

Magpie News

Summer 2017 Pennine Magpie Easy Read Newsletter



Skills for life
FOR ADULTS WITH
LEARNING DISABILITIES

Changes at Pennine Magpie



Amanda Goulding,
our new Chief Executive Officer

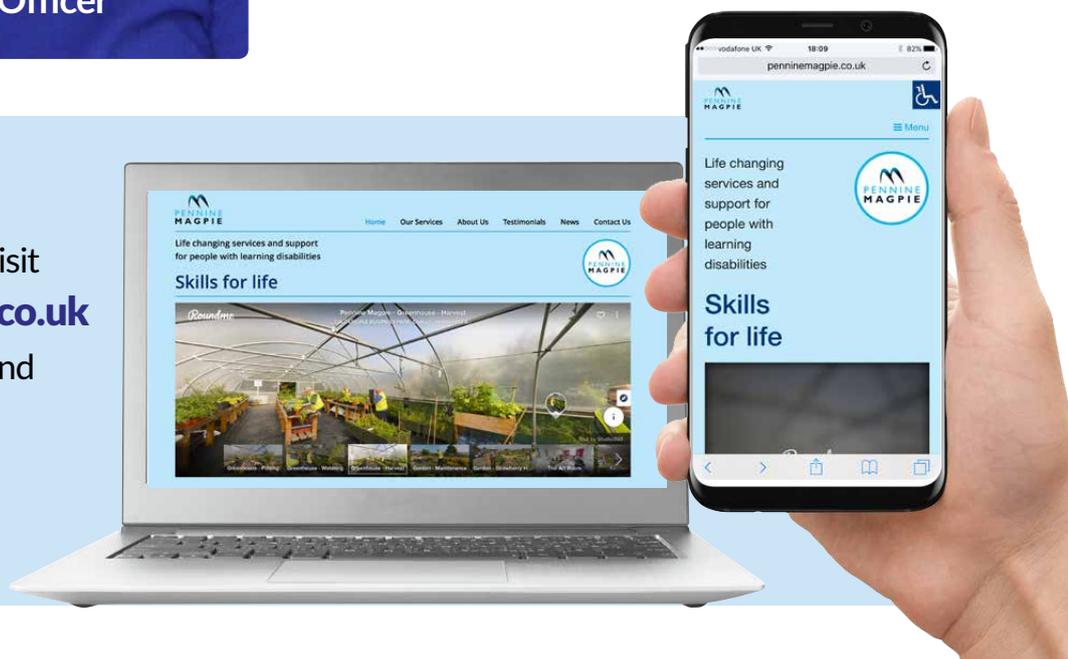
Gillian Sheard, who was our General Manager and founder, has retired after 19 years. A plaque has been placed in the garden to acknowledge her commitment to Pennine Magpie.

The Board of Trustees selected a new Chief Executive Officer, Amanda Goulding. Amanda joins us from Unique Ways and brings 20 years' experience of managing charities.

Amanda said **"I fell in love with Pennine Magpie on my first visit. It is like a secret garden. The facilities are fantastic and the relationship between staff and students is delightful. I know I am going to absolutely love my new role as CEO of Pennine Magpie"**

New website

We have a new website. Visit www.penninemagpie.co.uk to see all the latest news and information.



citizens advice Calderdale

Free Advice and Help from Citizens Advice Calderdale

We are now working in partnership with Citizens Advice Calderdale. This is to offer free advice and support for people with Learning Disabilities and their families around financial issues. An experienced advisor from Citizens Advice Calderdale holds a 'support clinic' one day a week at Pennine Magpie. The service is open to ALL people in Calderdale who have a learning disability and their parents/carers.

The project can help with:

- ✓ Filling in forms
- ✓ Welfare benefits issues
- ✓ Money problems and Budgeting
- ✓ Employment problems
- ✓ Housing issues
- ✓ Maximising your Income
- ✓ and much more

To book an appointment please call Pennine Magpie on 01422 383550

In the community



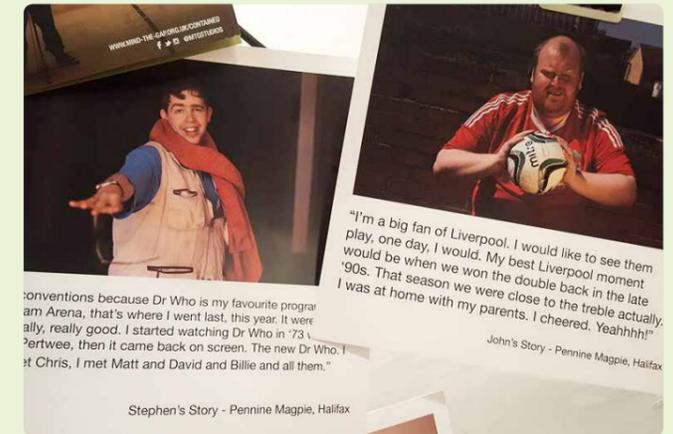
We are involved in many local events and projects. Our students, with the help of Art and Crafts Enabler Sue, made a waterwheel for the Reflections event. This event is part of the Hebden Bridge Arts Festival.

A day at Pennine Magpie



Jason Ferguson 12.7 17
 I come three days a week , Monday Tuesday and Wednesday.
 I do cooking computers dance and student voice.
 I like Pennine as I've made lots of new friends, and it stops me being bored at home. I like the atmosphere as it makes me feel good.
 I learn how to cook and then try to cook at home.

Our Magpie Movers dance group have been performing at local community events throughout the year. Some of these include Halifax and Shelf Gala, Heptonstall Family Festival, Party in The Park and Picnic in The Park, Beat It Nightclub and many more. They practise in our fully equipped dance and exercise studio.



The drama students took part in the 'Contained' exhibition run by Mind The Gap Theatre. It was held at the Square Chapel. Mind the Gap ran a drama workshop at Pennine Magpie. Students were given the opportunity to tell a story. 'Contained' is a project that shares true stories from the heart.

Developing work skills

We provide a wide range of activities at the centre. From dance to woodwork, gardening to Computer skills. But did you know that we also work with Matalan and Morrison's to support students to develop their work skills?

Yvonne has just completed her work placement at Morrison's. She said: "I wanted experience working in a supermarket because I haven't done before. I used to have a job as a part time cleaner but had to stop for personal reasons. I enjoy working and wanted to learn new skills. I stacked the shelves, tidying and organising the shelves and bottles. I broke down cardboard boxes too. The staff at Morrison's give you a free lunch which is really nice of them."





New Qualification

Leigh has passed her Food Hygiene qualification with high marks. Leigh works in our kitchen and helps to cook the lunch meals and breakfast. Four other students also passed their Food Hygiene course. Students are encouraged to complete the online courses with the support of our staff.



New Job

Steven is moving on from Pennine Magpie to start his new job. Steven has been with us for 4 Years. He starts his new job as a Hospital Porter in September. When asked 'have you enjoyed your time at Pennine?' he said **"I've made lots of friends, I love going out on trips on the minibus and like computers."**

New Home



Lee had difficulties in his previous living environment. This was causing him distress. Pennine Magpie and ILST worked together to look into the causes of Lee's distress and held a number of meetings with him. Lee said, **"I wanted more independence and to move to a new area."** ILST helped Lee to find a new flat. Pennine staff helped Lee to move his furniture into the flat. He is now being supported by ILST at his new home and has been much happier. Lee enjoys feeling more independent and is more involved in community activities, such as volunteering at the 'Outback Garden'.