

Heritage Day 2018



On Friday 29th June The Brothers of Charity Services celebrated their annual Heritage Day and Staff Awards at Thingwall Hall in Broadgreen. The theme of the day was Advocacy; inspired by a quote from Canon Peter Joseph Triest, "Listening to people is the starting point for involvement in their lives; it is their need, not our vision which should prevail".

The day started off with a musical performance from Knotty Ash School, a specialist sign language school. The children thoroughly enjoyed being part of the day and we loved watching their performance!

The final of the Health BOCS Football Tournament followed on from the beautiful performance. The Thingwall Warriors, our Merseyside Team, and Gardening FC, our Lancashire team, played each other for the BOCS Heritage Shield. An excited crowd from both services gathered to watch the final hoping to see their team win. It was a close match, with the two teams giving it their best shot to become the new champions. The match resulted in a draw at 4 - 4, with both teams scoring some great goals!

While the football match was under way, the Heritage Day stalls in the training room and the garden shop were starting to get busy with customers. The social enterprises had a variety of activities for people to get involved with. Clare from our Lancashire Services also had a stall promoting Guide Dogs, a charity which is close to her heart. Our Voice for All

Group set up an exhibition, 'You'd Hear Them Jingle' in the garden shop. The Resource Centre were selling home made Jazzy Jars filled with sweets which went down a treat! There were also lots of fun games such as the Tombola, Hook a Duck and Hoops on Frogs.

As well as the stalls, our canteen on site at Thingwall Hall provided hot dogs and lasagne and Roccoco brought along a range of delicious cakes which were enjoyed by everyone. With the hot weather we were lucky to have an ice-cream van onsite; he was very busy with queues of people all day!

Greenbank Sports Academy joined us and set up a game of Inclusive Cricket for the people we support to take part in. They also kindly brought along a fantastic variety of bikes for everyone to try! Everybody got involved and loved the activities. Also throughout the day we had an amazing DJ, Dan Spellman, who played a range of popular music for everyone to sing and dance to.

Heritage Day was a great event that brought all staff, clients and the community from across the services together to learn and celebrate the heritage of the Brothers of Charity Services. It gave everybody a chance to meet and interact with new people and also have a fun day out with their friends and colleagues. Thank you to everyone who came along and shown their support and helped make the day so special.



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Photos from our Heritage Day



Staff Awards 2018

Our Staff Awards took place after our Heritage Day in the chapel at Thingwall Hall. It was beautifully decorated with bunting and draped voile by our Marketing Team. The awards opened with a speech from Darron Grundy, CEO of the Brothers of Charity Services in England, thanking everybody for their hard work and dedication.

The Long Service awards were given out first to people who have worked and shown their fantastic commitment to the organisation for 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 years; 130 people achieved this award overall! We then presented the awards for qualifications, ranging from Level 2 to 5; 157 people received this, gaining a qualification in many different areas.

After all awards were presented, we watched a short film about Advocacy featuring the people we support explaining what it feels like to be listened to and what it feels like not to be listened to. It was a great way for the people we support to be involved and for them to have their opinions heard by everyone.

We finished off the event with an interactive quiz on Kahoot; it really brought out everyone's competitive side! A delicious hog roast was then served to end a long, successful day. Thank you to everyone who attended the staff awards, it was lovely to see all your achievements and celebrate the Brothers of Charity Services together!



Lancashire Health and Wellbeing Day



The Brothers of Charity Services in Lancashire had a busy day at their annual Health and Wellbeing Day on Tuesday 24th April 2018.

Staff and the people we support attended the event which enabled everybody to speak to local health related organisations, as well as to find out about training available to them.

The day started off with a football match between our gardening teams and several members of staff. Both teams put in a huge amount of effort and it was an enjoyable match for everyone watching. After an exciting 15 minutes, the winning team were Gardening FC! Thank you to everyone who took part. For the event we were joined by our social enterprises, Roccoco and Crafty Uniforms along with Lancashire Care Quit Squad, a local stop centre in the Chorley area and Meet 'N' Match, a dating agency for people with learning disabilities. Stephenson College, who provides distance learning courses for the Brothers of

Charity Services, also came along to provide information about the courses they offer to staff.

Voice for All, our self-advocacy group for our Lancashire services, had a stall to promote and inform people about the great work that they do.

We also had a visit from the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association. Clare, who is supported by our Lancashire Services, came along with her guide dog, Rascal, to promote the great work that the charity does.

The Art Team were busy on their face painting and manicure stall, which proved to be very popular with everyone who attended!

Thank you to everybody who came along and made the day a great success!

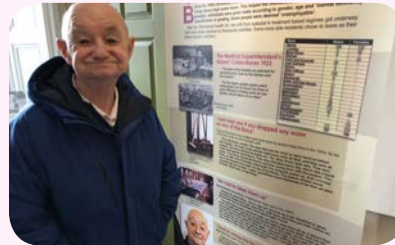


Voice for All Update

Voice for All Visit Clitheroe Castle Museum

On February 16th 2018, Alan and John from Voice for All went to Clitheroe Castle Museum to take part in an exhibition called 'You'd Hear Them Jingle' by sharing their personal experiences.

It is a really important exhibition about what the lives of people with learning disabilities were like in institutions.



Clare translates 'A Good Life' into Braille



Clare from our services in Lancashire recently translated the poem 'A Good Life' by Adrian Kennedy, inspired by training delivered by Sam Sly into braille and read out 2 paragraphs at our staff Welcome Day.

Clare is currently taking braille classes with fantastic support from Holly, her support worker who actively takes part in the classes along with Clare. A tremendous amount of work was put into the translation from Clare; she was so incredibly proud of her work and we are too!

It was very emotional and brought a tear to everyone's eyes as it was such a fantastic moment. Thank you to Clare for her great work.

'A Good Life' by Adrian Kennedy

Hands off, it's my home!
I don't have a Rota blue-tacked to my wall,
I don't expect to find one, anywhere at all,
If the telephone is ringing, I pick up to see who calls,
I don't have great big posters about slips and trips and falls.

I decide what happens, when I do to bed, or eat,
I decide who enters in, which people I will greet,
I decide on furniture, which bed, which bath,
which seat,
I decide the temperature and when to turn up the heat.

All the things around my house, they belong to me,
I don't have strangers coming in, changing channels on TV,
All the post I get is opened by the addressee,
I have dominion in my castle, I have my privacy.

I don't use my home for meetings, training or interviews,
The colours in my carpet are my favourite chosen hues,
All records kept about me are accurate and true
And, if I really want to, I will own 100 shoes!

I will make my choices, I will make my own decisions,
And any plan I make contains my own wishes and visions,
Any person in my home is only here from my permission,
No office do I have here, no rules and no restrictions.

I decide who to employ to a vacant situation,
I decide on where I want to store my medication,
I have the right to keep my mother out of my accommodation,
And I don't need to have a weekly fire evacuation.

No risk assessments stop me from trying something new,
I make my own mind up about everything I do,
When I need support I will let you know if it is you,
Hands off, it's my home- or Sam Sly and I will sue.

Voice for All Host Popular Film Night

Voice for All held a Film Night on 26th July at Lisieux Hall. Everyone was invited to come along and watch The Greatest Showman! The night proved to be very popular with 35 people turning up on the night to watch, dance and sing along to the film. Voice for All and the events group are planning another film night in the near future. We can't wait for the next one!



Day Out at Live Life Festival

Voice for All went to Live Life Festival in Standish at the end of July. It's a two day inclusive festival organised for adults with Learning Disabilities. The festival had lots going on

including live music from two stages, a comedy tent, UV rave, festival crafts, accessible football and much more! Here are some photos of the group getting stuck in to the festival glitter!



Y B Safe Training



Daniel Hall, our Regional Advocacy and Community Engagement Coordinator and Becky, a member of Voice for All,

delivered Y B Safe training in May which is a course about staying safe in relationships.

The course was developed by Sue Sharples from U-night who are one of Voice for All's close partners. It aims to teach people about aims to teach people about:

- Being safe online
- Healthy relationships
- Un-healthy relationships
- How to say no
- What is consent
- Where to go for help

The course has been developed for people with learning disabilities as well as for their support workers and is delivered through a mix of practical tasks, group work, discussion and games.

If you want to do the course or want some more information contact Daniel Hall on 01257 248859 Or email: daniel.hall@brothersofcharity.org.uk.

Dates for Your Diary

29th August 2018: The LGBT Rainbow Group at the Triest Centre, 1pm - 4pm. Everyone is welcome to come along!

19th September 2018: Film Night at Lisieux Hall. We'll be watching Dirty Dancing! Doors open at 6:30pm for the film to start at 7pm.

28th September 2018: Macmillan Coffee Morning from 10am to 1pm in the VfA room at Lisieux Hall.

29th September 2018: Voice for All will be attending Preston Pride. Everyone is welcome, please contact Daniel Hall if you would like to attend.



Volunteers' Walk for National Volunteers Week

Volunteers from the Brothers of Charity Services took part in a Volunteers Walk on the 5th of June 2018. They were joined by volunteers from the Wildlife Trust in Lancashire, Manchester and North Merseyside, St Catherine's Hospice, Cruse Bereavement Care and Cuerden Valley Park.

The group met at the Visitors Centre in Cuerden Valley Park at 10:30am and set off for a scenic 6 mile walk to the Chapel at Lisieux Hall. During the walk everyone stopped to enjoy a picnic in the sunshine as well as a well needed rest.

Once the group reached Lisieux Hall, they were given refreshments and an interesting presentation on Voice for All and the history of the Brothers of Charity Services by Becky, the Chair of VfA, and Daniel, the Regional Advocacy and Community Engagement Coordinator. After

the talk, everyone walked up to the Mound on the edge of Buckshaw Village to have their annual group taken!

The Volunteers Walk, which is held to celebrate National Volunteers Week, is always enjoyed by everyone who takes part. Thank you to Bob Clare for arranging the event each year and thank you to Michael Swarbrick, a leader of Chorley's Healthwalk team, who led the walk.



Holiday Review: Tim and Chris' Holiday to Bempton Beach House in Filey

In July, Tim and Chris went on holiday with their support workers, Marion, Paul and Louise, to Bempton Beach House on 'The Bay' in Filey. Everyone had a lovely time. We went into Scarborough where Sea Fest was on. There were lots of good stalls and music playing.

We went on a catamaran which was designed for people with disabilities with a charity called Wet Wheels who are normally based in Whitby. We went really fast as everyone was enjoying it and Chris got to drive the catamaran, which he loved!

We also went to see the Grumbleweeds in Bridlington which was good fun.

The Beach House itself included facilities such specialist bedrooms with a fully profiling bed, ceiling tracking and hoist leading to an en-suite wet room with shower table and shower chair.

For more information on Bempton Beach House you can ring 08456 050371, email bemptonholidays@wilfward.org.uk or visit www.bemptonholidays.co.uk.



Pastoral Care Update

Saturday Space Group Visit Blackburn Cathedral

On Saturday the 14th July the Saturday Space Group visited Blackburn Cathedral. From time to time we leave our chapel space at Lisieux Hall and visit various places. This time we wanted to see one of the country's oldest places of Christian worship. Our visit was arranged beforehand in order to accommodate our groups' needs. It began with a well-executed guided tour

by Sian Howell-Jones, Education Officer. We then met Canon Rowena Pailing who told us a little bit about worship in the cathedral. We had lunch in The Cloister Garth, a tranquil new garden space with a fountain, followed by a stained glass window workshop. We all enjoyed the trip and would like to visit the cathedral again.



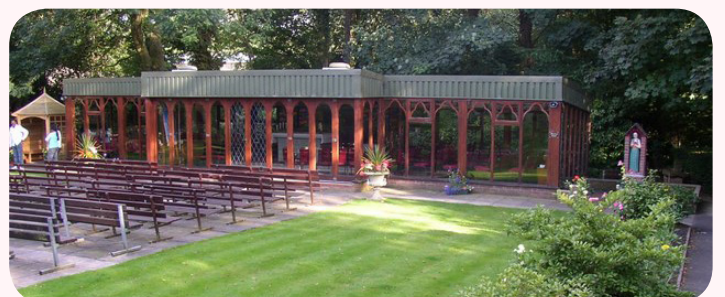
Saturday Space Celebrate the Royal Wedding

On Saturday the 19th May, the Saturday Space Group held a Royal Wedding Party to celebrate and watch Prince Harry and Meghan Markle's wedding. The excited group gathered in The Chapel at Lisieux Hall in the morning of the big event, had a cup of coffee and started watching while tucking in to an assortment of snacks. Everybody had a fantastic time; it was a beautiful occasion to watch together.



Pilgrimage to Ladyewell Shrine

On Monday 18th June all of our pastoral groups visited Ladyewell Shrine in Preston on our annual pilgrimage. We had a Mass arranged especially for us to celebrate our pastoral group. This was followed by a supper held in the shrine's refectory. The pilgrimage was enjoyed very much by all who attended!



'It's Good to be Good' Discussion with Nugent Care

On 16th June at Saturday Space we discussed the theme, 'It's good to be good'. This month we had special visitors, The Nugent Care group from Liverpool. From time to time we hold joint meetings in either Lancashire or Merseyside; these are good opportunities to share our experience, faith and passion. Our meetings are always full of joy and excitement. We gathered together in The Chapel in the morning, had a chat with a cup of coffee, watched a PowerPoint presentation

along with a few video clips and then shared our experiences on being good. We also sang several songs and enjoyed a delicious meal of fish and chips. Afterwards we moved to the other part of the chapel where we spent some time on our art work. The last part of the meeting was focused on music; we played various musical instruments such as the drums, triangles and maracas. To finish off our meeting, the group sang 'A Goodbye Song'.



Creative Arts' Re-Use/ Recycle Project

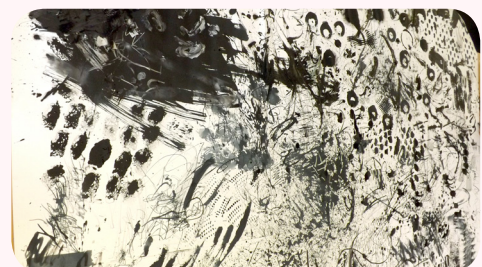
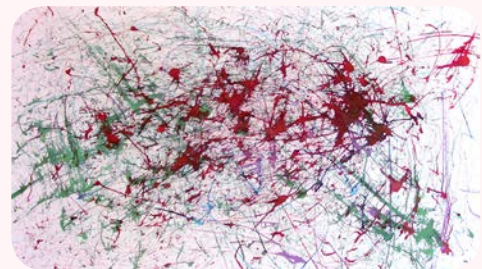


On Friday the 3rd of August the artists at Selection BOCs created some imaginative and dramatic art prints using recycled

plastic bottles and pots.

The Re-use/recycle project has been initiated as part of a new ambitious twelve month arts programme. Our imaginative artists created, as a group, a dramatic monochrome art print. The 'action painter' Jackson Pollock, would surely have been impressed with this ambitious artwork. The intuitive mark making, in the piece, recalls the artists' group performance. And the underlying sense of design that emerges from the chaos is counter intuitive to our logical thought processes.

The works impact lies in these contradictions; it is without doubt a seminal piece for our BOC artists. The session was led by our resident artists Alex Wareing Charlotte Stockley and Alice Odgers. Alex Wareing was pleased with the work and noted that some artists who normally work in isolation became involved collectively and enjoyed the sessions.



Silent Soldier Tribute to First World War Heroes in Worden Park



The Silent Soldier has taken up his position in The Walled Garden at Worden Park in Leyland.

The soldier stands five feet tall and is constructed from black

Perspex. South Ribble Borough Council has sponsored the silent soldier artwork; joining the nation in remembering the fallen heroes during 2018, one hundred years on from the end of the First World War.

The Silent Soldier stands as a poignant tribute to those who didn't return home, and to those whose lives would never be the same again. At the end of the war, when soldiers returned to the UK, they were given a railway ticket to their home station. From there, they were on their own, and could be seen across the country, walking across fields and along roads, returning to their families. The Silent Soldier symbolises this with his head pointing downwards in reflection.

Councillor Alan Ogilvie, Armed Forces Champion at South Ribble Borough Council said: "The Walled Garden in Worden Park is a great location for the soldier as it is a peaceful area for contemplation.

"This is a fitting and poignant tribute for us to be involved with."

"It is important that we remember that sacrifices those brave soldiers made, 100 years on from the end of the First World War. I am extremely proud that South Ribble Borough Council has organised a fitting Centenary Programme to commemorate this historic anniversary."

The Walled Garden in Worden Park was restored as a result of a partnership with Brothers of Charity Services, who manage the gardens as a horticultural social enterprise. It has since offered an area of peace and tranquillity to visitors. The Walled Garden is a valued leisure and learning resource for local families, schools and colleges, whilst also offering adults with learning disabilities the opportunity to learn about growing vegetables, cutting flowers and plants.

Matt Hoyles, Service Manager, Community Engagement at The Brothers of Charity Services said: "it's an honour to be involved in South Ribble's Centenary Programme. The Silent Soldier is such a moving reminder of the sacrifices that were made during the First World War, and we are pleased visitors to the park are able to use the serenity of The Walled Garden to reflect on this."

The Silent Soldier is one in a series of tributes planned during 2018 in South Ribble's Centenary Programme that includes the planting of poppy meadows, memorial poppies and recognition of Corporal John McNamara, who was awarded the Victoria Cross.



Gardening Teams Help Create Art Trail



Our Hands on Gardening and Heaton Street gardening teams recently took part in the making of St

Catherine's Park Arts Trail. They helped to plant over 200 yellow butterfly sculptures created by a local school, Lostock Hall Academy, working in partnership with South Ribble Borough Council.

The Art Trail took 4 very wet days to complete, with the teams working in a variety of weather conditions to make sure that the butterflies were planted in time for the grand opening by the local mayor. Everyone really enjoyed meeting the

school children who had produced the butterflies as well as working alongside the staff from the council and St Catherine's Hospice.

Comments from the many visitors from St Catherine's Hospice have been very positive about how good the walk is and how it has helped to brighten people's days in such gloomy weather.



Our Social Enterprises Team Up for National Allotments Week



Roccoco Coffee Lounge, The Marina Café and The Walled Garden teamed up to celebrate

National Allotments Week from 13th to 17th August 2018.

Our social enterprises based in Leyland and Adlington produced a range of delicious dishes and cakes made with home grown vegetables from The Walled Garden. Serving dishes such as chicken, beetroot and feta cheese salad and

courgette & pistachio cake; the week gave the teams a chance to experiment and make some tasty new recipes while using locally picked ingredients sourced locally from just down the road!



Closing Date for the Next Edition of VoiceBOCS

The closing date for submission of articles for the next edition of VoiceBOCS is **Friday 1st February 2019**. Are you going holiday, having a day out, celebrating a birthday or would like to tell us about a hobby? Let us know about it!

Please email your articles and photographs to marketing@brothersofcharity.org.uk.

VoiceBOCS Information

VoiceBOCS is available to download on our website: www.brothersofcharity.org.uk. You can have your own personal copy emailed to you by supplying your e-mail address to info@brothersofcharity.org.uk. If you would like to arrange a copy to be sent out by post contact Lisieux Hall Reception on 01257 266 311.

Tribute to Brother Denis Kerins RIP



**BROTHER
DENIS KERINS
RIP 8TH
JANUARY
1944 - 1ST
APRIL 2018**

Brother Denis Kerins, who died peacefully on Easter Sunday after a long illness, was a calm, considerate and gentle person who made a major contribution to the lives of all with whom he came into contact. This was especially true of his contribution to the wellbeing of the many persons with a learning disability whose lives he touched both through his personal engagement and his high quality leadership.

Br. Denis was born in Gneeveguilla near Rathmore in the heart of Sliabh Luachra in Co Kerry in 1944, a heritage of which he was very proud. Having attended primary and second level schooling locally he joined the Congregation of the Brothers of Charity in August 1962 where he made First Profession as a Brother of Charity in August of 1964. Br Denis qualified as a Psychiatric Nurse at Belmont Park, Waterford in 1967 and completed a further three year course of training at the National Rehabilitation Hospital in Rochestown Avenue, Dun Laoghaire to become an Occupational Therapist in 1970. While completing his studies in Rochestown Avenue, Br. Denis took Final Profession as a Brothers of Charity in 1969.

In 1970 Br. Denis became the first Occupational Therapist to work in the Brothers of Charity Services at Gattonside House, Melrose in the Scottish Borders where he became Leader of the Religious Community two years later. During his time at Gattonside House, between 1970 and 1981, Br. Denis provided a calm, unassuming but inspiring and professional leadership of the services for adults with a learning disability. In addition to the many other innovations he introduced, he established a highly respected OT Department which

provided training placements for students from the University of Edinburgh and brought a new professional dimension to the supports provided to the adults in the services. However he was always a team player, convinced that little could be achieved without respect for the contribution of each team member whatever their role might be. He emphasised too the quality of the relationships in the lives of those supported by the services, promoting at the same time, a sense of respect and self-reliance. On relocating to the services of the Brothers at Lisieux Hall near Preston in Lancashire in 1981, Br. Denis continued the same fine tradition. In challenging and changing times and in a service that was larger and expanding, he continued to lead successfully and inspirationally, supported by his religious community and by the well-motivated staff team, until his retirement.

Br. Denis was a major contributor to the spiritual life and mission of the Congregation of the Brothers of Charity, as Leader of the Religious Community and of the Services, as a Provincial Councillor and as a Trustee/Board Director in the services provided by the Brothers and their thousands of staff colleagues in Ireland and Britain. His contribution was firmly based on fidelity to the Gospel message and to the inspiration of the Founder, Peter Triest, who believed that God is Love and that it is through the richness and quality of the relationships in our lives that we come to know and love God and each other more each day.

Where he and the teams he led have gone before it is most heartening to note that so many people working in the Brothers of Charity Services in Britain and Ireland continue in the same noble tradition. For this the Brothers are eternally grateful to God and to each of the staff members involved, at every level, in carrying out the mission of the Congregation today. He will be sadly missed by his Sisters and Brother, his Aunt Mary, his Aunt in Law Eileen, nieces, nephews, friends, his Religious Community and his colleagues in the services of the Brothers of Charity at home and abroad. May his gentle soul rest in peace together with his late sister Mary and his loving parents Humphrey and Nora.