

Welcome to our September 2026 newsletter



As summer draws to a close, there is plenty to look forward to at Teamwork Trust.

Across our three centres, our members continue to develop skills, build confidence, try new things and play an active part in shaping their own opportunities.

We'll soon be sharing our new Impact Report, bringing together the achievements, experiences and stories of our members and showing the difference Teamwork makes across our communities.

I'm really looking forward to sharing it with you. In the meantime, I hope you enjoy this month's newsletter.

Helen Burdett-Wright

Teamwork Trust CEO



Our intrepid fundraisers did an amazing job in abseiling down the 418-foot high Lift Tower

Our minibus fundraising gets a massive lift!

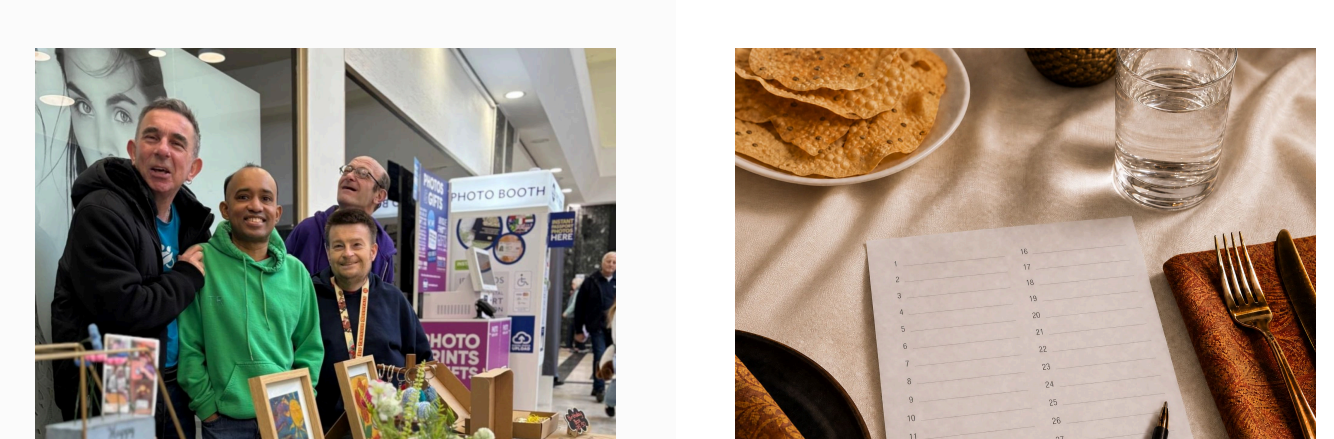
Four brave Teamwork Trust supporters took fundraising to new heights by abseiling down Northampton's 418ft National Lift Tower in aid of our EV Minibus campaign.

Sarah, Jen, Darren and Ralfy successfully completed the challenge and have already raised an incredible £2,500, with a few final donations still to be counted.

Every penny takes us closer to a disability-accessible electric minibus which will make it easier for the people we support to access activities, work placements and opportunities in the community.

A huge thank you to our fantastic four for taking on such an impressive challenge - and to everyone who donated and supported them.

Donations are still very welcome and can be made [via this link](#).



Teamwork news

Pop in to our pop-up

Members across all three Teamwork Trust centres are busy preparing for our very own pop-up shop at Wellingborough's Swansgate Centre during October half-term.

Opening on October 26 for six days, the shop will showcase and sell a range of products co-produced by our members through our social enterprise activities.

It is already providing valuable vocational opportunities, with members developing skills in customer service, money handling and other aspects of retail.

Income generated by the shop will be reinvested into our Enterprise department.

It will help make our activities more sustainable and create further opportunities for members to develop skills and experience.

Thinking caps and curry

Get your quizzing minds ready and join us at The Raj in Kettering on September 22 for an evening of great food, friendly competition and fundraising for Teamwork Trust.

Our Quiz Night, hosted by Simon Cox, runs from 6.30pm to 10.30pm, with tickets costing £30 per person which includes entry to the quiz and a three-course meal.

There will also be a fantastic raffle, with prizes including a £125 Kettering Park Hotel meal voucher, a signed Northampton Saints shirt, luxury hampers and dinner for four at The Raj.

Tickets for the raffle cost just £2 and you don't need to attend the quiz to enter - just follow [this link](#). Get a team of four together, [book your place here](#) and help support Teamwork Trust!

Teamwork Times



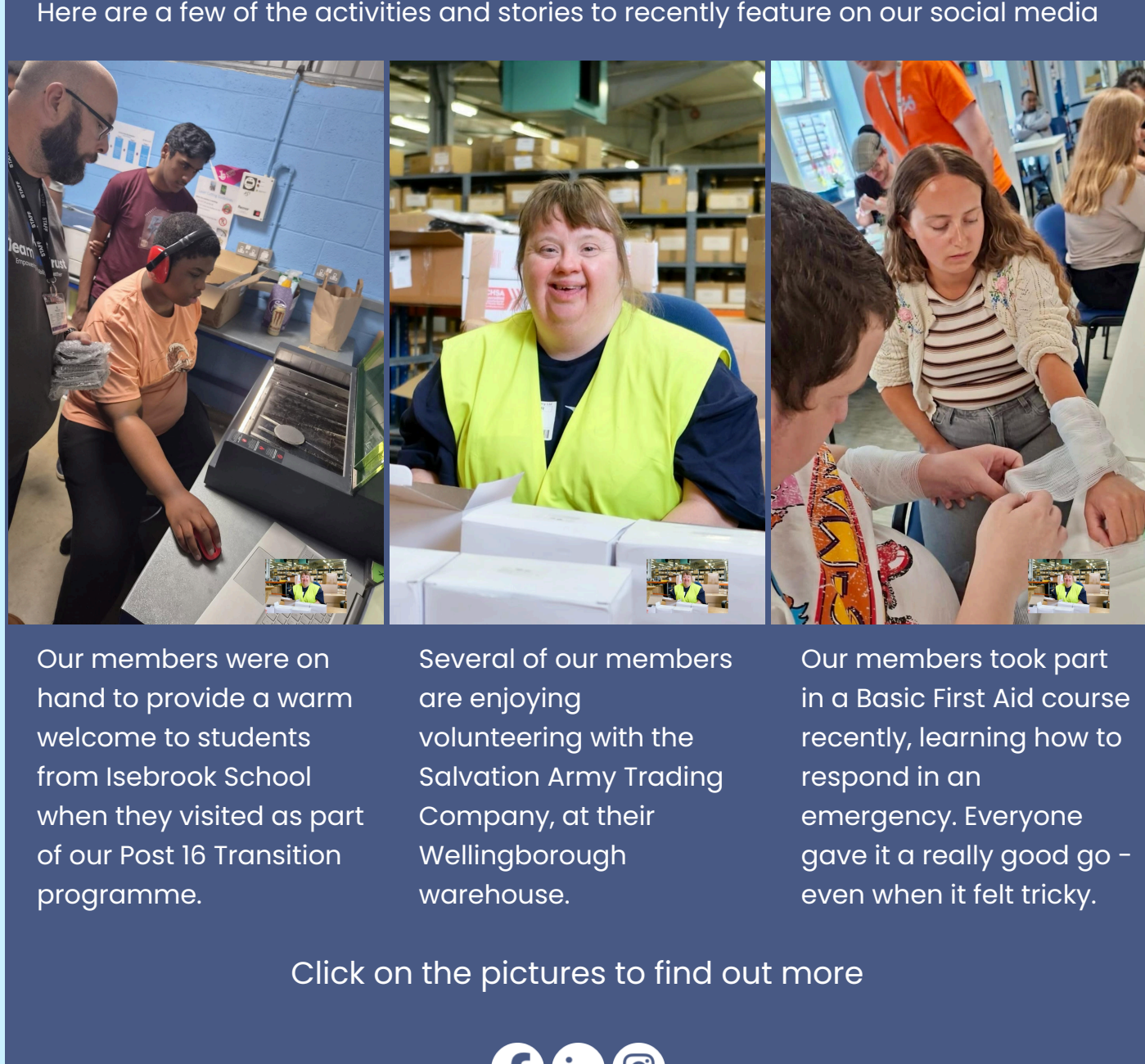
Our members take part in a monthly 'Journos Club' session in which they choose, discuss and write stories about what is happening at Teamwork Trust. This can be trips, projects or events - anything they want to focus on. We then include the stories in their very own newspaper, the Teamwork Times.

[Click on the image to read this month's edition created by our Wellingborough journalists!](#)

Teamwork people

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

Olly Healey



Olly, pictured with Kettering member Ashley, has thrived since he started his association with Teamwork Trust as a volunteer 10 years ago

When Olly first walked through the doors of Teamwork Trust as a volunteer in 2016, he had little confidence and no idea it would lead to a career. Nearly ten years later, he is Centre Lead at Kettering, head of a great team that provides meaningful activities and opportunities for members.

"When I first came to Teamwork in 2016 as a volunteer, I had just come out of a period of poor mental health and being at home for a few years and had no confidence in myself. Getting to know the members was great fun and I learnt so much in a short space of time. Even volunteering just once a week initially, I felt my confidence growing every day."

After graduating with a degree in medieval and early modern history, working at Teamwork wasn't a path Olly had expected to follow. But that quickly changed.

"I fell in love with the work and the members here very quickly as a volunteer and when the role of apprentice at the Kettering site came up, I jumped at the opportunity and since then I've always known that this is what I want to do with my career."

Teamwork has also played a huge part in Olly's own development.

"A former director said I 'wouldn't say boo to a goose' when I first started as a volunteer and now my colleagues say I don't shut up! Teamwork has completely transformed me since I first started nearly 10 years ago, it has given me huge confidence in myself, allowed me to become a better and stronger person and do things that I never would have imagined doing."

Now he is helping oversee an exciting period of change at Kettering, with improvements to the building, growing enterprise opportunities and new wellbeing and sensory projects.

But it is seeing what members get from Teamwork that continues to matter most.

"There is a lot of planning and organisation involved to make these days happen, but it is totally worth it when you see smiles on everyone's faces."

Teamwork socials

Here are a few of the activities and stories to recently feature on our social media

Our members were on hand to provide a warm welcome to students from Isebrook School when they visited as part of our Post 16 Transition programme.

Several of our members are enjoying volunteering with the Salvation Army Trading Company, at their Wellingborough warehouse.

Our members took part in a Basic First Aid course recently, learning how to respond in an emergency. Everyone gave it a really good go - even when it felt tricky.

[Click on the pictures to find out more](#)

Teamwork testimonial

Kettering Teamwork Trust member Rachel has set up, and is leading, a new bracelet making group

Rachel has been part of Teamwork Trust since 2018 and is now taking on an exciting new challenge - leading friendship bracelet-making sessions for other members.

After receiving training to develop her session-leading skills, Rachel has worked hard to make the sessions accessible to everyone.

She has created easy-read cards, step-by-step photographs and instructions, as well as a video introducing each session.

Taking responsibility for the sessions is giving Rachel valuable vocational experience while allowing her to use her own skills to encourage other members to try something new, learn and grow in confidence.

Rachel said: "Everybody is enjoying it so it's very positive. I'm enjoying sharing my skills and developing my leadership skills."

"I'm also enjoying helping other people build their confidence in themselves."

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