

# BRACKENLEY NEWS!

Summer 2025 Edition!



## Getting our groove on this Summer!

Down's Syndrome North Yorkshire Support Group have teamed up with Artisan International to present SEN Disco nights at the Ivory bar in Harrogate. This is a great opportunity for our residents to experience a lounge club in a safe organised space. Our ladies love to get dressed up and have a boogie and we're anticipating this will be a regular night out on their calendars in 2025.



## Our Home Manager says...



**Jan Wright**

Hello to you all,

I think we can all agree that we are in fact being treated to a lovely summer this year, long may it last.

Our residents are enjoying the lovely weather and are taking every opportunity to enjoy the great outdoors while they can.

We have already accompanied residents on some lovely holidays with many more to come.

Closer to home some of our residents are regularly enjoying a monthly disco, this has become a firm favourite and something that is looked forward to.

I hope you are all enjoying the sunshine and lovely long days as much as we are.

We hope you enjoy our latest newsletter.

**HARROGATE**

**Skills  
4 Living**

# A VISIT TO THE WILDLIFE PARK!

Askham Bryan Wildlife & Conservation Park is a brand new visitor attraction in the beautiful historic arboretum at Askham Bryan College, the park is home to over 100 species of mammal, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish and invertebrates. The Park is also home to the college arboretum – a collection of rare and exotic trees from around the world. At the end of May, Rosie, Pippa, Dianne and Paula went to spend the day there getting close to the animals and enjoying the outdoors. We're so happy to have such great places locally to enjoy with our residents.



## HELLO SEASIDE!



We enjoy a trip to the seaside all year long but it's especially enjoyable on bright and sunny days to get off in our little bus and enjoy some seaside air often in quieter resorts such as Redcar. The routine of a seaside trip, fish and chips and walk on the front supports all our residents with a feel good factor and is a regular request at client meetings.

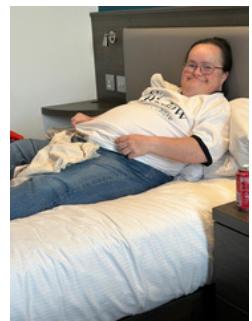
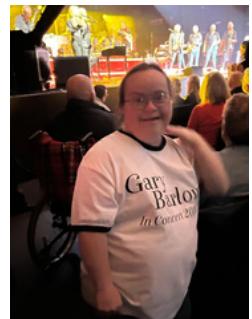


# CHRISSIE GOES TO SEE GARY BARLOW!

On May 23rd, Chrissie (a life long Take That fan) and her support worker Nicola, had an amazing adventure in Stockton-on-Tees to see Gary Barlow on tour. Staying at the Hampton by Hilton hotel Chrissie put on her Gary Barlow t-shirt from 2018 to get ready for the show.

Once they arrived at the Globe Theatre, they went through security and visited the merchandise stand. Chrissie was thrilled to buy a new Gary Barlow t-shirt and a programme for the night!

Chrissie was soon dancing and laughing, truly enjoying the concert, Gary even spotted Chrissie in the crowd and blew her two kisses! A security guard surprised them by inviting them to the front for the last song. Chrissie was ecstatic! Gary shook her hand twice and gave her his sweaty towel. The crowd cheered her on, and she was over the moon! After the concert, they returned to the hotel, where others congratulated Chrissie and admired Gary's towel.



# LAURA GETS PHOTOBOMBED!

We couldn't resist sharing this delightful snapshot of Laura enjoying a special moment with her horsey friend! It's heartwarming to see Laura embracing nature and the local wildlife during her regular walks around the area, including trips to visit the horses down Bilton Lane.

In this particular photo, it seems that this charming horse has truly mastered the art of the photobomb!

Engaging with nature not only enhances our mood but also promotes physical and mental well-being. So, why not take a cue from Laura and plan a local adventure yourself?



# OUR COOKING VENTURES CONTINUE!



Our quest at Brackenley to get everyone involved more in cooking and baking continues and is a big hit this year, everything from preparing fruit salad outside in the sun to baking cakes for birthdays and making Sunday lunches.

Our overseas staff have been introducing new flavours and we've been sharing with them our own tried and tested recipes. It's been lovely to see everyone participate at whatever level is comfortable for them, food always tastes better when you've been part of the process!



## STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS!

We are so delighted to celebrate the completion of her level 3 diploma with Omolade. This is a significant achievement and is a reflection of all the commitment and time Omolade has spent to staff development since she joined our team two years ago.

The appetite for staff development remains high at Brackenley with staff encouraging and supporting each other and Jan's commitment to ensuring staff have the time and resources they need.

Well done Omolade!



# ALLOTMENT NEWS!



A hot hot summer followed by the lovely rain, and a whole lot of hard work has made the HS4L allotment look fantastic. We are sending organic veg every week to North Park Road and Brackenley at the moment.

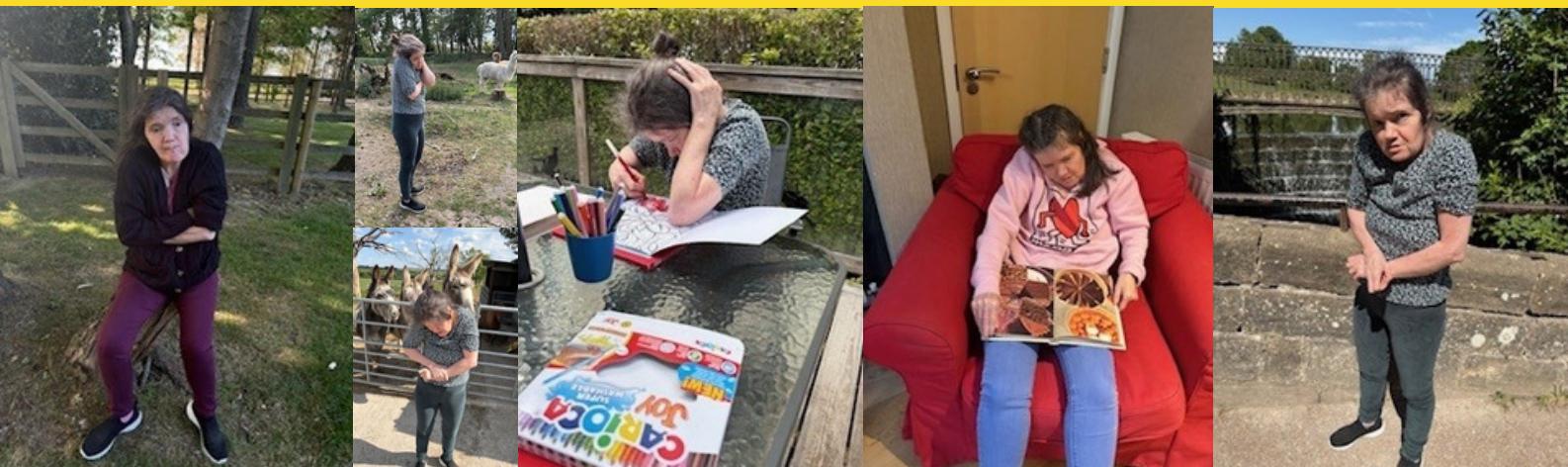
We are harvesting, spuds, runner beans, onions, shallots and lettuce at the moment - looking forward to courgettes, french beans and carrots soon. We'll be making more Jams and chutneys later on and have some broccoli, cabbage and sprouts looking good.

Our plot is full of insects and wild flowers at the moment and we are busy saving seeds of Calendula and Corncockle. Lovely to share all our produce with everyone but we did eat all the Blueberries though!! Hopefully we might have some fun veg ready for Halloween. This summer we have had a BBQ and cooked up a delicious stir fry with broad beans, fat hen and chard.



## ROSIE'S HOLIDAY!

In May, Rosie took a delightful trip to Moorlands Farm, nestled in the picturesque Fewston, just a stone's throw from Darley. This idyllic location is set within the stunning Yorkshire Dales National Park, where she was treated to breathtaking countryside views and a serene atmosphere. The farm's proximity to working livestock added an extra dimension to her experience, Rosie has a special affinity for nature, and her stay was filled with long, rejuvenating walks through the Yorkshire landscape. The tranquillity of her quiet lodge provided the perfect backdrop for relaxation, overall, it was truly a lovely holiday.



# OUR SUMMER BBQ IS NEARLY HERE!

Make sure you have marked your calendars for our annual family & friends summer BBQ!

# SATURDAY 9<sup>th</sup> AUGUST

## 12 noon - 5pm



We look forward to an afternoon of live music, food, games and our annual raffle..with some amazing prizes to be won!

Food and soft drinks will be provided, please feel free to bring your own wine/beer.

## OUR QUALITY & COMPLIANCE MANAGER SAYS...

I hope this newsletter finds you and your loved ones well and thriving!

Once again we're excited to share some of the wonderful things happening in our community—our residents have been having a great time this summer, from dancing the night away at SEN discos to enjoying wildlife visits and concerts. We're very proud to congratulate Omolade on achieving her level three diploma, and we appreciate all the staff who are working hard toward their health and social care qualifications.

Looking ahead, we can't wait for our much-loved barbecue and music event, and we're so grateful for the raffle prizes donated by local businesses which are coming in fast and furious. We're crossing our fingers for sunshine, but we're ready for anything the weather brings. This year's BBQ will also feature delicious homemade ice cream and a taste of Nigeria from our amazing overseas staff, so we hope to see as many of you there as possible to celebrate together!



**Julia Moor**