



## Outcome of EGM

On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2025, Mid Norfolk Mencap held an Extraordinary General Meeting. This had multiple purposes – firstly, to provide an update on the progress made since our last CQC inspection and introduce the new members of our management team. Additionally, it was a chance to reconnect with our charity members and stay informed of their needs and wishes, to help us become a more inclusive and responsive organisation. Finally, this EGM involved members voting on the nomination and election of new trustees.

As a result, we are pleased to announce the appointment of two new trustees: **Tim** and **Valeria**! We can't wait to see how their knowledge and expertise can help in transforming our charity for the better.



Tim Bishop,  
new trustee  
of Mid  
Norfolk  
Mencap

The minutes from this EGM will be distributed to all members in due course, so that those unable to attend can gain an understanding of what was discussed.

## Welcome

We would like to welcome our new Registered Manager at Merle Boddy House, **Louise**! She is a strong asset to the management team.



We have also recently welcomed **Iona** as a new support worker in our Community Outreach Support service. We wish her the best of luck in her new role!



## A Message from Our Chair

The summer has given a feeling of things falling into place. Welcoming Louise to Mid Norfolk Mencap as the Home Manager for Merle Boddy House has been a significant and hugely positive step, and means that the Senior Management Team is now fully in place. Together, Ciaran, Kerry, Debbie, Mel and Louise have been making the changes that have been so needed. I can see these changes every time I set foot in Tavern Lane or Merle Boddy House and hope that you can see the signs of change when you are here too.

The Senior Management Team is the group of people who are tasked with running Mid Norfolk Mencap, and working with the Board of Trustees to make sure that as a charity we achieve our aims for people with learning disabilities and their families. In order to do that, there needs to be a skilled group of people working as trustees and this will be my focus over the next six months or so - finding more people with the expertise and professional backgrounds we need.

I find that the summer always gives me space to think. A holiday or even just a couple of days' break away from the day to day can give time and space to think differently about a situation and to get a new perspective on something. As we reach the end of August, this summer has given that space as always. For the best part of a year, we have worked hard to resolve the issues that the CQC identified and to improve our services. While an awful lot has changed for the good, in many ways our abilities to achieve what we need to are limited by things outside of our control. These difficulties still need to be overcome and in doing that I, and the Trustees as a whole, will focus on what we need to do to so that our team delivers not just good but excellent care and service for everyone supported by or working in the organisation.

*Sarah*

Chair - Board of Trustees

## What's been going on in the Community Outreach Support service?

At the end of July, our Community Outreach Support service hosted the **Greek edition** of their World Cooking Club! It involved lots of different delicious Greek food (and even a bit of dancing)!



August's edition of the World Cooking Club focused on **Italy**! Our staff and service users cooked up some lovely Italian food, including lasagne and tiramisu! We also decorated the main room with the colours of the Italian flag. It was a fantastic afternoon.



## What's been going on in the Community Outreach Support service?

Our staff recently received some positive support behaviour training from Able Training. It was really helpful for them to learn different practical techniques and see demonstrations – it is so important for our staff to stay on top of all their training!



We also had a couple of birthdays to celebrate in August! Josh and Jade both celebrated their birthdays at Mid Norfolk Mencap, surrounded by staff and other service users – of course, there was lots of cake involved as well!



In August, we hosted a pizza party where our service users got to make their own pizzas and choose their toppings, and also play some board games.



Gavin has been continuing to volunteer at PACT charity shop in Dereham, working with staff behind the till and interacting with customers. He has also been learning how to PAT test, and recently practiced this during one of his volunteering sessions.

## What's been going on in the Community Outreach Support service?

As usual, there have been lots of days out and activities run over the last month by our amazing staff team, including...



A picnic in the sunshine



A trip to Hillside Sanctuary



Air hockey



Swimming

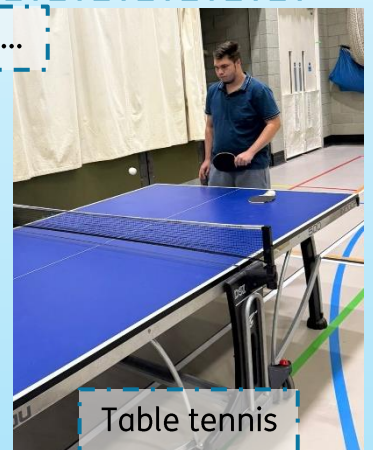


Table tennis



Trampolining



Dance classes



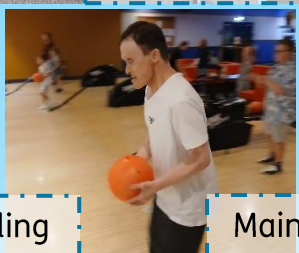
Rock climbing



Visiting a museum



A walk through the woods



Bowling



Maintaining the allotment



Exploring new places

## What's been going at Merle Boddy House?

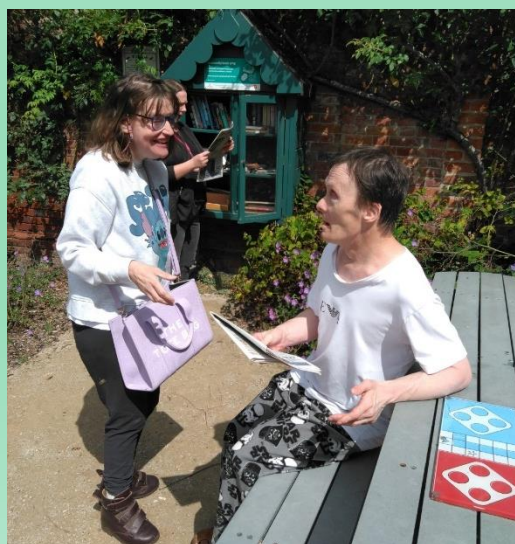
Our lovely residents have had some great days out and activities over the last month – here's a look at just a few!



Out for coffee and cake – Leslie using a gift voucher he won at the Summer BBQ!



Cooking and cleaning at the house



Days out in the community together

# Dereham & District Gateway Club

Gateway Club is not running over the summer holidays but will resume on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2025. Please see the updated events calendar below.

**Zumba**

**Sep  
19**

**Gateway  
Stitchers**

**Sep  
26**

**Arts &  
Crafts**

**Oct  
3**

**Music  
Club**

**Oct  
10**

**Club  
Night**

**Oct  
17**

**Halloween  
Themed  
Bingo**

**Oct  
24**

Also includes seasonal arts  
& crafts and topical quizzes

7pm – 9pm  
At the Meeting Point  
4 St. Withburga Lane  
Dereham  
NR19 1ED

**£3.00 entry**  
(Plus money for  
refreshments and  
raffle)

## Gateway Club Gallery



## NORFOLK LEARNING DISABILITY PARTNERSHIP

[www.norfolkldpartnership.org.uk](http://www.norfolkldpartnership.org.uk)

Open to the public and can include:

- People with learning disabilities and their families / carers
- People who work at the County Council, including County Councillors
- People who provide services for people with learning disabilities
- People from the local area who want to help



### **SOUTH NORFOLK Locality Meeting**

Next meeting:

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2025,  
1.30pm-3pm

Venue:

Dereham Community Hub  
(Independence Matters)  
1 Rashes Green, Dereham, NR19 1JG

### **WEST NORFOLK Locality Meeting**

Next meeting:

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2025,  
1.30pm-3pm

Venue:

Forward 33 Shop,  
33 Broad Street,  
Kings Lynn, PE30 1DP

### **NORTH NORFOLK Locality Meeting**

Next meeting:

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2025,  
1.30pm-3pm

Venue:

About With Friends  
22D Holt Road, Cromer, NR27 9JW

### **NORWICH Locality Meeting**

Next meeting:

Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025,  
1pm-2:30pm

Venue:

Lazar House, Sprowston Road,  
Norwich, NR3 4HX



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Registered Charity No. 1049364

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