

Welcome to our January 2026 newsletter



Happy New Year to all our subscribers! As 2025 came to a close, our teams enjoyed numerous festive activities. We are mindful that people celebrate in different ways and ensured that everyone at Teamwork Trust feels included, respected and valued.

As we move forward together into 2026, our people remain at the heart of everything we do. Guided by our strategy and service users, we will strengthen community connections, focus on the quality of our services and clearly demonstrate the impact we achieve – supporting people to thrive and reach their goals.

Helen Burdett-Wright
Teamwork Trust CEO

It was definitely the season to be jolly in our centres



We had a simply wonderful Christmastime across our sites in Corby, Kettering and Wellingborough with festive fun, food, dancing, and even visits from Santa Claus himself. Our members (along with staff and special guests) all enjoyed themselves immensely. Here are a few pictures from the celebrations that took place around our centres.



Teamwork Trust news



In search of a new home

We are looking for a new home for our Corby centre. We need a welcoming and accessible building to become a modern hub for learning, activities and community connection.

Ideally, the space would have: good public transport links; outdoor space to support horticultural activities; space to support between 20 and 40 service users; office space for up to 8 staff; a quiet room for wellbeing sessions; and good car parking.

We own our buildings and would ideally look to purchase, although rental options would also be considered. If you're a local business, landlord, organisation or simply know of a space that could work for a community-focused charity like ours, we'd love to hear from you.



A pleasure to partner CLIF

We're proud to give a shout out to Extra UK, one of our long-standing outsourcing partners. Through working with Extra UK, our members take part in paid tasks preparing CLIF Bar boxes – including sorting, counting, bagging and boxing.

It's hands-on, real-world work that helps develop vital workplace skills such as numeracy, communication and task management and our members value this opportunity hugely. Being part of a team, working towards shared goals and producing high-quality work gives a real sense of purpose, responsibility and pride.

Earnings are reinvested directly back into the charity, helping fund trips, activities and experiences for our members, and we sincerely thank Extra UK for being such a valued partner.

Teamwork Times

Unfortunately there is no Teamwork Times in this edition of the newsletter. With far more important things to do in the build up to Christmas – namely partying and enjoying all the festivities – there was no time for our members to pick up their pens and discuss the latest news. Teamwork Times will return next month.

Teamwork People

A spotlight on the people who make Teamwork Trust such an amazing place

Kala Frankcam



Kala is the Education Lead for our Kettering Centre – although to pin her down to one role is not easy. Often referred to as 'Miss Rabbit' (after the Peppa Pig character known for having "all the jobs in the world"), her primary responsibility is for designing and delivering tailored educational and vocational sessions for our service users. The include core maths skills, creative writing sessions, current affairs lessons, and topical issues to increase awareness of the world around them.

Kala explains: "There are many additional facets to my role. I wear many hats, as they say, but ultimately my role focuses on reinforcing and embedding practical, meaningful skills that promote confidence, independence, and personal growth for our fabulous service users.

"I integrate life-skills learning wherever possible, including travel training to support greater independence. I also run craft sessions for fun and for our enterprise project, where we cost-analyse items for sale to reinforce functional maths and give insight into the working world.

"My first experience of Teamwork was as a volunteer in the craft sessions at Kettering and I absolutely loved it. When a job opportunity came up in 2021, I jumped at the chance because everything about Teamwork resonated with me, especially the service users, who were the biggest pull. The joy of their company is so uplifting.

"My first paid role here was actually in finance, which I really enjoyed. However, after being asked to provide some cover in education, it quickly became clear that my skills were a natural fit and I was soon invited to join the education team permanently.

"One of the things I love most about working at Teamwork is the variety each day brings. Recently a couple of the guys were talking about their favourite Christmas traditions, like looking at all the lights and decorations. One member also needed a new angel for his Christmas tree, so we planned a trip to a well-known garden centre and off we went to enjoy the festive displays.

"It was a lovely outing, and also a great chance to gather inspiration for our own crafts (every day is a learning day!). I went again the next day with another group, and then worked through the long list of others who want to go. I absolutely love it."

Social media

Here are a few of the activities to have featured recently on our social media



We received a wonderful £300 Christmas donation from the [Kettering Lions](#). David Wagg visited our Kettering centre to present the cheque and we are incredibly grateful for this generosity.

Members from both our Kettering and Corby centres had a brilliant time when they came together to enjoy a fantastic pantomime performance, brought to life by [Laugh Out Loud Theatre Company](#).

With so much going on, we looked back at some of the recent trips and activities that have taken place including visiting shopping centres, garden centres and the Wildlife Trust among many others.

Click on the pictures to find out more



Teamwork testimonial



"We were proud to partner and be lead contractor with Teamwork Trust to deliver their recent building and site improvements. The project was engaging and purposeful. Seeing the space transformed into an environment that will directly support people and the community was genuinely inspiring. Teamwork brought passion, clarity, and collaboration at every stage. This was more than a build project – it was an investment in social impact, and we're delighted to have played our part."

Colin Heyburn - Commercial Director, 55 (Product) Ltd

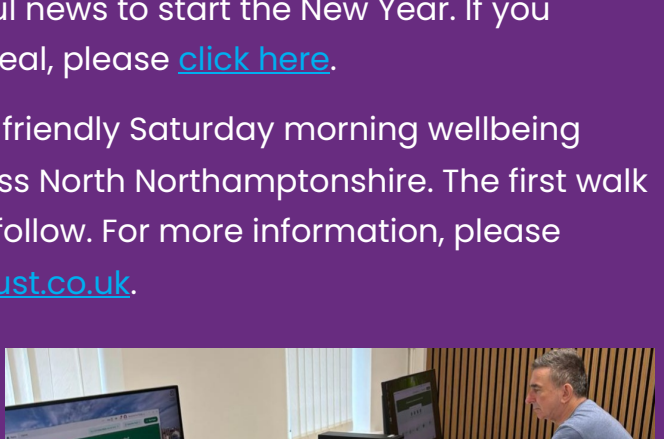
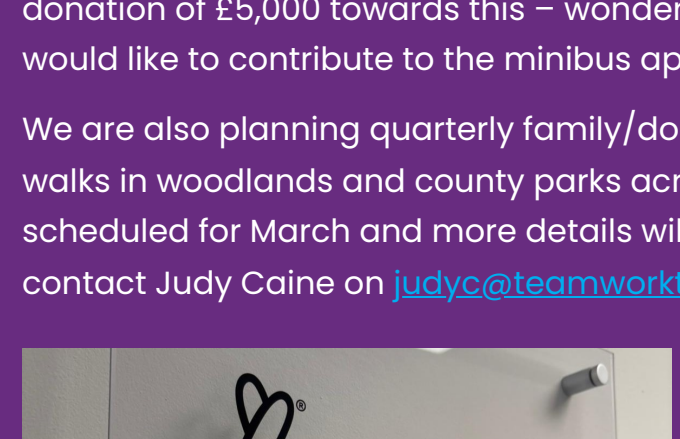
Fundraising news



One of our aims for this year is to partner with local communities and companies in Kettering to fully utilise our new *Opportunities and Learning Hub* at the Kettering Centre. If you'd like to know more or arrange a visit, please contact Ric Ellis on richard@teamworktrust.co.uk.

The main focus of fundraising in early 2026 will be for a much-needed minibus. We are delighted to share that the Margaret Giffen Fund has given us a very generous donation of £5,000 towards this – wonderful news to start the New Year. If you would like to contribute to the minibus appeal, please [click here](#).

We are also planning quarterly family/dog friendly Saturday morning wellbeing walks in woodlands and county parks across North Northamptonshire. The first walk scheduled for March and more details will follow. For more information, please contact Judy Caine on judyc@teamworktrust.co.uk.



The new Learning Hub in Kettering has been well received by our members and is available for local groups to use

Would you like to volunteer at Teamwork Trust?

[FIND OUT MORE OR FILL OUT A FORM HERE](#)