanne Tidswell. The team had an amazing day, running through the streets of London which were lined with supporters cheering them on every step of the way. They even managed a few cheeky selfies with the celebrities on the start line too!!



All together the Trust had 6 participants in the run including Judith Nicholson, Fiona Howlett and Catherine Mitchell and collectively they raised over £5600 for the Trust. Thank you to everyone who took part and supported this event, it really was a memorable day for all.

And then a few weeks later we returned to London to support our Marathon runners. Our team of 3 consisted of veteran marathon runner Torbjorn Eyre (Toby), Robert Kenyon and Frank Wadsworth. The event saw Toby complete his 20th London Marathon for the Trust, this year dressed as St George!

We were delighted to see all three runners safely cross the finish line and receive their well-earned medals. A huge achievement from them all as they collectively raised over £11,000 for the Trust. We are so very proud of everyone who took part and very grateful for the support they received. The money raised will help us to continue to support adults with learning disabilities in the workplace as part of our WorkTaste project.

Back to Macclesfield we headed a few weeks later, where local run club, the Rundamentalists, organised a

charity run with proceeds being donated to the Trust. Founder of the Rundamentalists and local PT Matthew Rigby set two challenging routes for the runners, starting and finishing at Rossendale Hall. A 9 km trail route headed up Tower Hill before the 5 km runners set off but they weren't given a easy route as they tackled the hills around Sutton. After the race it was back to Rossendale Hall for some well-earned refreshments including cakes baked by our Oakwood baking group. Runners also received a truckle of Cheshire Cheese kindly donated by the Cheshire Cheese Company. The event raised £1000 for the Trust – thank you to all involved and everyone who supported the event. We hope to welcome the Rundamentalists back to Rossendale Hall again in the future.

If you are feeling inspired by all these tales of running we have places available for our supporters to take part in next year's London Landmarks Half Marathon (Sunday 7th April) and in the London Marathon (Sunday 21st April). Please email susanne.tidswell@rossendaletrust.org for more details.



Time for lunch and beers...



So, after the running events of April, May brought in the lunches and beer!!

May 4th, saw the ladies return to Mottram Hall Hotel for their annual Ladies Lunch event. This sell out event is now a regular in the diaries of ladies all over Cheshire. The St Andrews Suite was filled with laughter and chatter as 100 ladies all came together to enjoy an afternoon of fizz, fine food and a little bit of shopping.



Ladies listened to an empowering speech from Amaka Lawton, founder of Alpha Omega WPS Foundation after which they were treated to a sumptuous 2 course lunch. A fashion show followed hosted by SOS Boutique, Bramhall and an array of local businesses offered guests plenty of opportunity to browse and shop.



The event raised over £5600 for the Trust and was very generously sponsored by Harts Accountants and SAS Daniels Solicitors.

MACC BEER FEST

And then the following weekend families, friends and beer aficionados all came together to enjoy Macc Beer Fest. And what a weekend it was! The sun was shining (for once) and record numbers of people attended the festival. With over 100 beers to choose from, ciders and even a gin and prosecco bar, people were literally drinking for charity!!

The Trust were delighted to be chosen as the charity to benefit from this year's event. £15,000 was raised from the event and will go towards a replacement meeting room for attendees of Trust's Oakwood activities. The current hub is in a poor state of repair so this will make a real difference to the people who attend the service.

An enormous amount of work goes into organising Macc Beer Fest which is run by the very hardworking and committed volunteers of the Macclesfield Beer Festival Committee and Macclesfield Round Table. The event could not take place without the generosity of its sponsors including this year's main sponsors SAS Daniels, Cheshire Pub Company and Spiral and also without the fantastic volunteers who give their free time to pull some pints. Thank you to everyone involved.

Golden Ball Celebrations



Wow, what an evening we had at our highly anticipated Golden Ball fundraising event. The evening certainly exceeded all expectations, raising an outstanding sum of over £20,000.

The Golden Ball was held to commemorate our 50th anniversary. The Trust has grown significantly over those years and this has been due to the continued support of the local community. The Ball gave us an opportunity to thank all those individuals, businesses, organisations and supporters who have helped us to reach this incredible milestone.



Held in the grand surroundings of Macclesfield Town Hall over 100 attendees, including local businesses, donors, and supporters all came together to celebrate and help make a difference to the work of the Trust. Paul Smith, a tenant at the Trust was on hand to welcome guests with a refreshing glass of fizz. The evening was filled with glamour, entertainment, and heartfelt stories from the Trust, creating an unforgettable experience for all. Guests were treated to a delightful evening of fine dining, live music, a raffle, silent auction and live auction, all made possible as a result of very generous donations from local businesses and individuals.





"We are absolutely delighted by the overwhelming success of the Golden Ball fundraiser," expressed Sue Heaven, Head of PR & Fundraising. "The funds raised will significantly enhance our ability to provide essential support, empowering adults with learning disabilities to live fulfilling lives and reach their full potential. We extend our deepest gratitude to everyone who contributed to this momentous achievement."



Fore! No, Five Thousand pounds

We recently received a cheque for over £5000 from Macclesfield Golf Club to help support the essential work that we do here at the Trust.

Rita Barton, Lady Captain of the Golf Club for the 2022/23 season, chose to support the Trust during her year of captaincy and said she "was delighted with the amount raised" and thanked all members of the Golf Club for their invaluable support during her term. Sue Heaven, Head of PR & Fundraising at the Rossendale Trust was invited to the Golf Club to receive a cheque and explained how much this donation means to everyone at the charity, "2023, sees us celebrate our 50th anniversary, a milestone we could not have reached without the support of our local community including organisations like Macclesfield Golf Club. So, thank you everyone who has supported the Captain and Lady Captain over the last 12 months."

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