

September Newsletter

A message from the News Team:

Hello everyone,

September is here, and cooler months are approaching. We're already missing the lighter evenings and drier weather of summer. The rain and the leaves are falling here in the New Forest. We've been preparing vegetables and collecting apples ready to be juiced. Hot chocolates are good to warm you up in the colder weather. We've even seen the first forest pigs released for **pannage**!

We kickstarted the month at Winchester Personal Bests – an annual sports day for people who attend day opportunities. We represented teams Germany and Spain. There were fun activities like football, and it was nice to see other people we knew and celebrate our wins.



Welcome to our new monthly newsletter. Here you can find out what we've been up to in September.



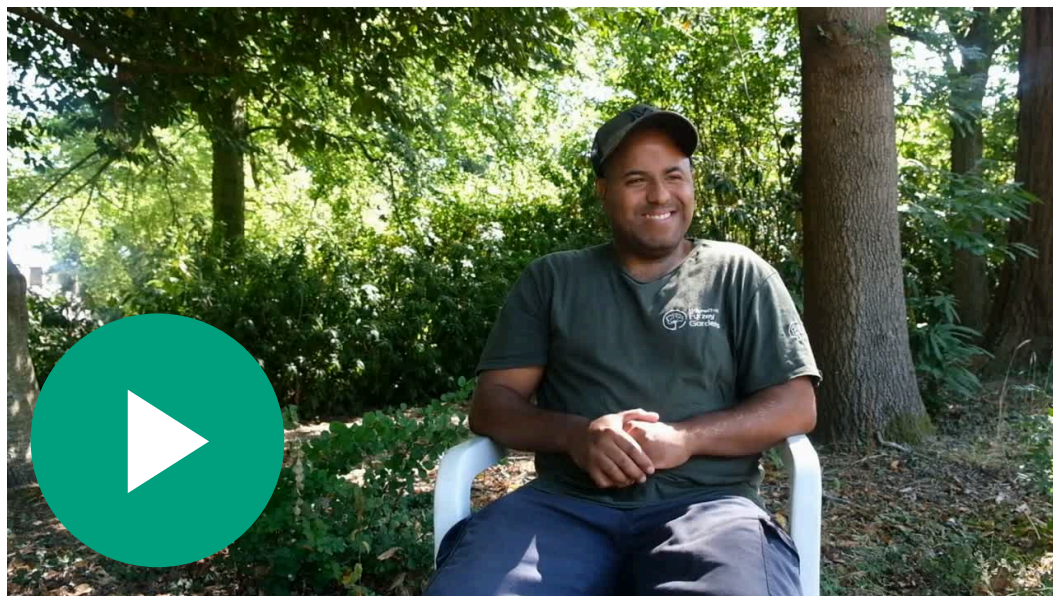
At the end of this newsletter, you can read one of September's *Minstead Enquirer* articles. If you want to read more of our articles, you can click **here**.

The News Team:

Silas, Rhianne, Jayden, Richard

Stories

Royce



Watch Royce share what his work with the Maintenance Team means to him.

New: Spotlight Series

We're excited to introduce our new Spotlight Series - monthly blog posts featuring the people we support.

This month, we're shining the spotlight on Naomi.

She talks to us about learning, teaching, friendships and enjoyable activities.

To read more about Naomi, click [here](#).

To read all previous Spotlight Series blog posts, click [here](#).



Events

Autumn Raffle

Win great prizes.
Help us transform lives.



Buy a raffle ticket and help more performers take part in Blue Apple Theatre!

Blue Apple Theatre is an inclusive theatre company in Hampshire. We help neuro disabled performers build confidence and creativity through theatre, dance, singing and film.

Every ticket you buy helps more people take part and creates more chances for our performers to thrive.

You can purchase tickets [here](#).

blueApple

Murder Mystery

Who killed Jacob Marley?
A murder mystery dining event.

Join us for an evening of fiendish fun at our murder mystery dining event, where you'll enjoy a delicious two-course dinner while helping to solve a festive Victorian crime at the **Solent Hotel & Spa**.

Watch live actors play out scenes, whilst you enjoy dinner served at your table. Interrogate the characters and uncover the clues, before offering your solutions to solve the crime.

- 20 November 2026
- Doors open at 7pm to be seated by 7:30pm
- £49.50 per person.

For more information and to book tickets, click [here](#)!



In case you missed it



Jay from Portsmouth Day Opportunities spoke to us about being part of the maintenance and gardening teams in Warren Avenue:

'It gives me motivation. It keeps me fit and I'm healthier now - I've lost 16 stone! I really enjoy it and like coming here.'



In July, Sean from New Forest Day Opportunities completed an inflatable fun run to raise money for Minstead Trust.

He has recently accomplished two amazing achievements - completing his 100th park run and he he ran a new personal best over 5k in 20.18 minutes, finishing 71st out of 1,062 runners!

Well done, Sean!



In case you missed it

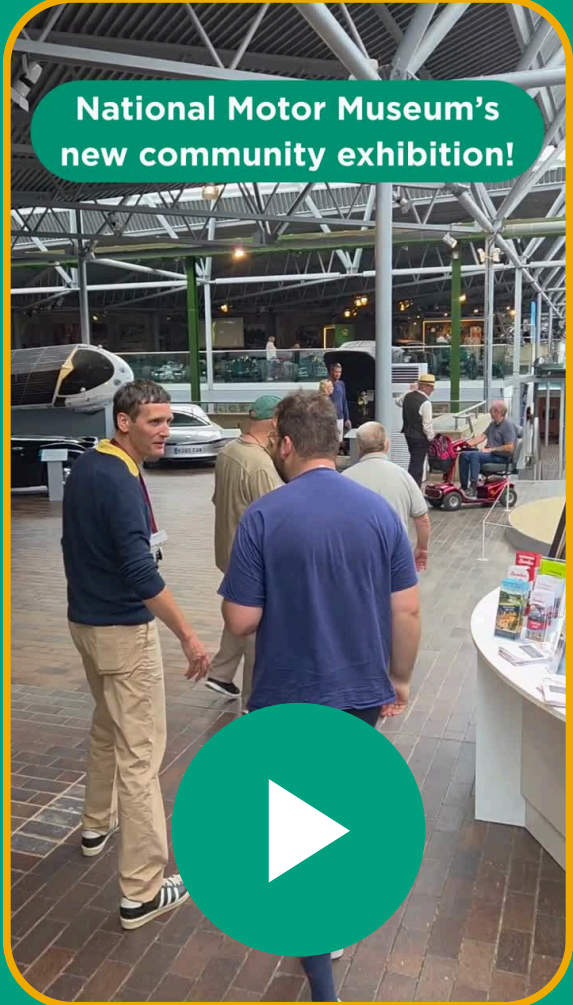
Winchester Personal Bests



The people we support in both our New Forest and Portsmouth Day Opportunities had a very busy day at Winchester Personal Bests.

They took part in cricket, football, athletics, boxing, squash, circuits and yoga before ending the day with an awards ceremony!

National Motor Museum's new community exhibition!



The people we support at New Forest Day Opportunities have created an art exhibition at the **National Motor Museum!**

Thoughtfully crafted with recycled materials, the 'Minstead Minibus Stories' display shows the importance of the minibuses to the people we support.

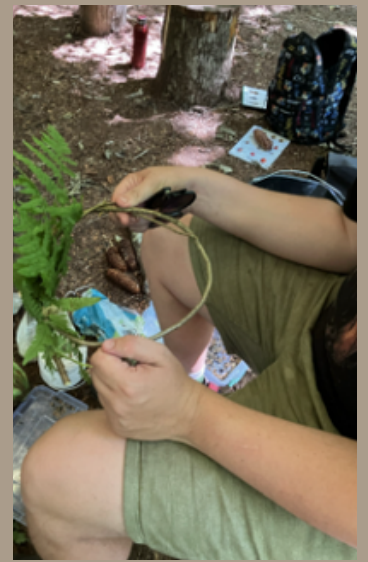


Outdoor Learning at Houndsdown School on Mondays by Silas

I love doing the outdoor learning. We made Pizzas and burgers on the fire. Food tastes different when cooked outside, I like that.

We also cooked marshmallows on the fire, some peoples fell off and remember not to put them straight in your mouth as it may burn you.





We made dream catchers, I liked making these because I like native American culture.

We made fire using flint and cut wood with a saw, its the first time I've done it. We had to find quite a few sticks to make the fire.

It was a safe controlled environment, do not make fires in the Forest at the moment. I made a staff because I am a Wizard.

If you enjoyed this article and want to read more by neuro disabled journalists, you can do so [here](#).

Jayden



Rhianne



Thank you for reading!



Richard



Silas