STOCKDALESPEOPLE

Spring 2020

Not only are we in a new year, but a new decade. How exciting is that? And you or someone you know could make 2020 an extra special year by joining our team here at Stockdales.

Just think, you could be helping people with their day-to-day living such as getting up and ready for the day, helping with interests and hobbies and getting out and about in the local community. You might be getting stuck in at our allotment helping to grow lots of tasty veggies. Or you may also get to support people on days out to exciting places or on holiday to interesting places. However you help, you'll soon realise no two days are the same here.

We've got lots of exciting roles waiting just for you where you can make a meaningful difference every single day. And the great thing is, you don't have to come from a care background to work for us either. Because we offer a super induction and training package, we welcome people from all walks of life and different career backgrounds into our caring and diverse team. What you will need though is to be compassionate, dedicated, hardworking and willing to learn the ropes. Those qualities are essential to what we do. In return you will enjoy a varied role with bucket loads of purpose, helping people with learning disabilities to live happy and healthy lives. You can expect reward and challenge in equal measure, where you will go home every day knowing you have done something so worthwhile. That's a special kind of job, isn't it?

If this sounds like something you'd like to do, get to it and send us your application! It's easy to do online, just visit www.stockdales.org.uk/job-category/all-listings.

If you'd prefer an application pack, contact us on 0161 973 2296 or enquiries@stockdales.org.uk and we'll send it to you. Make 2020 the year you did a brilliant thing. You'll never look back!

Get in touch!

0161 973 2296
www.stockdales.org.uk
enquiries@stockdales.org.uk
StockdalesMcr

Registered office:
34 Harboro Rd, Sale, M33 5AH

STOCKDALES
Supporting Children & Adults with Learning Disabilities in Manchester
Registered Charity No. 509053

We need your help!
See Page 3

Christmas appeal

Another busy time was had as we kicked off our Christmas fundraising at the beginning of November with our popular Draw. Lots of fabulous prizes were up for grabs and the winners were announced on 16th December. Christmas came early for our lucky winners! We had our best ever Christmas Fair which welcomed lots of shoppers looking for presents and lovely decorations. Wellfield School Choir and The Salvation Army provided the festive entertainment for everyone to enjoy. And our visitors refuelled with an array of festive fodder from our pop-up café. Then there were our Christmas card sales and knitted snowman appeal too. We raised over £5,000 in total which would not have been possible without the help of our staff, volunteers, supporters, knitters. Thank you all so much!

Sale Square Shopping Centre

You'll see from the photo, the Christmas Grotto at The Square Shopping Centre in Sale was pretty spectacular with its enchanting, twinkling lights. Every year, customers throw their loose change into the grotto and at the end it is counted up and given to a local cause. Last year, Stockdales was chosen to receive this special donation! You can imagine our delight when Manager, Diane Smith, called to let us know £445 had been raised. This is brilliant and we can't thank everyone involved enough!

Spring clean time!

It's that time of year when you might be thinking of having a good sort out at home. Who knows what you'll find in those cupboards and drawers? But it could be stuff you could donate to Stockdales if you want to clear a bit of space and do some good at the same time. We're looking for your unwanted gifts, toiletry sets, bottles of alcohol and soft toys for our raffles and tombolas. If you're watching your waistline this year, you might want to send the odd box of unopened chocolates our way too. All items should be new although we can use soft toys in good condition. All bottles have to be unopened and we're sorry but we can't accept books, CDs, DVDs or clothes.

We need more regular supporters. Can you help?

It takes a lot of time, hard work and money to deliver everything that Stockdales does.

Every year, we reach over 200 people with learning disabilities and their families. This means we have to raise money for all of the extras that makes what we offer unique and special. Without fundraising there would be no Stockies Juniors, our kid's club that has a waiting list because it's that good and demand is high. Without fundraising there would be no Dream Days, a project unlike any other in the UK because it offers fully funded experiences to adults (as well as children) who would otherwise be overlooked. Without fundraising, our residential houses that offer a home for life to people with the highest needs wouldn't look like they do. And without fundraising, we wouldn't have been able to buy and convert another property so we can help even more people.

Regular donations, big and small, from our supporters are so valuable to us because we can rely on them to do what we do best – offering excellent care to people who need it the most. If would like to help in this way, then decide how much you'd like to give each month, fill out the form below and send it to us. Thank you.

New bank details below

Help Stockdales with a donation

I'd like to help Stockdales (registered Charity No: 509053). Please return to: Stockdales, 34 Harboro Rd, Sale, M33 5AH

☐ I'd like to make a one off donation of £..... (Cheque payable to "Stockdales")

☐ I'd like to make a regular donation

(a) Title ..... First Name ..... Surname .....

Address..... Postcode .....

Email..... Telephone ..... Date .....

(b) Standing Order for Regular Giving

Name(s) of Account Holder(s)..... Sort Code..... Bank A/c No.....

Name and address of Bank.....

To the Manager: Please debit my account the sum of £..... on .....(dd).....(mm).....(yy) and on the same day of each consecutive month.

Please send to: Bank Account: 53865169 Sortcode: 20-82-14 Account Name: Stockdales of Sale
Bank: Barclays Bank Plc, 1 Bridge Street, Stockport, SK1 1XU

(c) Gift Aid ☐ I am a UK taxpayer and would like Stockdales to reclaim tax on all of my donations before and after the above date.

Please note: you should pay income or capital gains tax equal to the tax we will reclaim on your donations (currently 25p for every £1 that you give). Please let us know if your circumstances change.

☐ From time to time we would like to send you information about our work. Please tick the box if you're happy to receive this.
You can contact us on 0161 973 2296 or email fundraising@stockdales.org.uk if you want to change your preferences at any time.

Dates for your diary

Irish Night

Saturday 30th May
The English Martyrs Club, Whalley Range

Join Pat Jordan and special guests for dancing the night away and fabulous fundraising. £5 per person.

Charity Golf Day

Wednesday 24th June
Sale Golf Club

An excellent day out on the course followed by a 3 course dinner, entertainment, raffle and auction. £375 per team of 4.

The Autumn Ball

Saturday 10th October
The Lowry Hotel

A stellar evening in Manchester with a drinks reception, 3 course dinner, raffle, live music and dancing into the early hours.

£75pp / £700 per table.

Sponsorship opportunities available.

Christmas Fair

Sunday 29th November
34 Harboro Rd

Gift and decoration stalls, refreshments, tombolas, Santa's grotto and much more!
£1 adults, 50p children over 2 years.

Can you help us with our fundraising?

We're always on the lookout for people who have a few hours or more to spare to help out with our fundraising activities and events. You might be able to help us with a mailing, helping to keep people up-to-date with all things Stockdales. You could help by ticketing our tombolas, by delivering leaflets locally, helping with our events or organising your own. For the daredevils amongst you, there are endless sponsored challenges you could do to raise money, so why not push yourself? Contact Natalie or Sarah if you're interested in volunteering on 0161 973 2296 or email fundraising@stockdales.org.uk. We'd love to hear from you.

Anything but an own goal!

We were bowled over when the team at Wythenshawe Town Football Club told us they wanted to make Stockdales their charity. Club Chairman, Chris, was keen to help in any way he could! Over the last few months, the club has raised £1,500 for us, which is an amazing result. Angie Walsh and Nigel Mather from Stockdales went along to a recent football match to receive the generous donation and enjoy the game. Big thanks to everyone at WTFC for their kindness. It's great to have your support.

Christmas party

It's no secret we love a good party here at Stockdales. We're well-known for filling dancefloors from start to finish with non-stop moves and singing. In fact, a DJ at one of our parties a few years ago was gobsmacked with the amount of energy that was in the room. He'd never seen anything quite like it!

Every year, we throw a Christmas party where service users, staff, volunteers, families and supporters get together and enjoy each other's company, eat lots of lovely food and have a good boogie to old favourites and current hits. Santa joins us and gives out presents and everyone just has an ace time. We returned to the Cresta Court hotel in 2019 where we were well looked after once again, so big thanks to them for going the extra mile for us.

Sweet surprise from Mobberley Cakes

You can imagine our delight when a whole load of gingerbread reindeer turned up in December. Our friends at Mobberley Cakes kindly donated the sweet treat which went down well with everyone here. Thoughtful gestures like this are so special to us and we can't thank Mobberley Cakes enough for their generosity. It's always nice to know that people are thinking of us and want to help out – it makes our day! As you can see, Amanda was particularly pleased to receive a biscuit (or two)!

The One Show

It was all systems go at the beginning of the year when The BBC's One Show came to film at Stockdales. They were doing a feature on our Chairman, Nigel and his wife Sharon, with the focus being on the last decade.

The couple had a great start in 2010 when they won the National Lottery. Their win allowed them give up work and put their time to other use whilst bringing up their children. Their luck became our luck as Nigel became a Trustee shortly after the win. He took on the role of Chairman at the end of 2019 and will work closely with Emma our CEO to make sure Stockdales continues to offer the best care possible. Nigel and Sharon have been invaluable over the last ten years, helping us to put on many events and raise lots of money. We look forward to many more years of them being part of the Stockdales family.

Thanks to Nigel and Sharon for all their incredible support!

Community Services

Helping people to grow

People sometimes think that here at Stockdales we only offer residential care. Whilst this is a big part of what we do, we also help people from the wider community too.

Our sessional teachers and staff offer a whole load of exciting and interesting activities for people to take part in. They support each person to make the most of their time, doing the sorts of things they want to do. And the results are amazing! People get to be part of a caring community, where they are supported to learn new things every single week. Whether it's creating a new dish in the cookery session, growing all sorts of different vegetables on the allotment or getting their creative juices flowing in art and craft. All of this and more does wonders for people's confidence and self-esteem because they are encouraged to 'have a go' and push their boundaries.

Turning the volume up on independence is key in Community Services. Communication, how to use public transport, IT skills, reading, working with numbers and health awareness are just some of the vital areas covered. They all help people to do so much more for themselves, which is really important and at the heart of what Stockdales is about.

It's not all work, work, work though. We support people to do the fun stuff too. They get to enjoy time out with their mates at our weekly social clubs. Exciting days out to places of interest locally and further away are always a big hit too. It could be marvelling at weird and wonderful things at the Science and Industry Museum or catching up with the monkeys at Knowsley Safari Park. Better lock the doors and watch those wipers then! Our focus is always on helping people to grow. And they do that in spades in Community Services.

What a performance!

Did you know the story of Aladdin dates back to the early 1700's? We didn't know it was that old either!

After carefully researching the story, our drama group put on a special performance with a modern twist just before Christmas. With help and guidance from session teacher Nicola, people got creative to put on an outstanding show and wowed their audience. There was plenty of singing, dramatic lighting and fabulous acting. The cast were all presented with certificates at the end to mark their achievements. Well done to the group for working so hard to make this a show to remember!

Kath McMahon: 40 years of amazing service

We're so proud to have a colleague who has worked for Stockdales for 40 years. Yes, that's right, 40 years!

But, Kath's association with Stockdales goes way beyond that. As a child she lived round the corner from Pictor House, as Stockdales was first known. When Kath was 7 she won a balloon race and the money raised from the event was donated to Pictor. Delighted to win, she came to collect her prize from our founder Lil Stockdale. Even at that early age, Kath knew she wanted to work here when she was older. And she made it happen!

As a student at Ashton-on-Mersey school, Kath would drop in to help voluntarily on her way home when she was 14. After finishing school, she went on to study nursery nursing for 2 years before starting her career here. Kath started off in a full time role, moving to working at the weekends when she started her family. She continued to meet the demands of family life by working nights, which she has done for a whopping 35 years!

Kath has always worked in our residential services, helping people with the highest health needs. Many of the adults she works with today she has known from being children and teenagers. We're sure you'll agree this is some journey!

Kath's commitment and dedication are inspirational. We cannot thank her enough for the countless hours she has worked for Stockdales and the difference she's made.

After-school care

Did you know we offer after school care for local kids and their families? After we started our Stockies Juniors Club for children at the weekends, parents told us after school care would help enormously with the logistics of juggling family life and work commitments. Keen to help, we wanted to make it happen. And after some planning, we did! We have been able to offer one-to-one support with both activities here at Stockdales as well as in the local area. The kids have been to the cinema, bowling and worn themselves out at Jump Space. They have also enjoyed cooking, quiet time, reading and playing on the big, interactive screen. This type of care eases the pressure for parents and gives them some much needed respite too. And the children get to do activities other than watching the TV. It's a winner all round!

Stop press: the Summer Ball!

It might seem like a long way off, but our Summer Ball will be here before we know it. This year's event will take place on Friday 10th July and will be held at the Britannia Country House Hotel. We're looking forward to another exciting night of non-stop dancing and lovely food in a great atmosphere. People with learning disabilities get to have a special black tie experience which are usually expensive to go to and out of reach for most. Stockdales meets the cost of this fabulous event from our fundraising to make it an inclusive event so people don't miss out. And it's a real joy to see everyone enjoy themselves as much as they do. It has to be said, no-one parties quite like our gang!

Helping families

Ian's journey with Stockdales started when he was just 2 years old.

He used to come for respite care one evening a week to give his mum and dad some time out. As we developed our services over the years, Ian and his family continued to benefit from the support offered. Ian lived at home until 2011 when he moved into one of our residential houses. Unfortunately, his mum had passed away and his dad needed additional support too as caring for Ian was becoming more difficult. Understandably, he wanted to make sure that Ian's future care was secure and got in touch with Stockdales. Known and trusted by Ian and his dad, we were the natural choice to offer them peace of mind.

Settling in was a challenge for Ian at first. But with lots of support from our team, he has made Stockdales his home. Ian has developed a real care for his housemates, wanting to know how they are and what they are up to. He has become more sociable and doesn't like to miss out on anything. Whether he is visiting our allotment or getting loud with the instruments in the music sessions, being involved with things is important to Ian. On Sundays he goes to the service at the Salvation Army. Ian likes the brass instruments they play which are a nod to the past when his dad used to play. He's also a fan of the tea and biscuits on offer each week too!

Since living at Stockdales, Ian's mobility has massively improved. He likes to move his wheelchair around the house himself and loves to spend time relaxing on his beanbag. And his communication has come on in leaps and bounds too. Ian has learned new words and sentences, knows his age and the names of the staff team.

Dad Eric is pleased with Ian's journey with Stockdales.

He said, "Stockdales is everything you could wish for. They are concerned with every aspect of Ian's life, particularly things I was not capable of providing. They provide the kind of experiences that were beyond me because there is only so much you can do on your own."

Taking things to the Max at Stockies Juniors!

When the Maximus Foundation UK told us they would be giving of a donation of £2,500, we couldn't have been happier.

A successful nomination by a colleague's friend to the Foundation means our Stockies Juniors Club will be getting a massive boost. The weekend club makes a difference to over 30 kids with learning disabilities and their families.

The children get to do all of the things that other youngsters enjoy with specialist support. The club helps the kids with their self-esteem and confidence, develops their play and co-operation with peers and has a positive impact on family life at home.

A huge thanks to the Foundation and for this lovely donation. It means so much to us – and to all the children who get to enjoy the wonderful world of Stockies Juniors!