

NEWSLETTER

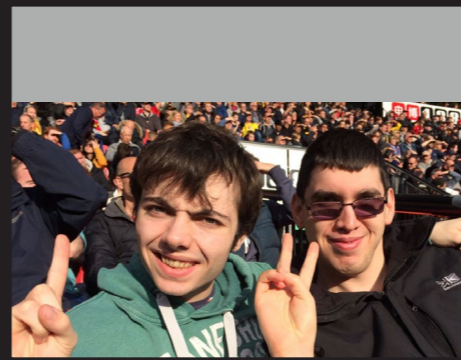
The
Inclusion
Project

EDITION 15 - THE PARTNERSHIP ISSUE

JULY 2018



This month's 'Partnerships' caught on camera. Pictures courtesy of St Albans, Herts 1:1, North London, Welwyn Hatfield, Herts Evenings, South Bedfordshire, and special thanks to partners; Special Olympics, 0-25 Together (who visited our Participants on their team day), Watford FC, Fitness Instructor - Sue Court, Westminster Lodge, Hatfield Boxing Club and Hollywood Bowl.



HELLO & WELCOME

The Inclusion Project has been very fortunate to have some amazing partnerships with some amazing organisations in our local community. I would like to highlight some that are in Hertfordshire that have been very generous to us.

The first is Hollywood Bowl in Garston, we have been bowling at this venue since the very first day of The Inclusion Project, and play there regularly 2 to 3 times a week. The staff have always been so kind, patient and welcoming to our Participants, and have always made us feel valued. Hollywood Bowl have even donated money to our organisation as part of the Neighbourly Programme and we are their chosen organisation to donate to, incredibly kind and we cannot thank them enough.

We have recently started a collaboration with Hertfordshire County Council to jump-start our The Inclusion Project Food Truck initiative. This is a project that we have been working on for over 6 months and is starting to come to fruition. We are working directly with the council to gain funding, create new partnerships with other organisations to collaborate with and to ultimately launch the project in early 2019.

For those that don't know, The Inclusion Project Food Truck will act as a mobile training academy for our Participants to learn valuable skills within customer service and retail to enable a pathway to paid employment.

Many of you have donated to this cause already via our Go Fund Me page, so thank you so much for your continued support and I look forward to keeping you all updated over the coming months.

The final relationship that I would like to mention is The Special Olympics, we do not have any formal partnership but we fully support The Special Olympics in their work and we often support our Participants to attend Special Olympics training sessions and events. I personally volunteer with The Special Olympics as Head Basketball Coach for Great Britain.

From the beginning of The Inclusion Project I have seen what the power of good partnerships and collaborations can do for the greater good of our Participants, and I hope that you have enjoyed learning more about some of our partnerships with organisations outside of The Inclusion Project.

There are lots of great organisations, people, and friendships filled in this edition of our Newsletter.

Enjoy!

Simon Jackson-Turner
Managing Director and Founder



Left to right, Area Manager Simon Hathaway, Athlete Matt, Managing Director and Founder, Simon Jackson-Turner, Athlete Harry, Athletes and Participants Damir, Daniel Large and Daniel Bernard, at the global Department for International Development Disability Summit in July

Photo Credit: Susi Williams

FROM PARTNERSHIPS COMES FRIENDSHIPS

Pictures show Participants enjoying a picnic in the sun, friendships, team work, cycling initiative, bowling, and the gym. All activities shown are part of a weekly timetable.

By North London Area Manager, Peter Seymour
Peter@inclusionproject.co.uk

In North London we have formed several partnerships with the different venues and companies to help us achieve our aims of promoting a healthy, social and active lifestyle.

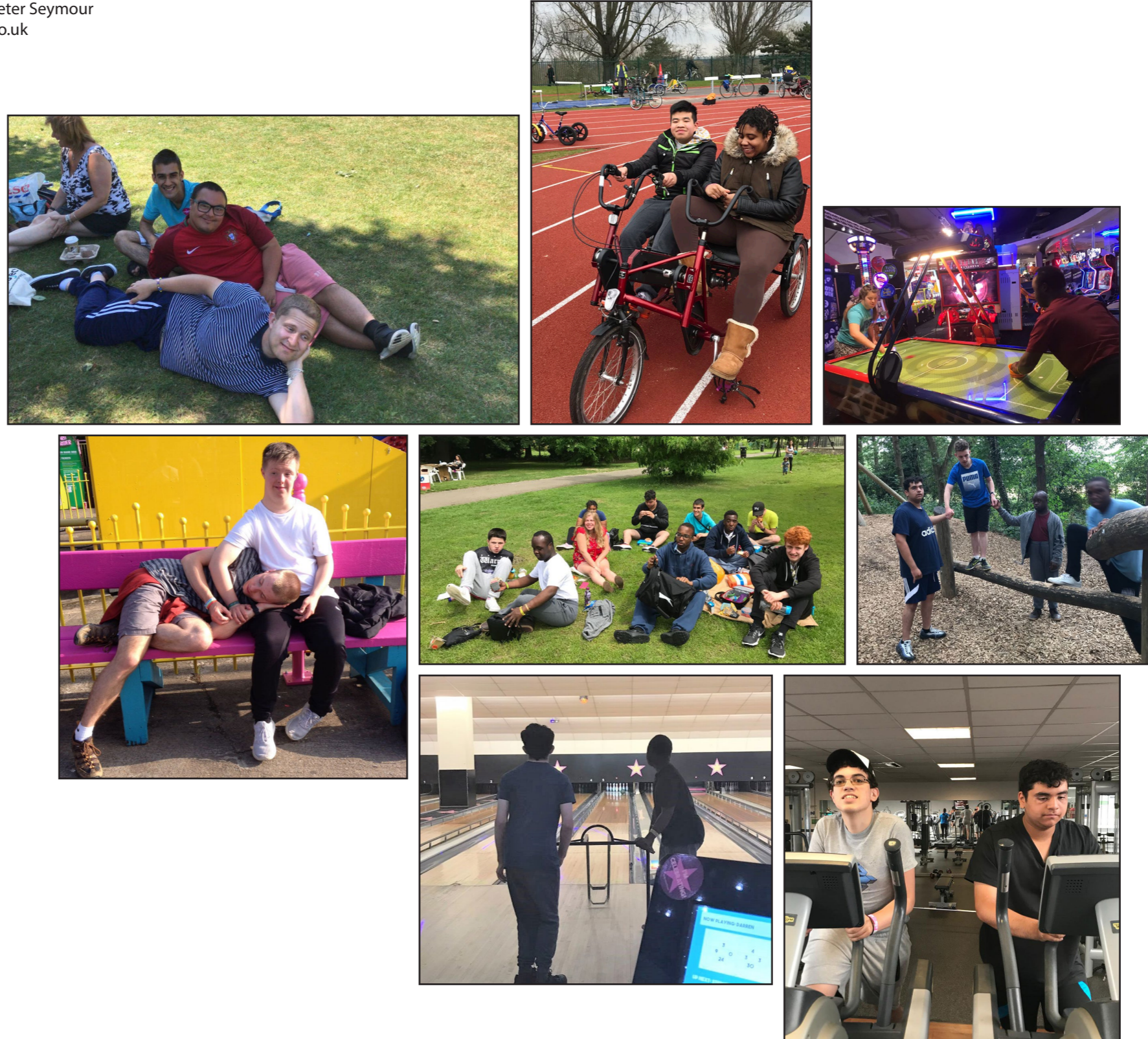
One activity that we are involved with is cycling and we regularly support the Cycle Enfield scheme at Bush Hill Park and the Pedal Power Cycling Club in Finsbury Park. Most of our participants can cycle with these schemes. A range of different bicycles are available from the 2-wheel bicycle, which some of our higher functioning Participants can ride, to the 4 wheeled 2 seater bicycles. The 2 seaters allow a higher functioning Participant or a Group Leader to cycle with someone who may need some help, particularly with steering. Whatever their abilities all our Participants can take part in this, and have fun and a laugh while getting some exercise.

We have also partnered up with The Special Olympics to provide evening football and basketball sessions. From September these sessions will be held in Barnet, at East Barnet School. These sessions are suitable for Participants of all ability.

As you have may have read in previous newsletters, 2 of our Participants will be in the basketball GB team for The Special Olympics in Abu Dhabi next year. However, players of all levels are welcome and all of them are encouraged to take part in the drills for both football and basketball.

Another example of a partnership is with the Lost Jungle Golf course. We are regular visitors to this venue and it is very popular with our Participants. The staff make us feel very welcome and we get a special price for playing here.

With all these partnerships we also see friendships develop between Participants and this is in itself is a form of partnership, whether it is encouraging each other to try that shot in football, cycling with a friend who is unable to cycle on their own and need some help, or showing their friend how to putt a golf ball.



THE HAT TRICK

(SENSORY ROOM, BEAUTIFUL VIEWS AND FOOTBALL)

By Herts 1:1 Area Manager, Marcus Sandiford
Marcus@inclusionproject.co.uk



From left to right: Participants looking over the grounds, Participants enjoying a match, the stadium as seen by a Participant

My name is Marcus Sandiford and I am the Area Manager for The Inclusion Project's Hertfordshire 1:1 service.

During my time as Area Manager, I have tried my best to set up partnerships, and find different activities and venues for our Participants to explore.

One of my first contacts was with Watford FC Disability Trust. When I made contact with them, they were extremely helpful; they offered us their sensory room that overlooks

the Watford FC Football pitch (beautiful view).

They have also allowed us access to the gym and sports hall space on a Friday from September 2018, at Meriden Sports Centre.

We were also fortunate to receive tickets to a Watford Football Club home match against Stoke last October. The Participants who attended had a great time and have been asking when the next game will be, so watch this space...

GOOD PARTNERS GOOD FRIENDS

Resident columnist and Participant, Daniel Bernard, shares his views on partnerships. From friendships, to Group Leaders and activity providers.



This month the theme of the newsletter is partnerships. Partnerships are when you work or have fun with some other people.

I think that The Inclusion Project has had lots of partnerships for me. The first one is with friends. I have made lots of friends at The Inclusion Project and we all get on well together.

One of my friends who I have a good partnership with is Damir. We have been friends for a long time. We do The Inclusion Project together and play basketball together and he makes me laugh.

When we go to basketball tournaments we share a room and he's a good singer. Another good friend I have at The Inclusion Project is Andrew, we used to be together for activities when The Inclusion Project started and we helped each other do things. We don't see each other so much now but we were good partners and good friends.

I also have partnerships with Group Leaders. I have always had really nice Group Leaders, and

we are partners because we all discuss together what we are doing. When I was with Bea I learnt to compromise and now I do that with Cheryl and Sarah.

I think we are also partners with some local activities. I think we have a partnership at Top Golf with Matthew Masters who teaches us golf, and with the tennis teachers and also with Hollywood Bowl in Garston who are really nice to us. Sometimes restaurants make a partnership with us as they let us sit in the bar area and order their food or eat packed lunch which is nice because some restaurants say no.

The first partnership I had at The Inclusion Project was with Simon Jackson-Turner. This was when only a few people went to The Inclusion Project and I got to know him very well because we did lots of activities together. Now he has to do lots of paper work and he is very good at his job.

I think we all have good partnerships at The Inclusion Project.

WELCOME TO THE TEAM

New to the St Albans Team.

I would like to welcome to The Inclusion Project our new St Albans Manager, Susi Williams. Susi is well known in the St Albans area within the Learning Disabilities community as she has worked with the Special Olympics in St Albans (as she states below). We are now lucky to have Susi's expertise and positivity, and are thrilled to have her with us. I am sure that you will see/speak to her soon.

- Simon Jackson-Turner

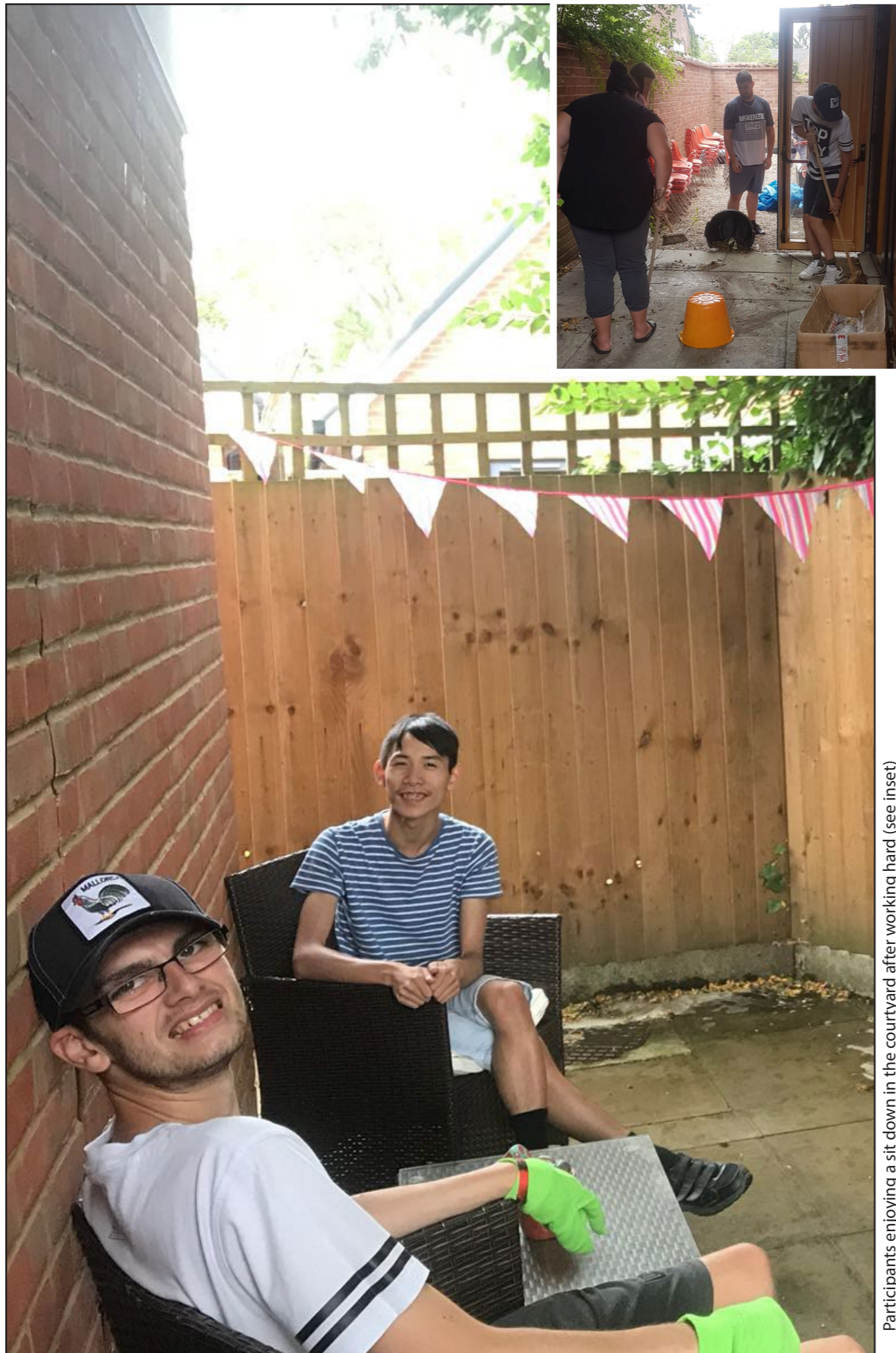


Hello my name is Susi Williams, I have been appointed Area Manager for St Albans, starting full time in September.

Some of you may know me already as I have been the coordinator for Special Olympics St Albans (SOSA) for the past 15 years. Currently I am doing two days a week with The Inclusion Project, learning the role, meeting the Participants, Group Leaders and Area Managers. What a fabulous bunch of people.

A little bit about me: I am Australian and have lived over in the UK for the past 21 years. My family back in Australia live 4 hours west of Sydney in a place called Orange, at the moment as you all know it is winter over there. The temperatures in Orange, whilst we are sweltering in this wonderful heat, are reaching -5C and snowing (yes it snows).

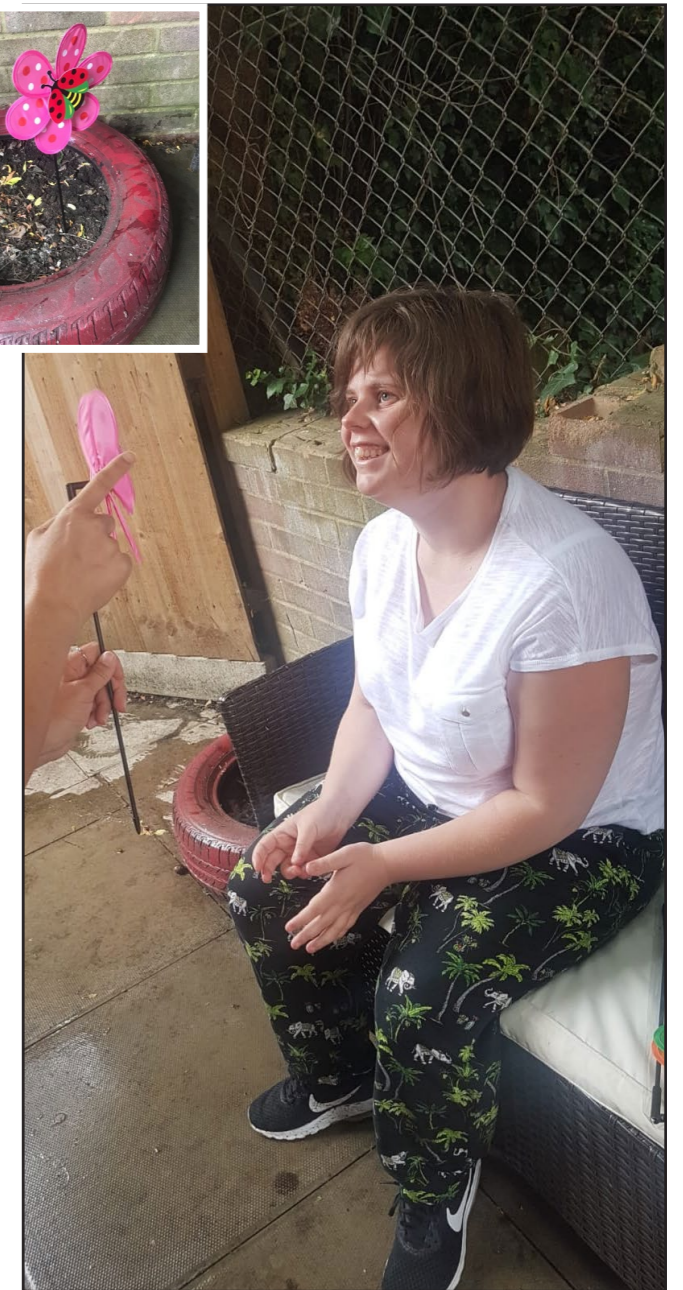
I am looking forward to starting full time in September, and working with such a wonderful bunch of people.



Participants enjoying a sit down in the courtyard after working hard (see inset)

GROWING PARTNERSHIPS

By Herts Evenings Area Manager, Kery Kane
 Kerry@inclusionproject.co.uk



Welwyn Garden City Boxing Club has been working with The Inclusion Project for the past two years.

The Boxing Club has been kind enough to let The Inclusion Project use their premises, Calvert House - named after the club's founder Martin Calvert who sadly died in 2012 aged just 42, after a short battle with cancer. Martin was very passionate about spreading the community spirit. So when the club was approached by The Inclusion Project they decided this was a great way to keep the community spirit alive.

The Inclusion Project uses the hall to run a work experience session on a Tuesday morning. Duties include painting and decorating, gardening, cooking and much more.

The most recent work that the Participants have undertaken at the Boxing Club is a gardening project; converting the courtyard into a private area for Participants to chill-out and relax. This experience has taught the Participants gardening skills, and given them a project to be proud of.

The Boxing Club has also become one of the first clubs in Hertfordshire to offer weekly non-contact boxing sessions to young adults with Learning Disabilities. The sessions are extremely popular with The Inclusion Project and the team spirit it creates is second to none.

Thank you to Welwyn Garden City Boxing Club for your ongoing support.

GREAT EXPERIENCE

By Georgia

Hi everyone, my name is Georgia and I am 15 years old. I attend Monks Walk School in Welwyn Garden City.

Recently I was lucky enough to do my work experience at The Inclusion Project.

My week was spent supporting Participants out and about in the community. We done various activities including swimming, bowling, cinema, drama and boxing.

My teacher came to visit me whilst I was working and was really impressed with

The Inclusion Project.

The week I spent with The Inclusion Project has really helped me decide what I would like to do with my studies after my GCSEs next year.

Thank you so much to all Participants and Group Leaders and Area Managers for making me feel so welcome, I had a great week with you and cannot wait to do some more voluntary work.





OUR MANY PARTNERSHIPS

By Quality Assurance Director, Dr. Denise Jackson

In my role I work with many 'Partners' who support in a range of ways the work we do and the service we provide. For example, to ensure that The Inclusion Project works in line with 'safe recruitment' guidance and to have the best Group Leaders with us, we have the support of Herts Care Providers Association (HCPA). We can advertise our vacancies with them, and they advise us on all sorts of things to do with the Adult Care Sector, including training opportunities for staff. HCPA awarded Simon Jackson-Turner the '2017 Care Award for Outstanding Achievement in Learning Disability Support'.

The Inclusion Project also works with Hertfordshire County Council; they provide us with the facility to conduct Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks on behalf of prospective Group Leaders. The Inclusion Project requires an enhanced certificate with both Adult and Child checks conducted. We then advise our team to subscribe to the DBS Updates service whereby they can invite organisations to look them up on the DBS system online.

Hertfordshire County Council also provide training, advice and safeguarding facilities. All our Group Leaders are required to complete The Care Certificate within the first 12 weeks with The Inclusion Project. Staff are assessed in over 20 modules before they can be awarded The Care Certificate. The Inclusion Project's training provider for this is Grey Matter, who are endorsed by Skills for Care as a Centre of Excellence. Skills for Care is the sector skills council for people working in Social Care in England. Grey

Matter are superb at helping and guiding us in supporting our Area Managers, who have all achieved The Care Certificate, to guide our Group Leaders through gaining theirs.

The Inclusion Project at Home service is regulated by the Care Quality Commission (CQC). They visited us in December 2017 to conduct their interviews and Registration Inspection with The Inclusion Project. My role as the Registered Manager with the CQC, is to communicate with them, in notifying them about concerns and changes in our service.

The CQC will inspect us in time; and will send surveys to both Participants and Families as stakeholders to gain feedback. The CQC are the independent regulator of health and adult social care in England. They make sure health and social care services provide people with safe, effective, compassionate, high-quality care. They will be assessing us on how Safe, Caring, Responsive, Effective and Well-Led. The Inclusion Project is, in particular your perceptions on those five areas will be sought.

To help me with ensuring The Inclusion Project can evidence that it scores highly on all the measures set by the CQC, we have been working with another of our 'Partners': 'Quality Compliance Systems' (QCS), who support us in being CQC Compliant under The Care Act 2014 and The Health and Social Care Act 2008 (Regulated Activities) Regulations 2015. The QCS supports me in writing policies and procedures, that are in line with current legislation and are



updated as laws change. These guide our Area Managers' and Group Leaders' daily practise. The QCS provide us with a number of quality assurance tools, and very soon we will be having some surveys from this system being sent out to Participants, Staff and Families to capture your views of what we do. I am enjoying learning in more depth about the law for care provision from Specialists at QCS. This is work in progress at present and what I am occupying myself with most days of the week!

Another angle of my work has been helping Simon Jackson-Turner in setting up The Inclusion Project as a professional structured and organised business. Part of our journey has been to join the British Franchising Association (BFA) who have provided us with their expertise and accreditation as a BFA member who abides by the BFA's ethical Franchising guidelines. Simon's vision is to take The Inclusion Project model of Adult Learning Disability Social Care nationwide, in becoming the new norm in social care. In evidencing that we are effective and progress our Participants, we also work in conjunction with the British Association for Supported Employment (BASE). BASE have provided us with advice on helping to provide voluntary work experience within our timetables for our Participants to add to their skill set.

We have also been working with Mencap to provide the Mencap Gateway Award for Participants. This is an award like the Duke of Edinburgh Award designed to be accessible to people with Learning Disabilities. There are challenges such as: Hobbies, Lifestyle, Gateway Challenge, Fitness, and Volunteering. These all have to be evidenced with a photograph of the Participant undertaking the task. It is all done online and we help Participants to gain the Award. We have Participants working towards their Bronze and now Silver Awards, who are aiming to go on to complete their Gold Awards. This provides evidence of a huge number of skills.

We have also recently joined NASEN: the 'National Association of Special Educational Needs' as advocates of inclusion, and in aiming to support all people with Learning Disabilities to achieve their full potential, we felt we needed to work with them.

Despite all these wonderful connections we have established, we continue to add to our repertoire (if you should know of any others that should be in our network - please inform us at Info@inclusionproject.co.uk), and know that the most important stakeholders we have are our Participants - and their families - who are at the heart of all we do.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE TO THEIR DAY

By Fitness Instructor Sue Court,
(works with South Bedfordshire Area Manager, Bea Chase)
Bea@inclusionproject.co.uk




I have been a fitness instructor for over 20 years and got involved with The Inclusion Project last January, running fitness and fun sessions.

I am based at Trugym on Roaring Meg Retail Park in Stevenage. The Participants love the sessions. I try and work on motor skills as well as strength exercises. We do team running games, passing games, swiss ball exercises, and work on co-ordination.

The Participants really get involved and they have improved since attending the classes.

We work-out to music and generally have fun while exercising.

I enjoy taking the session and find it very rewarding helping them improve their fitness, as well as making them smile and making a



The Inclusion Project

If you would like to share feedback, contribute or find out more information about The Inclusion Project, please email ethanie@inclusionproject.co.uk