



## WITH LOVE FROM THE TEAM

Hi!

Aren't we glad that cold weather is behind us and Summer is definitely on its way? I think we are all a bit more cheerful when the sun shines and it's lovely getting up in the morning when it is already light.

We are also very happy because we have moved out of the storage unit in Ray Street in to lovely light new offices on New North Parade

We have been very busy since last September when we came back to sessions and since then we have introduced to you at least two new tutors, Kim and Jo, who have brought new activities with them.

We are very excited because we have been awarded funding that will support all our specially focussed Jubilee activities over June, culminating in a lovely afternoon tea with refreshments and entertainment on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July. This will be an opportunity for all our friends to gather together to celebrate Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee – a remarkable achievement. Not many of us will remember a time when she wasn't our sovereign.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Love Susanna and teamxxxx

## Student News – a message from Danniella and Mark



What a wonderful 6 weeks we have had meeting all the staff, volunteers and members of the Aspire groups. Thank you for welcoming us both into your sessions and making our first placement such an enjoyable experience. Aspire has set the bar high for the standard we are expecting on our future placements!! We are returning to our current employers alongside university, with knowledge and first hand experience of how vital groups like Aspire are to our community. Not to forget the many conversations about how much of a lifeline this service really is to many of you that attend.

As Occupational Therapy apprentices we are aware of the vast and ever emerging roles that an Occupational Therapist can insert themselves into, becoming immensely valued to those who need it. Observing Susanna and Lucy (your resident occupational therapists) has demonstrated to us how occupational therapy works within group settings and how important implementing healthy and meaningful occupations are for all the members. Thanks for an amazing experience that's not just been a great learning opportunity but has been a great deal of fun along the way. Danniella & Mark :)

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Charity Number 1186846

## What We've Been Up To

What have we been doing? We've made birds and bunny bums, learned some Pilates, made and painted bowls, arranged flowers and just had a brilliant time



## A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

funded through



the Joseph Rank trust



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**ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND**



WEvolve funding and support provided by the Ward Councillors from Huddersfield Central and North Place Partnerships



# VOLUNTEER VOICES



## Wendy Garforth

I began volunteering with Aspire in September 2020 as a Telephone Support Volunteer and have been a Sessional Volunteer with Aspire Dalton & Alton since we reopened groups in September 2021.

I have always been a people person in my various roles - homecare assistant, bartender, manager of a retirement complex & gained an accreditation in Healthcare.

But when I retired I began to climb the walls and began looking on the volunteering websites like Denby Dale Centre & TSL Volunteering Kirklees for opportunities to keep working with people. This became especially important when my husband passed away in August 2020, I was at a 'loose end' and needed something to focus on.

The Aspire team is great, friendly & approachable! The people at the groups gel quickly when they join & there are some fantastic characters within the sessions. Everyone enjoys themselves as they come to chat, enjoy the activities & have a laugh - the Aspire Service Users, Volunteers & Staff.

My advice to those considering a volunteering role is DO IT!!

Being a volunteer has even given me the confidence to try my own craft projects at home.



**Volunteers are crucial to the work of Aspire. If you are interested in joining the team contact our Volunteer Co-Ordinator:**

**[volunteers@aspirecreatingcommunities.org.uk](mailto:volunteers@aspirecreatingcommunities.org.uk) or call 07411 879609.**



## COULD YOU BE AN ASPIRE VOLUNTEER?



**It was lovely to help George celebrate his 99<sup>th</sup> birthday recently at our Greenhead Group**

We are looking forward to our month of Jubilee themed sessions during June culminating in our combined celebration on 2<sup>nd</sup> July.

For more information please contact Liz on [enquiries@aspirecreatingcommunities.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@aspirecreatingcommunities.org.uk).

Or call 07529814288 and leave a message