

STOCKDALES PEOPLE

Autumn 2018



At Stockdales we're lucky to have a vast array of volunteers, each with their own special skills, who gladly give up their time to help with our work. They raise funds to help buy specialist equipment and pay for other capital projects; support our Dream Days, Stockies Juniors and adult social clubs; pay for activities and holidays, help with our vehicle and transport costs and the continued development of our services.

But it's not just the financial stuff; volunteers help us in lots of other ways too.

Local community groups, schools, businesses and individuals gladly volunteer their time to support Stockdales. They help in a range of activities from art and craft projects to baking and music sessions, making sure those that attend get the very most of their time with us.

Local school choirs give up their Sundays to entertain visitors by singing at our events; Beavers have great fun washing

and polishing our vehicles; people get involved in whatever way they can. It could be refreshing the paint work at one of our homes, getting our gardens looking blooming lovely, posting out leaflets to promote our events or letting us visit their homes (read about our farm trip on p.6).

Christmas is a special time at Stockdales. There is lots going on and our volunteers come into their own to support us: helping at the Christmas Fair, selling Christmas cards and draw tickets and ticketing tombolas. We have a small army of knitters who, from early summer, get the needles flying and turn out literally hundreds of cute little snowmen for us to sell. All of this help is completely invaluable.

Our volunteers all bring their own special brand of enthusiasm to support Stockdales and we think they are fantastic and couldn't do without them! If you fancy being part of our volunteer family give us a call or email enquiries@stockdales.org.uk

Get in touch!

0161 973 2296

www.stockdales.org.uk

enquiries@stockdales.org.uk



StockdalesMcrc

Registered office:

34 Harboro Rd, Sale, M33 5AH



STOCKDALES

Supporting Children & Adults with Learning Disabilities in Manchester

Registered Charity No. 509053

Our bank details have changed – please see Page 3 for full information.

FUNDRAISING NEWS

Hollywood glitz and glamour at the Autumn Ball



The red carpet was rolled out, the ice buckets were filled and it was lights, camera, action at our Hollywood themed Autumn Ball.

Guests joined us at the 5-star Radisson Blu Edwardian hotel for a sparkling drinks reception before enjoying a delicious three course dinner all in aid of Stockdales. Our host with the most, Darren Proctor from Key 2 radio, got everyone digging deep for some wonderful auction lots kindly donated by our sponsors and supporters. This was our 7th Autumn Ball and we raised a fantastic £12,900. A massive thank you to everyone that worked so hard to make it happen and to our sponsors, donors and everyone who came along and supported us on the night.

High Legh Park - aiming high!

Stockdales is lucky to have the support of High Legh Park until March 2019. On August 2nd, Captain Trevor Pathak and Lady Captain Kath Davies held their charity golf day which saw our very own Natalie James take to the fairways in a golf buggy providing refreshments to the thirsty golfers. We can't vouch for her driving but the water was definitely appreciated on what was a blisteringly hot summer's day! The event raised a fantastic £10,000 for Stockdales with Barclays Bank match funding the money raised in the raffle. Thanks to Trevor, Kath and their team for their hard work and to everyone that took part and donated so generously.

If you are a member of a club or society and would like to raise funds for a local charity we would love to hear from you! Give Natalie a call and have a chat about how you can help and the support we can offer.



Our dynamic duo

You may have spotted good friends, Ruth and Gill, when out and about doing your weekly shop in Sale. You may have even picked up the odd bargain or two from their stall! The pair have been regulars in both the Sale branches of Tesco and Sainsbury's throughout the year selling lovely bits and pieces on their Bric A Brac stall to raise funds for Stockdales.

This year the ladies have raised an amazing £6,000 which is their best year yet and fantastic news for Stockdales! They are such superstars and we can't thank them enough for their hard work, the early mornings and continued support.



Home Sweet Home is very appealing!

Whilst the initial stages may be slow, that doesn't mean we haven't been keeping busy! Putting together plans that meet all the special requirements for a home for people with complex health needs is a time consuming process. And we want to make sure we get it spot on. Our new property will be a comfortable, safe and modern space with all the special touches that transform a house into a home. We've been working closely with our architects to make this happen.

It also costs a large amount of money to achieve our vision. The costs of the project have increased considerably and, including all of the specialist equipment needed, we now need to raise over £1 million for the conversion costs. This is a huge target for us and we've been pulling out all the stops. Our first port of call has been to approach various charitable trusts for support. The good news is that some have already shown a real interest in the project. Several have been to visit us and see first-hand what we do at Stockdales and understand how their money will help. We have had several large donations and pledges. And to date, we are delighted to tell you that one funder has generously pledged £250,000 towards the project. This takes the total raised to £711,240, which is simply fantastic!

But it's not only support from big funders that we need. Everyone can make a contribution and be part of this amazing

project, helping to provide a home for life for people who need it the most. If you would like to get involved and make a donation, large or small, simply visit our web page www.stockdales.org.uk/home-sweet-home and donate securely on line. You can also send a cheque to 34 Harboro Road, Sale M33 5AH and be sure to let us know you would like your donation to go towards the Home Sweet Home appeal. **Thank you.**



Help Stockdales with a donation

New bank details below

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.

FUNDRAISING NEWS

'Tis the season to be jolly (and support Stockdales!)

Donate items

We especially need donations of bottles for the bottle tombola. Then there's soft toys, jewellery and gift items. All items should be new or as new condition and bottles should be sealed. We're sorry but we cannot accept books, DVDs CDs or clothes. Please bring any donations along to 34 Harboro Road for the attention of Natalie or Sally. Donations of homemade cakes for the Christmas fair should be brought to Harboro Rd from the 23rd – 25th November.

Knit snowmen

It's not too late to get knitting and make some snowmen for us to sell in the run up to Christmas. If you can't knit or just don't have the time, why not donate a box of chocolates to fill their little tummies? (Round chocolates about the size of a Ferrero Rocher fit perfectly).

Failing that why not buy a few of the little chaps? They make great stocking fillers or decorations for your Christmas table!



Buy Christmas cards

We have some great new designs for 2018. Packs of 10 are from £2.99 so they are great value too. You can buy cards online at: www.stockdales.org.uk/how-you-can-help/merchandise or by popping into 34 Harboro Rd. You can also find them in the local libraries in Sale, Altrincham and Hale all through November.

Buy Christmas Draw tickets

A chance to win some fantastic prizes and add to the seasonal cheer! 1st prize is £150 cash really useful to help with Christmas expenses. 2nd prize a hamper of wines, just perfect for Christmas dinner, 3rd prize is a cram packed chocolate hamper. With lots more great prizes listed on www.stockdales.org.uk, it's got to be worth a go! Tickets are just £1 each and are available from 34 Harboro Road, by calling 0161 973 2296 or by emailing Natalie or Sally at fundraising@stockdales.org.uk. The draw will be on Monday 17th December.



Be a volunteer!

If you would like to volunteer a little of your time and help us out over this busy period please get in touch with Natalie or Sally on 0161 973 2296 or email Natalie.james@stockdales.org.uk.

There are many different ways you can help depending on the time you have available – and we would love to hear from you.



FUNDRAISING NEWS

Dates for your diary

Christmas Fair

25th of November, 12:30-3pm at
34 Harboro Road, Sale, M33 5AH

The ideal opportunity to kick start your Christmas shopping with lots of ideas for gifts, stalls selling toys, jewellery and beautiful Christmas decorations to add a touch of sparkle to any home! The children can meet Santa in his Grotto and have loads of fun in our special Kids Zone. Add lovely food, mulled wine and homemade cakes and it's definitely a winner! Entry is just £1 for adults, children over 2 50p, and under-2s are free, so it won't break the bank either!

Ashton-on-Mersey Christmas Market

1st December 10 – 4pm
in Ashton-on-Mersey village.

We will be taking a stall at this street market bringing lots of Christmas goodies to tempt you! Be sure to pop along and say hello; we know you won't be disappointed.

Stockdales in store!

We will be selling our Christmas draw tickets, Christmas cards and our cute little snowmen in the Sale branches of Tescos on the 7th & 8th December and in the Sale branch of Sainsbury's on the 13th of December. It would be great to see you!



STOCKDALES NEWS

Our volunteers: not just for Christmas!

Whilst we get lots of lovely support at Christmas, we're lucky to rely on the help of our volunteers all year round.

Our good friends Assistant Manager Martin Bartlett and the staff from the Sale branch of the Leeds Building Society paid us a return visit in July. They spruced up our rather tired laundry room at Ashton Lane with a coat of sky blue paint so it's now not only the washing that's bright and clean! They also got busy jet washing the patio, deadheading the roses and tidying up the gardens so they could be enjoyed by everyone over the summer months. Thanks guys – lovely to see you all again!



STOCKDALESNEWS

Down on the farm

Back in July when the sun was blazing down, we were kindly invited by Lloyds Banking Group to spend a day on employee Ian and partner Agnieszka's farm. Needless to say we had an amazing day and couldn't have been made more welcome by the Lloyds team.

We loved the scavenger hunt that was organised out and about on the farm which meant we got to explore the stunning Derbyshire countryside. "Driving" the tractor, riding the quad bike and taking a seat behind the wheel of a beautiful vintage car was brilliant fun! But the stars of the show just had to be the animals. The gorgeous little piglets, ducks, sheep and friendly farm dogs Coco, Holly and Goldie. We even named one of the piglets Alma, picked by service user Gail. We loved everything about our visit! Special thanks to Ian and Agnieszka for inviting us and the Lloyds team for their hard work. It was simply fantastic!



A whole allotment of success!

Huge congratulations to dedicated trio, John, Tariq and Sean who along with support worker Omar, session teacher Julia and volunteer Jean have been awarded Highly Commended for their allotment this year! With terrible growing conditions meaning only two plots were awarded certificates, it's an outstanding achievement and one the gang can be so proud of.

The group have worked hard to get the allotment into shape since they took it over in 2016. The plot was extremely neglected being full of weeds and rubble. It has now, with their hard work, been transformed into an ordered and productive plot, complete with water feature and sunny seating area, perfect for a well-deserved brew! With help from your donations we have even been able to build a shed to bring on seedlings and for them to work undercover in bad weather.

They have grown all sorts of veg including 5 different types of potato, onions, courgettes, beetroots and even succulent sweetcorn. This has all been turned into delicious food for people to enjoy. With autumn here and winter approaching fast, there will be lots to do down on the allotment. You can be sure, John, Sean and Tariq will be there in all weathers in their wellies, wrapped up against the weather, preparing the ground for next year's crops. We look forward to bumper crops in 2019!



New equipment for Stockies Juniors

It was smiles all round when the shiny new sensory and play equipment arrived for our Stockies Juniors Saturday clubs! Whether it was leaping into the bright new ball pool, bouncing on the trampoline or pulling faces in the funky new mirrors, the kids had a ball. The sensory and play equipment is especially important as it helps with problem solving, fine motor skills and hand-eye co-ordination, visual tracking, curiosity in play, make believe and the general excitement that all children love! Thanks to everyone, in particular the Cheshire Freemasons, who made this possible with their generous donations. You are all fabulous!



A warm welcome to Chelsea!

We were delighted to welcome Chelsea to into the Stockdales family earlier this year. Chelsea has complex health needs so her family were on the lookout for an organisation to help and offer a place she would be happy to call home. After visiting Stockdales, they were confident that, with our many years of experience, we could give the round the clock specialist care Chelsea needed.

It has been a real joy to see Chelsea settle into her new home so well. Within a matter of days she seemed relaxed and happy in her new environment and routines. She is a delight, full of smiles and has a cheeky character too! Just like

many young girls Chelsea loves a bit of sparkle; her room is sophisticated silver and grey with just a touch of glitter to make it her own. She also likes nothing better than a good pamper session, getting her nails done with her fellow house mates, Amanda and Claire!

Chelsea's mum and aunty Kelly are regular visitors and have really got involved with Stockdales; coming along to our events and donating items to help raise funds.

We look forward to seeing Chelsea make the most of everything we can offer her and keep enjoying life to the full!



We're hiring!



Do you want to make a difference to people with learning disabilities?

Do you want a job where no two days are the same and with flexible hours? Are you compassionate, dedicated and hardworking? If this is you or someone you know, why not apply to become one of our support workers? You don't need to have a background in care but you must be willing to learn the ropes. You'll be supported every step of the way by Stockdales with fantastic training opportunities whilst you gain lots of valuable hands-on experience.

Working at Stockdales is incredibly rewarding. We're a busy organisation and there's always lots to get involved with, so we can guarantee you no two days are the same. You will feel reward and challenge in equal measure, knowing you have made a massive difference to people who need it the most. What could be better than helping people to live happy and healthy lives?

If you're interested in working for Stockdales, take a look at www.stockdales.org.uk/job-category/all-listings/ to see our roles and to apply online. Or get in touch on 0161 973 2296 or enquiries@stockdales.org.uk for more details and an application pack.

STOCKDALES PEOPLE

Loving the Great Outdoors

John is sometimes a man of few words, but there is no doubting what he enjoys most. Being outdoors in the fresh air and doing something physical is where he is happiest, so he takes full advantage of every opportunity at Stockdales to do just that!

Working with the National Trust Wardens for several years, John received a certificate of achievement in recognition of his hard work. Over a period of several years John and his friends worked with the wardens at Alderley Edge and Hare Hill, maintaining the sites, clearing paths and keeping them accessible for the public.

John is a regular in the weekly Really Wild sessions, where he enjoys walks in the beautiful Cheshire countryside. And whatever the weather, you can be sure he won't be put off! The Stockdales allotment is another activity where John's love of the great outdoors is put to good use with extremely tasty results; the produce being regularly used in cookery sessions here at Harboro Road. Once a month the group also help out local park wardens at Woodheys Park, also known as "Pinky Park" from a time when local pigs used to regularly stray into the grounds! Last year we helped John to have his



Dream Day. Guess what he chose to do? Yes, you guessed it! He chose to spend a weekend out in the fresh air on a barge fishing on the local canals, and he was totally in his element! At home, it's no different as he loves being outdoors with nature. He keeps chickens and is proud to give us regular updates on how they are laying.

We love to help John do what he loves best. And with great results, which is clear to see!

Sunshine, friends and fun!

August at Stockdales is a time for sunshine, being outdoors, sharing new experiences with friends and visiting new places. All this combines to make summer in Lifeskills really special.

In this year's summer activity programme we've included everyone's favourites: traditional fish and chips in Llandudno, bowling and a meal out, as well as baking, making music and crafts here at Stockdales. We have also put on stuff that's just a little bit different! We have experienced what it was like to be a Roman in Chester; we've felt like giants exploring the model village in Blackpool; been thrilled by rides at Adventure Land in New Brighton; and amazed by the circus acts at the greatest show on earth!

There has been something for everyone to enjoy over the summer. And while everyone was sad for it to be over, we finished with a bang at our yearly party at Banky Lane! Entertainment, dancing, party food and cake - what more could you want to have a brilliant day out with friends?



Thanks to everyone that came along to share the fun, and to everyone who worked so hard to make sure it was a summer to remember.

Lifeskills run daily sessions and weekend activity programmes throughout the year and cater for all abilities. If you'd like to join in the fun, please contact chalana.simpson@stockdales.org.uk to arrange an assessment.