



# SDS



SOUTHAMPTON  
CITY COUNCIL

December 2023

Issue No. 21

Christmas Jumper Day



## Merry Christmas



from all of us



### A Note From The Editor

Welcome to our Special Edition Christmas Issue!

This issue we have Wayne Taylor taking to the skies, a dress made of poppies and a Halloween Fundraiser!

Paul Smith  
Project Officer

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### A Note From Our Leader

As another year draws to an end and we look forward to the festivities it's good to take time to look back on the events of the year, to celebrate the good and think of those we have lost.

The Art exhibition, the boat trips, the Coronation picnic, cinema trips and the Bournemouth weekend trip to mention but a few.

It was with sadness at the loss of our dear Gilly.

We are also saying good bye to Beth as she embarks on a career in education.

Alison Gilroy  
Team Manager

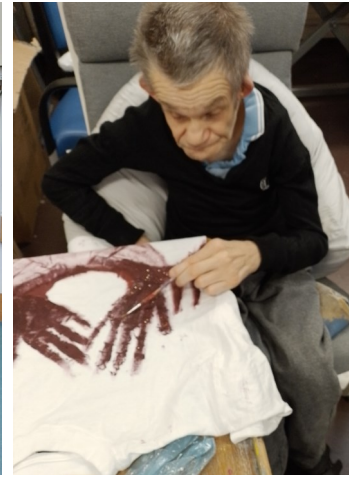


**Christmas Closure**  
Our last day is  
Friday 22nd December  
We return on  
Tuesday 2nd January

SCC Christmas Jumper Competition is held every year. We've been lucky enough to win twice in the past, and this year third time's the charm as we've gone and done it again!

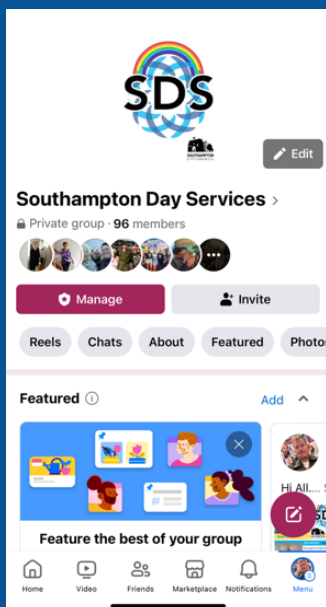
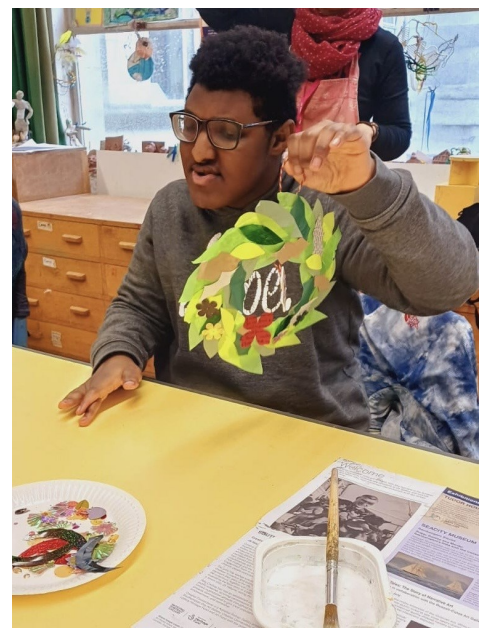
This photo was taken at WCC and the fantastic festive banner was made in Jane's embroidery group by our service users. Well done all!

# Christmas T-shirt Competition Marie Basham





We were very lucky to be invited to an Xmas wreath workshop at Southampton Art Gallery. As you can see everyone had a lot of fun making their own unique Xmas wreath, and you have to agree, they all look AMAZING! Well done guys!



## Facebook Community

Have you joined our Facebook Community? This is a great way to keep in touch over the festive period. All you need to do is search for 'Southampton Day Services', click on the page and request to join. Once accepted you are in a safe space online where only members can see anything that is posted.



# Wayne Taylor Takes To The Skies



## Up, Up & Away! *Wayne Taylor & Beth Mckie*

On Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September I completed a 10,000ft Skydive to raise money for the Southampton Hospital Charity where I raised just over £500.

With me I brought a minion in memory of my late friend Gillian, to accompany me on my skydive which was an honour to do.

Watching from the field below was my mum, brother and sister, my brother-in-law and niece, as well as Beth who attended from Day Service.

My experience was out of this world. I was so excited beforehand that I didn't even get to think about being nervous, and when I completed the skydive I could have done it all over again, the adrenaline was incredible.

I am proud of my achievement and to have raised the money I did with the support of my family, SDS friends and my Asda colleagues. Thank you all for your support it was the best!!



*'My favorite part was as I jumped I shouted "I'm flying without wings!"' -Wayne Taylor*



*Richard Savage & Paul Smith*

## Richard the Brave!

Richard has finally overcome his struggle with anxiety to be able to have the surgery he has attempted for many years now. With support from myself & Rosie from the LD Team, he was able to completely turn this into a positive, telling everyone when he would finally be rid of the lump on his face.

Well done Richard, we are so proud!

*'I feel so proud!'*  
**-Richard Savage**

## Buckler's Hard *By Karen Stevens*



I saw that Bucklers Hard had an offer for a free trip to their museum so myself, Agi, Marie, Nariman, ND, Laura and Lynsey went for a day out. We had a look around the museum which everyone found really interesting and especially enjoyed the pub display, great place for a photo opportunity!!

We had lunch by the river which gave us a beautiful view. We found the place very relaxing and peaceful; everyone thoroughly enjoyed the day.

Naomi's mum left me a message thanking me for a lovely day, she said ND went home very happy and seemed to enjoy.

Nariman enjoyed the sensory part of it; listening to the audio speakers, touching the chains and the ropes in the museum.

When we got back to the car park we saw some classic cars, one of them looked like Chitty Chitty Bang Bang. On the journey back we saw cows with a baby. I would like to visit there again. I would say to others to go and visit.



## SCC Christmas Toy Appeal *By Karen Stevens & Toni Hodge*



On Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November in the evening myself, Marie, Megan, Olivia, Mikey and Nikki attended the toy appeal, choosing gifts for children in need. We all had so much fun!!

On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December we attended the toy appeal with Shalinder, Malcolm and Sarah. We were choosing gifts for children of different ages. We had to choose a book, a soft toy and a craft activity and a few more age appropriate items. We all felt a sense of achievement and were very proud to be part of it.

Sarah and Shalinder worked together selecting toys and books, smellies for different age ranges, and Mike our volunteer worked with Malcolm to select different presents for teenagers.

They all really enjoyed themselves with the process of selecting presents from a vast range of donations.

Malcolm did say that he had really enjoyed the experience as did Shalinder and Sarah. They also enjoyed the refreshment facilities in the kitchen.

It was a morning well spent.



We had a fantastic time contributing to the Christmas Toy Appeal 2023!

It was a lovely approach to help spread the festive cheer to Southampton's vulnerable children and young people.

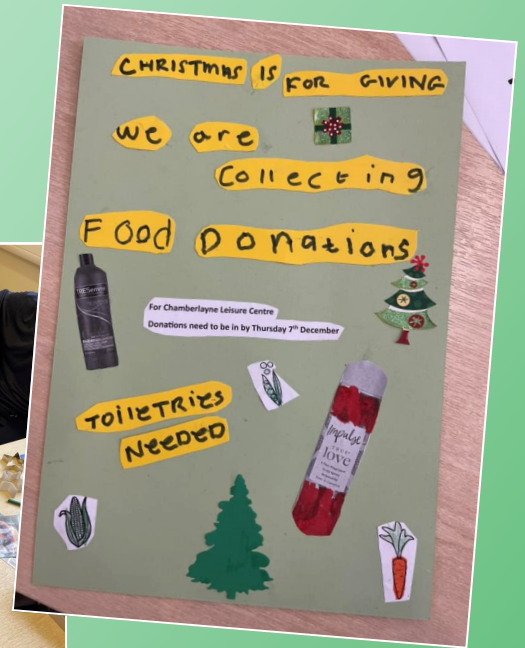
We picked and chose gifts for every individual person, we even helped wrap them.

Callum said "This is my first year doing the toy appeal. I loved helping and would like to come back next year".

We wish everyone supported by Southampton's Childrens Services a very merry Christmas!

*This was my first year doing the toy appeal. I loved helping and would like to come back next year.'* –Callum Er

Laura & I have been supporting a group with litter picking out in the community, and collecting food and delivering to the food bank 'Feed The Community Project'



*'I really wanted to help at the food bank. I enjoyed talking to the other volunteers.'*  
**-Megan Ward**

*'I enjoyed going to donate the food at the food bank because it was a good thing to do. I had a lovely cup of tea!'*  
**-Emma Harder**



*'I really loved helping to take the food to the food bank.'*  
**-Monica Petty**

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*'I liked litter picking around Woolston and felt good, it was a good thing to do.'*  
**-Megan Ward**

*'Loved it!' (litter picking)*  
**-Richard Wyatt**





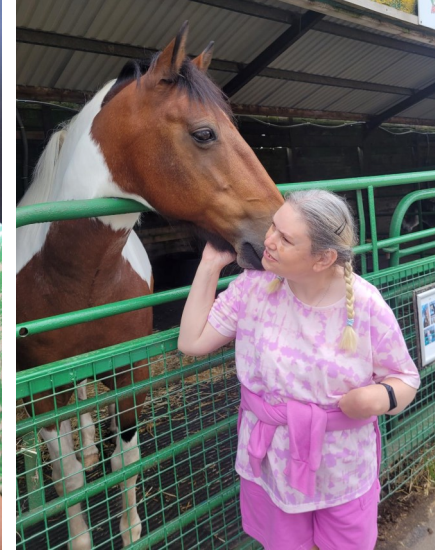
## Longdown Activity Farm *Abby Grant*



A few pictures from our recent visit to Longdown Activity Farm. The ladies had a really good day. Emma enjoyed the tractor ride so much we had to go on twice! The driver let her sit up in the cab too. I think this made her day!



*'My favourite animal was the baby chick'*  
– Lindsey Shirley



*'I love it there, I would like to go back again. My favourite part of the day was spending time with the guinea pigs and the horses, I even had a cuddle from one horse'*  
– Theresa Hayes

*'I liked feeding the calves and the baby goats, but my favourite part of the day was the tractor rides, I went on it twice and I was even allowed to sit in the drivers cab'* – Emma Harder

We all had a great day and good weather too. Longdown Activity Farm is great value for money.

## Remembrance Day *By Karen Stevens*

We were talking in the art group about future projects. Sarah Parsons suggested we do something for Remembrance Day. I had remembered a conversation we had had previously about doing a dress out of poppies. I spoke to Agi who came up with some ideas and this was our project for the next few weeks in our Wednesday art session. However everyone got involved and decorated a poppy for the dress.

*'Yeah, it was good. I did some colouring of the poppies. I coloured them red, purple for the animals, white and black.'*  
–Baljinder Gill

*'SP it was very lovely. It was so unusual, it was a lovely display. I am glad we did it.'* –Sarah Parsons



# Halloween Fundraiser *By Lisa Wolf*



On the 30<sup>th</sup> October we held a fundraising Halloween themed coffee & cake afternoon at Woolston Community Centre to raise money for the Countess Mountbatten Hospice charity. The afternoon was a great success and it was lovely to see lots of people there, including some old faces.

Everyone put lots of effort in making decorations for the event and they looked amazing. Everyone was very generous and we raised a total of £190.75!



Go Yellow  
Hospice at  
Mountbatten

## Big Yellow Tea Party

Together we raised

£ **190.75**

Thank you!

[www.mountbatten-hampshire.org.uk](http://www.mountbatten-hampshire.org.uk)

Twitter Facebook Instagram

“Getting help from Mountbatten was the best thing I ever did.”

**Stephen, 65, has primary lateral sclerosis, a rare form of motor neurone disease (MND). A year ago, he started getting support from the rehabilitation team at Mountbatten.**



### Many thanks to newsletter contributors:

Marie Basham (*Development Officer*), Sam O'Donnell (*Development Officer*), Wayne Taylor (*Service User*), Beth McKie (*Development Officer*), Marie McGovern (*Development Officer*), Karen Stevens (*Development Officer*), Toni Hodge (*Development Officer*), Richard Savage (*Service User*), Sarah Parsons (*Service User*), Claire York (*Development Officer*), Abby Grant (*Development Officer*), Lynsey Lodwidge (*Service User*), Lisa Wolf (*Project Officer*).

