

THE Ring

ISSUE THREE - 2020

All the news and achievements
from MacIntyre



MacIntyre

Providing support...your way



IN THIS ISSUE:

OUR LATEST NEWS

We say hello to three new directors, goodbye to Emma Killick, our Adult Services Director and provide an update on our support in Kent.

THE BIG GIVE CHALLENGE

This December, we are taking part in the Big Give Challenge and we will be hosting a number of special online events to celebrate. We share how you can get involved.

CHANGING PERCEPTIONS: DALE'S STORY

We share the inspirational story of Dale, a young man supported by 'MacIntyre No Limits' and how he is changing perceptions through his music.

Welcome

from Sarah Burslem

As we navigate the second wave of COVID-19 and enter a month-long nationwide lockdown, I am reminded just how resilient and creative people are. Most people we support and our staff teams are taking the current restrictions in their stride and remain as committed as ever to protecting each other and to staying connected with friends and family.



This commitment has played a huge part in keeping the positive test numbers across MacIntyre very low and keeping morale high. I would like to, once again, pass on my thanks to everyone who has played a part in this.

This week I attended the 'Social Care Future' three-day annual conference, alongside hundreds of disabled people, including some connected to MacIntyre.

The conference was the first to be held entirely online. The platforms used were a great space for people to share their stories and to plan for the future. People usually unheard definitely found their voice over the three days and, while we all miss human contact, we should build on the positive aspects of our new world; a new world where we all hear the views, hopes and dreams of disabled people.

Please do take the time to listen to a poem by Emily, who has a learning disability, which was read live as part of the conference.

Emily begins speaking at 46:46: https://youtu.be/oQjoL-95L_A

Sarah Burslem, Chief Executive Officer

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Have a story to share?

Do you have a story to share about someone supported by MacIntyre? Perhaps someone we support has achieved one of their goals, grown in confidence, or dared to try something new?

If so, we would love to hear from you.

Contact the Editor:

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Our Vision

For all people with a learning disability to live a life that makes sense to them.

Our Mission

We will support a sense of wellbeing through a celebration of each person's unique gifts, talents and contributions, the quality of our relationships and ensuring the promotion of real opportunities to connect with others.

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Hello and Goodbye



Welcoming our New Directors

Recently our Director Team welcomed several new members, including Adult Services Directors Sebastian Moh and Laura Selby.

The team also welcomed Andrew Moran, who has extended his current involvement with MacIntyre as Interim CEO at MacIntyre Academies and Director of Education and Children's Services at MacIntyre

Goodbye to Kent

Over the past few months, MacIntyre and Kent County Council have come to the decision that our services at Dartford Road and Edenbridge will transfer to a new local provider. The new provider will be one that has a significant profile locally, as well as an established network of local support and activity.



Dartford Road became part of the MacIntyre family over 25 years ago, when a parent recommended MacIntyre, following the support we had provided to her son.

Sarah Burslem, CEO, said "No one we support will need to move house and all of the current MacIntyre staff will transfer their employment to the new provider. Everyone has been informed and we are working together for a smooth transfer at the end of November.

We should like to thank all our staff and supporters for all they have done over the years, and wish everyone who lives there a positive and happy future."

Goodbye to Emma Killick

Emma Killick, Director of Adult Services, will be leaving MacIntyre after 30 years. Emma started her employment as a Support Worker at Westoning and has been a director since 2014.

Our CEO, Sarah Burslem shares her thoughts on Emma's time at MacIntyre:

"There is so much that we have to thank Emma for, including her unrelenting loyalty over many years and the standard she sets in terms of being an authentic leader. Whatever has been asked of Emma over the years (and there has been a lot!) she has shown complete and utter loyalty to everyone connected to MacIntyre and to the organisation itself.

Emma's authenticity is legendary. She creates and maintains mutually respectful relationships, is transparent and warm in all of her interactions and in all of her 'asks' of other people. Quite simply, Emma lives and breathes MacIntyre's DNA, characterised by an unwavering expectation that she places on herself and others, to be the very best.



Over the last nine years, she has led on our health agenda, spurred on by the vision for health equality for disabled people. She has been unrelenting in raising our internal health knowledge and skills and in influencing the wider sector's health agenda. I believe that we will be talking about Emma for a very long time and as she engrosses herself into her full-time Masters course, I would like to personally thank her for all that she has given to MacIntyre, over what has been quite an exceptional time."



One donation. double the impact

For the first time ever, we are thrilled to be part of The Big Give Christmas Challenge, a match-funding event which runs from 1 to 8 December.

It has been a tough year for fundraising. Many of our normal events have been cancelled, yet the need for funds for the people we support has not diminished, particularly with the need to find different ways to keep in touch with friends and families and to find different things to do at home.

With many dark winter nights ahead of us and feelings of continued uncertainty, we are on a mission to ensure the people we support stay connected to their loved ones and we need your help to achieve this.

If you donate between 1 to 8 December 2020, your donation will be doubled and will have twice the impact on the people we support.

How does The Big Give Challenge work?

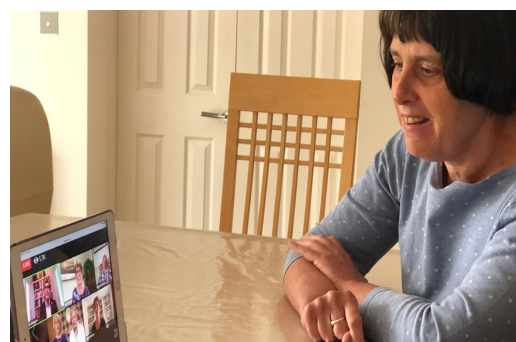
- In September we secured £1,000 in pledges
- In October we secured a match funder, who also pledged £1,000
- In December, we are aiming to secure donations totalling £2,000 to release the pledges, giving a total of £4,000

How will my gift be used?

All funds raised from The Big Give Challenge will be used to buy suitable technology (for example smartphones, iPads and computers) to keep in touch with friends and family. This is always important but has become particularly crucial during the pandemic.

How can I get involved?

- Donate online from 12.00 on Tuesday 1 December to 12.00 on Tuesday 8 December
- Donations can be any amount from £5
- Follow and share our posts on social media
- Tell your friends, family and colleagues



8 days of Christmas: Big Give Events

To celebrate taking part in The Big Give, we are holding a host of virtual events starting on Tuesday 1 December. This is what you can look forward to...

1 December: MacIntyre's Meet Up

with special guest Niraj Kapur and the Milton Keynes Mayor

1 December: Our Virtual Christmas Fair begins

3 December: MacIntyre Families Podcast

with MacIntyre's Family Engagement Consultant Nicola Payne

5 December: MacIntyre's Big Give Gameathon

5-6 December: MacIntyre's Big Give Christmas Concert

with performances from Jack Montgomery, Nigel Hammond and more

8 December: Final day of our Virtual Christmas Fair

To find out more about the above events, please visit:

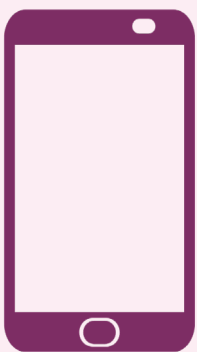
<https://www.macintyrecharity.org/events/>



Donate in 3 steps!

To support us during The Big Give, simply follow the steps below **between 1-8 December**. No matter what you can spare, every donation will go towards purchasing digital devices for people we support, tackling digital exclusion and helping people to feel connected and included during these challenging times. Here is our handy three-step guide to donating...

1



Download a free QR code reader on your smartphone or tablet, through your app store.

2



Using the QR reader app, hold your device over our MacIntyre Big Give QR code above. This will take you directly to our donation page!

3



Remember, if you donate to us through this page between 1-8 December, your donation will be doubled, at no extra cost to you!

Around MacIntyre...



'Wood' you believe it

Ben, a gentleman we support in Bedfordshire, has been busy turning his hand to woodwork over the summer and has developed a host of new skills along the way.

Rick, a Support Worker who worked alongside Ben said: "Ben absolutely loves working with tools and wood. We tried some new projects which included birdboxes, a hedgehog box, various name signs, a sofa arm drinks holder and a commission to refurbish some furniture."

Rory's Cycling Social

With support from our Great Communities Project in Warrington, 'Rory's Cycling Social Club' continues to be a success.

Adhering to COVID-19 guidelines, the group of six (including the group's founder Rory, who has autism) regularly meet at a distance to cycle around their local area. The cycling sessions have proved essential for the group's wellbeing during these difficult times. Well done, Rory.



Mike's heroic scarecrow

Mike, a gentleman supported by MacIntyre in Leicestershire, recently took part in a local scarecrow building competition, enlisting the help of his support team at MacIntyre.

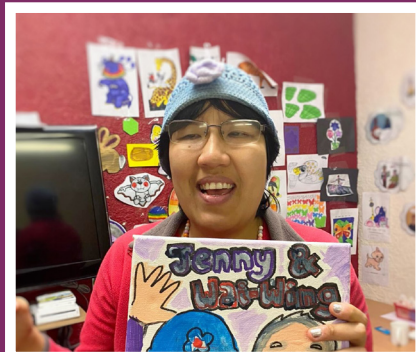
Reflecting on his heroic scarecrow, Mike has written about the experience below.

"Hi I am Mike, I live in Leicester. In my city, there is a scarecrow trail taking place. My friends and support staff suggested that I take part as I love spending time doing arts and crafts.

We spent the next two weeks constructing the scarecrow, starting with paper mache, then painting and stuffing him, then finally putting him together. I really enjoyed this project, especially as there are heroes and I love superheroes. I am very proud of my scarecrow."

What have the people we support, our staff, families and specialist teams been up to across the country? Find out...

Photo Gallery



We love this photo taken recently of Jenny from Leicestershire. Jenny created this artwork as a present for her brother.



The young people we support and staff at MacIntyre School have been busy during half term!



We love to see photos of people we support doing an activity they enjoy and this photo from Worcester is no exception! Apple Pie anyone?

Spotlight on our...

Specialists

Catherine Farrell: Person Centred Approaches Advisor



Catherine Farrell joined MacIntyre in 1995 and is now the lead for our Person Centred Approaches work. We asked her to share her MacIntyre story.

"I first joined MacIntyre as a Support Worker to increase my experience of working with people with a learning disability. I had already started my MA in Learning Disabilities and was pleased that MacIntyre would support me to be able to work around my part-time studies and were keen to share my learning.

After a few months, I was promoted to a Senior Support Worker role. I received feedback that this was partly due to my response to a question about staff having power. My belief is that staff need to be aware of the power they can have in relation to the people they support; it's their responsibility to be aware of this and to use it to empower people and give power back. This has been the basis of my role ever since.

I continued to have different opportunities. My next role was as Registered Manager, a role which involves juggling many different aspects; from managing the staff team, to organising building maintenance and repairs, emergencies, liaising with external colleagues and being compliant. The list goes on...

"Empower people and give power back...that is the basis of my role."

Around 10 years ago a different opportunity became available, with a focus on ensuring that the voices of the people we support are heard. During this time, I was asked to develop and implement MacIntyre's Person Centred Planning policy. This was in 1999 and Person Centred Approaches has been at the heart of my role ever since.

Although there have been many changes along the way, in many respects things have come full circle. We have embarked on our 'Nothing about you without you' project, which aims to ensure that the people we support are heard at all levels and involved in influencing the decisions that MacIntyre makes, helping to shape its future as equal co-producing participants.

We have also increased our focus on personal relationships, sexuality and gender guidance. This is an area where self-advocacy is very important, as can be seen with the work that includes someone we support as part of the national Supported Loving Network.

The last 25 years have never been dull and I have been lucky to have the opportunity to work in such varied and interesting roles."

We currently have a variety of roles at MacIntyre.

Join our team: www.macintyrecharity.org/careers

An update on our work with families...



Nicola Payne, MacIntyre's Family Engagement Consultant, is currently running a monthly virtual event exclusively for families and carers of people we support called 'Let's Come Together'.

Upcoming dates

- Tuesday 8 December: 7:30pm-9:30pm
- Tuesday 12 January: 7:30pm-9:30pm

To sign up, visit our website, or contact :

E: nicola.payne@macintyrecharity.org



Changing Perceptions: Dale's Story

Dale, a young man supported through our further education programme 'MacIntyre No Limits', has won the award titled 'Upcoming Male Artist' at the Milton Keynes Inspiration Awards 2020.

Dale is a young man who knows all about overcoming personal challenges to beat the odds. After a premature birth, Dale received a diagnosis of autism at 18 months, which led doctors to predict his life would be restricted...but Dale had other plans.

Around the age of five, while still non-verbal, it was discovered by chance that he could play music. Despite his diagnosis, Dale has since used his unwavering talent for music to rewrite his future and teach others what you can achieve when you live positively.

Making a difference

In just a few years, Dale has made an impact on his local community by holding his own rooftop charity concert and running a music group for other young people supported by MacIntyre. Not only this, but Dale has also entertained at care homes for the elderly, played with the Police Symphony Orchestra and has met his musical heroes, Herman's Hermits.

However, Dale's success hasn't come without challenges.

Dale's family said:

"We believe that Dale has achieved a great deal in changing perceptions surrounding people who live with lifelong challenges and even though he will never live a fully independent life, he will continue to show others that people like himself live very happy and fulfilled lives and still do good work in the community for the benefit of others."

Referring to his recent win, Dale's family added:

"We are so grateful to everybody who voted for Dale. These are very difficult times and I cannot express how much of a lift this has been for us all."

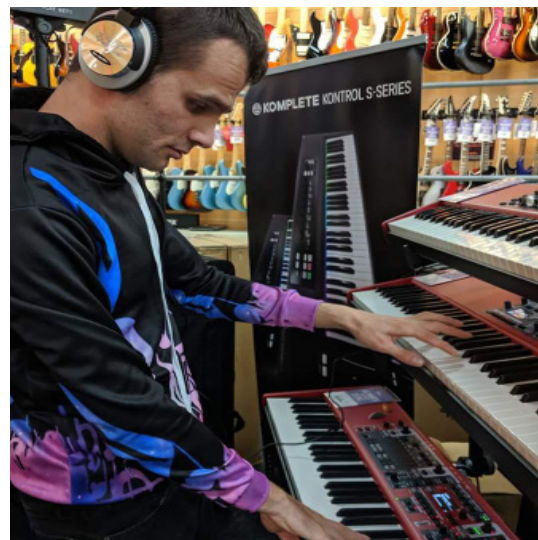
Michael, who supports Dale at MacIntyre, said:

"Dale has made great strides in his communication and social skills. He is a confident, talented young man, with an amazing attitude to life.

He has relative perfect pitch and dedication to music. He plays the ukulele, banjo, accordion, electric bagpipes, drums, harmonica and many other instruments, but the piano is his forte.

He has overcome challenges to do the things he loves and is teaching us all how to live positively, follow your passion and make a difference."

Congratulations, Dale!



Stories to make you...

Smile...

Swapping charity shop for a market stall

Over the last few months, before the second lockdown came into place, our team and people we support in Derbyshire swapped the indoor MacIntyre Charity Shop in Queen's Park, for a stall at the Staveley Market each Friday.

For Kim and Christine, whom we support, working at the stall has proved to be essential to their wellbeing.

Model making with James

James, who is supported by MacIntyre in Leicestershire, has been testing his creativity over the past few months by creating realistic models made entirely out of blue-tac. Before lockdown began, like many of us, James' schedule was full. When everything came to a grinding halt in March, his imagination began to run wild. This period allowed him to develop his skills and soon he was swapping film nights for a chance to bring his creations to life.

Memories and Miles 2020: over £500 raised!

At the beginning of October, we invited you to take part in Memories and Miles in full 2020 style, to raise money for people we support with a diagnosis, or suspected diagnosis of dementia.

We are proud to share that, thanks to your efforts, we have raised over £560, all of which will go towards helping people we support with dementia to take part in activities they enjoy and buy vital equipment. Thank you.



Monday afternoon is... debating the best Doctor with Wendy.

Your next career starts here.
macintyrecharity.org/careers/



MacIntyre

Providing support...your way



A spotlight on.... our supporters

We really would not be where we are today without the continued support of each and every one of our fundraisers, Corporate Partners and lifelong supporters.

We have been overwhelmed by the thoughtfulness and generosity of so many of our supporters over the past few months. Every single gift is already making a real difference to the people we support

We'd like to say thank you to everyone, including:

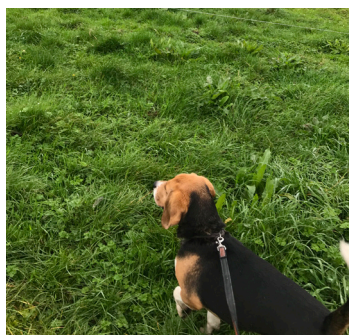
The MacIntyre staff team from Fern Lea in West Cheshire who braved a Skydive and raised over £3,700



All our MacIntyre Lottery players

Everyone who made a gift via our Amazon Wishlist.

Everyone who got involved in Time for Tea in June



Everyone who took part in Memories & Miles in October

Those who asked for gifts for MacIntyre in lieu of birthday presents and celebrations

Everyone who has continued to support our COVID-19 appeal, raising funds for items which make a difference to the people we support during the pandemic

The Trusts and Foundations who continue to support us through grants for specific projects

Thank you for the gifts we have received In Memory and gifts in Wills



Dates for your diary: 2021

5 January: MacIntyre's Meet Up, our virtual business networking event

March 2021: Move with MacIntyre will be back!

29 April: MacIntyre Golf Day

2-3 May: Milton Keynes Marathon Weekend including; Marathon, Half Marathon Relay, 10k, 5k and Fun Run



Contact events@macintyrecharity.org for more information

Congratulations

...to all our colleagues who celebrated their MacIntyre anniversaries recently!

5 years

Karen Pinder
Kerri-Ann Etheridge
Helena Cooper
Barbara Stephens
Zena Bickerstaff
Ilaria Orlando
Neil Ward-Jackson
Rachel Wenman
Synthia Nkomo
Jose Quezon
Amber Murtha
Sheila Nott
Kelsey Bellchambers
John Jones
Amanda Bunda
Michelle Wilkinson
Rowan Jackson
Franc Kaganzi
Lisa Trotman
Jacqueline Haynes
Angela Gailans

Sally Dickerson
Adam Martin
Kelly Ikin
Angela Perry
Victoria Dempsey
Sheila Sige
Linda Dennis
Zoe Darvell
Pauline Edwards
Jaime Carrington
Malcolm Patterson
Malifa Sahir
Christine Woodhams
Leann Keogh
Amy Kurkus

10 years

Angeline Jones
Jean Villaluz
Ingrid Elms
Julie Swinnerton
Lynne Walsh
Victoria Norris
Peter Sullivan
Monika Dabrowska
Andy Jeffs
Ian Pearson
Georgina Grice
Christine Dyson
Jan Kendall
Tracy Done

15 years

Vivien Morgan
Rebecca Hyman
Timothy Woodward
Jimmy Bongomin
Valerie Coppins
Heather Evans
Ann Fox
Milly George
Constance Ries
Andrew Fry
Tracy Gill
Margaret Shipley
Sarah Underhill

20 years

Lorna Clark
Lisa Duffy
Helen Foster
Maureen Gilbert
Avril Blackman
Margaret Fagbola
Carol Groom
Susan Lightfoot

With special thanks to...

Kimberley Simpson: 25 years

Jean Lee: 30 years

giftaid it

Increase the value of all your donations for the last 4 years by 25% by filling in this Gift Aid declaration which allows use to claim back all the tax at no extra cost to you!

☐

I am a UK taxpayer and want MacIntyre to treat all donations I have made for the last 4 years and all future donations as Gift Aid donations.

Signature

Date

Name

Address

Postcode

You must pay income tax or capital gains tax at equal to the tax reclaimed from the HM Revenue & Customs by MacIntyre in the tax year. Please send your completed form to:

MacIntyre, FREEPOST RLXH-YZTA-ZGYB
602 South Seventh Street, Milton Keynes MK9 2JA

Lottery

The latest winning numbers

July

First prize of £500: 138

Second prizes of £50: 261 and 120

Third prizes of £25: 216, 135, 270, 397

August

First prize of £500: 153

Second prizes of £50: 107 and 109

Third prizes of £25: 313, 125, 486, 35

September

First prize of £500: 134

Second prizes of £50: 34 and 333

Third prizes of £25: 72, 175, 178, 225

Not signed up yet?

The MacIntyre Lottery costs just £5 a month per number. You can play as many numbers as you wish. Every penny raised from the MacIntyre Lottery goes directly to benefit the people we support. You can even nominate your favourite service to receive your donations.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Contact: **Claire Kennedy**

Tel: **01908 357012**

Email: fund@macintyrecharity.org

All winners will be contacted directly by the Fundraising Team. All winning numbers are published here in each issue of The Ring and on MacIntyre's website.

The MacIntyre Lottery is licensed by the Gambling Commission under the Gambling Act 2005. MacIntyre is committed to responsible gambling. It is an offence to gamble under the age of 16.



I want to help make a difference to the lives of the children, young people and adults supported by MacIntyre

- ☐ I enclose my gift of.....
- ☐ I enclose my cheque made payable to MacIntyre
- ☐ I have completed the Gift Aid Declaration overleaf

Please send me more information about:

- ☐ MacIntyre Lottery
- ☐ Making a regular gift
- ☐ Fundraising events
- ☐ Fundraising ideas
- ☐ Volunteering
- ☐ Leaving a lasting gift
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

- ☐ Please do not send me further correspondence

Please send your completed form to:
MacIntyre, FREEPOST RLXH-YZTA-ZGYB
602 South Seventh Street, Milton Keynes MK9 2JA