

THE Ring

ISSUE THREE - 2021

All the news and achievements
from MacIntyre



MacIntyre

Providing support...your way



IN THIS ISSUE:

OUR LATEST NEWS

MacIntyre and DanceSyndrome join forces; we're fundraising to support families with planning for the future and research is underway to learn more about couples with a learning disability who have dementia.

GO PURPLE IN AID OF MACINTYRE

Our supporters have been raising money for Go Purple in aid of MacIntyre.

DAVID'S WORK EXPERIENCE

We share how David, a young man we support through MacIntyre No Limits, has been developing his skills by completing work experience at a local farm.



Welcome

There is an air of optimism and celebration across MacIntyre at the moment as our lives begin to open up again and we venture out with friends and family.

We have attended several in-person award ceremonies in recent weeks, where people who draw on our support and our employees have been recognised for some wonderful achievements.

As you will read in this edition, we have created a formal partnership with DanceSyndrome. DanceSyndrome is an award-winning, inclusive dance company set up by Jen Blackwell, a woman with Down's Syndrome. A number of people who draw on MacIntyre's support are currently dancing their way through, with Dance Syndrome's support, an accredited dancing leadership programme.

This energy and optimism feels even more special given the challenges of the past two years. While we are not complacent, we are certainly learning how to safely get on with our lives within the context of fluctuating COVID-19 transmission rates.

Vaccinations make a huge contribution in enabling us to do this and we continue to support the very few people who draw on our support and the reducing number of employees who are yet to have the vaccine.

I hope that you enjoy this edition and that you share our joy in the positive stories.

S.A. Burslem

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 Marketing Team:
marketing@macintyrecharity.org
01908 230100

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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-  macintyre
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The Big Give Christmas Challenge 2021

The Big Give Christmas Challenge is back for 2021 and this year, we're raising funds to help families of the people who draw upon our support to plan for the future.

With help from our supporters, we are aiming to raise funds to create resources and continue to run our workshops, which provide a safe space for families to share their experiences and get to know each other.

You can find out more on page 6.



Joining forces with DanceSyndrome

We're delighted to announce that we will be working with DanceSyndrome to deliver accredited Dance Leader training and dance classes. DanceSyndrome is a multi-award winning inclusive dance charity, with a special focus on including everyone regardless of ability.

MacIntyre will be training people to become Dance Leaders who will then run dance classes in several different areas where MacIntyre works, including Milton Keynes, Oxford, Warrington and Worcester.

For more information on how to get involved, visit our website:

<https://bit.ly/DanceLeaderTraining>



Dementia research for couples

Stand by Me is a research project at University of Stirling that aims to find out more about the experiences of couples with a learning disability when one partner has dementia.

The idea for this study came from a married man with a learning disability who has dementia and shared his concern about how the diagnosis may impact on his relationship. To date, no studies have been conducted with couples who have a learning disability where one partner has a diagnosis of dementia.

MacIntyre has been approached by University of Stirling to help find couples or surviving partners who would be willing to take part in this research.

If you, or someone you know, would like to take part in this study please contact Dr. Paula Jacobs via email: paula.jacobs@stir.ac.uk.

Around MacIntyre...

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



Drama Group Launched in MK

Our team in Milton Keynes and the people we support have launched a drama group to help people to gain back their confidence and express themselves after shielding during the pandemic.

There is no denying the last 18 months have been challenging for us all. With many people we support shielding during lockdown and unable to socialise with friends and family, there's no surprise that for some, returning back to normality was going to be tough.

Cate, a member of our team in Milton Keynes, introduced the concept of the drama group when restrictions began to lift to help people feel more confident socialising with others again.

Partnering with the Puddle Project

A staff team from MacIntyre and the people we support have been holding wellbeing sessions at a new education hub in Warrington, known as The Puddle Project.

Located on what was formerly wasteland in Burtonwood, The Puddle Project is now a vibrant education centre for people with learning disabilities and additional needs. The project opened its doors in July 2021 thanks to a team of local business owners, teachers, environmentalists, health and safety executives and accountants.

Our team have become one of the many partners of the Puddle Project, focusing on health and wellbeing sessions for the adults and young people who visit.



Assistive Technology

Liam has been supported by MacIntyre for several years and has an active social calendar, from dates with his girlfriend, to volunteering at his local charity shop.

The introduction of a memo planner, an assistive technology tool, has had an incredible impact on Liam's life in the last few months. It has helped Liam to increase his independence and he hopes it will help him to achieve his goal to one day live alone, with continued support from our team in Shropshire.



Photo Gallery



We loved seeing the people we support celebrate Halloween this year. There were so many brilliant costumes!



The people we support in Derbyshire have launched their own football team!



Learning doesn't have to just be classroom based. The young people we support at MacIntyre School and Children's Homes have been enjoying learning through sensory play.



Work experience on the farm: David's Story

Through our MacIntyre No Limits Work Experience scheme, we are proud to support many young people to take their first step into employment and support their journey towards independent living.

MacIntyre No Limits is a further education model for young people with complex needs aged 16 and over, providing inclusive education in partnership with local colleges.

With the support of MacIntyre No Limits David, who's 21, has been undertaking an ongoing work experience placement at Basil's Farm. David has developed his personable skills and focus; abilities that will be essential for the future.

Since starting his work experience in April 2021, David has been supported to undertake several tasks, from grooming horses and planting trees, to driving a tractor. David also began to develop his culinary skills, preparing vegetables grown on the farm.

Using signs David said: "The placement is going really well. The best things are the horses, driving the tractor and cooking on the fire. It feels good when a task gets finished."

Melissa, who supports David said: "David has come on leaps and bounds since he started his work experience at Basil's Farm. He has worked harder than he ever has before with jobs around the farm."

Melissa added: "You wouldn't think that a farm is very accessible for a someone who uses a wheelchair, but that hasn't stopped David! Whatever task has been thrown our way we have managed to complete it between us as a team, come rain or shine!"



10 miles for MK Hospital

MacIntyre staff and people we support in Milton Keynes completed a sponsored 10-mile cycling challenge for Milton Keynes Hospital's Learning Disability Team, raising over £1,000.

Julie, a Senior Practitioner at MacIntyre said: "We really felt for the people going into hospital alone without being with their loved one. We discussed this with Paul and Steve, who we support, and they said they would like to help to bring them some comfort."

The funds raised by the group will purchase activity packs for people with a learning disability who are in the hospital.



One donation, twice the impact

The Big Give Christmas Challenge is back and there's a chance to double any donation to MacIntyre during the challenge week.

The Big Give Christmas Challenge Week runs from Tuesday 30 November at 12pm to Tuesday 7 December at 12pm.

Last year we took part in The Big Give Christmas Challenge for the first time and were delighted to raise over £5,300. Funds raised provided digital devices for people we support to connect with loved ones and friends during the pandemic.

This year we are raising funds for our Family Engagement Project – to support families with tools and resources and to plan for the future.

MacIntyre's Family Project was set up in 2019 and is funded entirely by charitable donations.

MacIntyre was established by the parents of a child with a disability and our work with families remains at the heart of our approach.

"I had never been offered any kind of family support by any previous care provider, so I was interested, but also because I wondered whether anybody would feel as I do." - Sibling



How does The Big Give Christmas Challenge Work?

- In September we secured £1,700 in pledges
- In December we are seeking to secure donations totalling £1,700 to release the pledges, giving a total of £3,400

How will my gift be used?

Every penny raised during this challenge will be used to develop family support sessions, workshops and co-produced resources to help families feel more equipped, empowered and better connected.

The sessions and workshops are intended to reduce isolation by creating peer support networks and providing a safe space for discussions. In addition we are providing training and support for our staff teams to better support families.

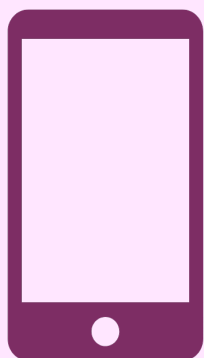
How can I get involved?

- Donate online using the link below from 12pm on Tuesday 30 November to 12pm on Tuesday 7 December
- Donations can be any amount from £5
- Follow and share our posts on social media
- Tell your friends, family and colleagues

Donate here: <https://bit.ly/BigGiveMacIntyre2021>



Donate in three steps!



Download a free QR code reader on your smartphone or tablet.

You can find this via your phone or tablet's app store.



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.



If you donate to us through this page between 12pm on 30 November to 12pm on 7 December, your donation will be doubled at no extra cost to you.

Spotlight on our Specialists



Using Intensive Interaction to support Somari

Somari was finding it very difficult to communicate and have positive social interactions and isolating herself from others. Using Intensive Interaction, our MacIntyre 'Competent Practitioners' have supported Somari to have positive and meaningful interactions.

Since working with the 'Competent Practitioners' in Intensive Interaction, Somari has begun to enjoy being with others and sharing her personal space, which she previously found incredibly difficult.

Jane Nickels Shortlisted

MacIntyre's Admiral Nurse, Jane Nickels, continues to advocate for good support for people with a learning disability who also have dementia. As well as supporting MacIntyre teams, Jane has also spoken at several national conferences during the year.

Jane's work has also been recognised externally with nominations at these awards:

- Jane Nickels – Finalist, Royal College of Nursing Awards
- Lynn Kennedy & Jane Nickels - Finalists at National Learning Disability and Autism Awards
- Jane Nickels & MacIntyre's Wellbeing Team shortlisted for Nursing Times Award



Safeguarding Adults Week 2021

At the time of preparing this issue, we're also getting ready to be part of the national 'Safeguarding Adults Week', which is hosted by the Ann Craft Trust. The week aims to highlight key issues in safeguarding, facilitate conversations and raise awareness of safeguarding best practice. The theme this year is Creating Safer Cultures.

MacIntyre is proud to take part in this week once again, sharing information to identify emotional abuse, keeping safe online and much more.

All of the content and advice shared during National Safeguarding Adults Week can be found on our website: macintyrecharity.org

Workshops for Families

As part of our work with families, MacIntyre's Family Engagement Consultant Nicola Payne runs regular workshops and peer support groups for families of people we support.

Meet MacIntyre for Siblings is a chance for brothers and sisters of the people we support to plan for the future, work together and build a support network.

Let's Come Together, a monthly online event for families and carers of people we support, continues to be popular. Let's Come Together is a chance to share stories, hear from specialist speakers and get to know other families across MacIntyre.

You can find all of the dates for our upcoming events for families here:

<https://bit.ly/familievents>





Nine Days of Purple Fun!

From 16-24 October, we painted the town purple for 'Go Purple in aid of MacIntyre', celebrating with our teams, the people who draw upon our support and our fabulous fundraisers.

From purple cakes to purple macs, purple-themed walks and purple parties, here are just some of the ways you got involved.

- Our MacIntyre Coffee Shop team were busy in the kitchen preparing purple cakes to sell to local businesses
- Iona, aged 7, walked 10 miles in support of Go Purple and hosted a bake sale with her brother Fraser raising over £1,000
- MacIntyre School and Children's Homes were seen donning purple
- Paulette (Polly) from Hampshire popped on her purple mac
- Our team in Oxfordshire and the people we support hosted a number of Go Purple activities, including face paints and a purple raffle
- A first for Go Purple - purple beetles from the people we support and our team in Warrington
- Spotted showing their support was our wonderful MacIntyre Golf Day committee

Thanks to your support we can continue to empower people we support to take on new challenges.

Inspired?

For more information on how to get involved in Fundraising at MacIntyre, visit: <https://www.macintyrecharity.org/get-involved/>



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:

Woodland Nursery

A team from the Woodland Nursery were not afraid to get their hands dirty to support MacIntyre, taking on a 5K obstacle course known as the Tough Mudder, raising over £400 for MacIntyre.

MacIntyre's London Landmark Half Marathon Runners

A team of six people took part in the London Landmarks Half Marathon in August, raising over £2,000 for MacIntyre.

Paul and Emma, MacIntyre's London Marathon Runners 2021

Paul and Emma took part in the London Marathon after being inspired by their friend. Thanks to their fantastic efforts, running an incredible 26.2 miles, Paul and Emma surpassed their initial target of £2,000, raising over £6,000 for MacIntyre.

The MacIntyre Golf Day Teams

The MacIntyre Golf Day returned on 1 September. 32 teams joined the event for a day of good golf, on-course catering and challenges, dinner, a live auction and an after-dinner speaker.

Over £40,000 was raised for one of MacIntyre's houses in Bedfordshire where we support six adults whose physical needs have changed over the years. The funds will be used to build an extension, which will include a large family room and the installation of a wet room.

PragmatiQ Solutions

A team from PragmatiQ Solutions took part in the Bedford Running Festival recently to raise funds for MacIntyre.

The funds raised will go directly towards creating a family room for the people we support in Bedfordshire. The family room will be an essential space where parents, siblings and carers can meet with their loved ones in private.

Clip 'n Climb Teams

Teams from Allica Bank, Franklins Solicitors and MacIntyre took part in our Clip and Climb challenge in November to funds, climbing the equivalent of base to summit of Ben Nevis on Climb Quest Milton Keynes' indoor climbing walls in under 60 minutes.

Thank you to Climb Quest and the teams for their support!



Congratulations

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

5 years

Beatrice Semugera Sempa	Courtney Batten
Rachel Baillie	Oliver Davies
Bernadette Brown	Lynsey Scripps
Kate Shurvinton	Karen Yould
Angela Peart	Abigail Wood
Matthew Lewis	Sandra Murphy
Carole Mckay	Christine Nelson
Mojama Saffa	Michael Andrew
Clare-Marie Bellchambers	Annie Johnston
Michelle Silliker	Angela Rowles
Nicholas Keeping	Yasmin Purcell
Sonia Edwards	Kate Bridge
Hannah Lewis	Charlotte Staker
Tracey Ball	Richard Tucker
Bonani Ntuli	Callum Laffar
Abigail Staley	
Louise Bailey	
Lindsey Ewan	
Olayinka Odugbesan	
Denise Johansson	
Karen Smart	
Alisa Abbott	
Deborah Treanor	
Alison Baker	

10 years

Nicole Adu
Jane Barnett
Raj Parmar
Callum Sillitoe
Carol Watson
Sarah Walker

15 years

Colin Adams
Marjorie Samudzimu
Vivienne Pearson
Janet Shenton
Lindsay Alesbrook
Natalie Stephenson
Magdalena Browarna
Lucy Watson

20 years

Carol Corbett
Elaine Forbes
Janet Cox
Mark Chandler
Janet Yarnold
Allison Bauman
Jackie Lynch

25 years

Audrey Cheley
Clare Daly
Nikki Belcher
Pasquale Verdura
Anita Taylor
Donald Delmohammed

30 years

Debbie McKinnon

giftaid it

☐

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

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!

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



MacIntyre

Providing support...your way

Lottery

The latest winning numbers

July

First prize of £500: 495

Second prizes of £50: 339, 305

Third prizes of £25: 90, 395, 280, 229

August

First prize of £500: 415

Second prizes of £50: 167, 374

Third prizes of £25: 293, 340, 400, 300

September

First prize of £500: 245

Second prizes of £50: 293, 29

Third prizes of £25: 37, 332, 42, 91

October

First prize of £500: 1

Second prizes of £50: 303, 105

Third prizes of £25: 136, 328, 394, 330

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.



Registered with
**FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR**



MacIntyre

Providing support...your way

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
- ☐ Dementia and Learning Disability
- ☐ Working with families
- ☐ Other (please specify)
- ☐ Please do not send me further correspondence

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

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