



A D-Day Memorial Evening Lands at Matthew's Enterprise

Staff and clients attended a war-themed evening at Neat Marsh Farm on the 6th June to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the D-Day landings. Claire Hammant catered for the guests with her themed dinner of pie, mash, peas and gravy followed by rice pudding.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the food as the swinging sounds of the 1940s played in the background.

One member of staff even told Claire that she could easily eat several more plates full of the delicious meal! A number of clients posed for photographs by waving the British flags on their tables and one client in particular turned heads with his army uniform which he wore with pride. The event was blessed by good weather so members of staff and clients sat beneath the marquee outside the café and some groups went to see the stunning new foal Isabelle Doris and the other animals on the farm. Freshly-laid Neat Marsh eggs were given out to the guests which seemed appropriately reminiscent of the Second World War rationing process.

By Florence Cartwright

If you have any news, articles feedback or just something interesting to say please contact Sarah Billany at sbillany@avocettrust.co.uk



Matthew's Enterprise Trust

Empowerment For Life

OCTOBER 2014 NEWSLETTER

Awards Evening Celebrates Matthew's Enterprise Successes



On Friday 29th August 2014, the Matthew's Enterprise Trust hosted their first awards evening at Neat Marsh Farm.

Guests were treated to a red carpet which welcomed them into a beautifully decorated marquee where the wonderful sounds of a String Quartet played. The formal evening was attended by special guests Graham Stuart, MP for the Beverley and Holderness areas and Chairman of the Education Select Committee and Councillor Pete Turner, Vice Chairman of the East Riding of Yorkshire Council.

The evening opened with a range of refreshments offered to guests alongside a canapé reception of Claire's home-made delicacies before Mark Titcombe gave a welcome talk. During his introduction,

Mark said how he was "amazed" by the Trust and commended Les' passion and vision for Matthew's Enterprise. Les Howell, the Chair of Trustees for the Matthew's Enterprise Trust then gave his speech on the background behind the Trust with its "phenomenal team led by Andrew Lacey" and how much it has evolved in such a short period of time. Graham Stuart was then welcomed by the audience and he praised the incredible enthusiasm of the Matthew's Enterprise Team, saying "the potential the students have should be recognised, not only for their benefit but for society's too."

Graham and Andrew then presented numerous awards to the hard-working members of staff, students and volunteers of the Matthew's Enterprise Team in recognition of their achievements and progress. The students received Training Awards for



Graham Stuart MP and student of the year Christopher Simpson



Geoffrey, Jamie, Ryan, Dan, Mark & Gareth enjoying the night

Fire Awareness, Safety at Work and Hygiene and Infection Control in the Workplace.

continued on page 2



Awards Night

continued from front page

A number of certificates were presented to students for the City & Guilds Level 1 in Practical Horticulture Skills and the Most Improved Students in the specialist areas of woodwork, metal work and catering. The students themselves voted for Stephen Braithwaite as Volunteer of the Year; Claire Hammant as Staff Member of the Year and Christopher Simpson for the Matthew Battye Student of the Year Award. Claire, the Trust's catering manager later commented that she didn't feel she needed an award because she absolutely loves her job.

After the awards ceremony, a question and answer session with Graham Stuart offered guests the opportunity to pose questions to Graham concerning vulnerable adults in relation to his field of work. Jamie Horsley, student and Trustee for Matthew's Enterprise, blew guests away with his inspirational speech in support of adults with learning disabilities as he proudly emphasised "we, as disabled people, have the right to equal opportunities in employment as anyone else". As the successful evening concluded, Jamie reflected on receiving his awards and said: "it felt brilliant to receive the awards.

Empowerment For Life



Student and Trustee of Matthew's Enterprise Trust, Jamie Horsley, speaking at the awards ceremony



Graham Stuart MP and staff member of the year Claire Hammant

Matthew's Enterprise has opened up a new pathway for disabled people and has shown they have as much right to opportunities as everyone else."

A special thanks to all the guests who attended the Awards Evening and ensured it was such a success and to everyone who helped with the preparations for the event.

By Florence Cartwright

Driffield Agricultural Show

The Matthew's Enterprise Team attended Driffield Show on the 16th July with their own stall. Handmade products from Ryan's metalwork shop were for sale including penny farthings, trowels and hanging basket brackets.

From Harry's woodwork shop, items such as dovescotes, pig planters and a beautifully crafted bench were also available. Claire's delectable homemade foods were also displayed and priced and these included her jams, biscuits and cakes. Chris and Jamie, students from the Matthew's Enterprise Team, encouraged the public to view the stall by calling out the products and their prices and discussing the brilliant work the Trust do.

Their hard work paid off pretty quickly as they sold one of their handmade trowels for £6, a sale which they deemed worthy of a high five!

Chris did a great job in publicising the Trust by handing out newsletters and showing groups of individuals photographs of their work on and off the Neat Marsh site. Jamie also proved to be a great ambassador by promoting one of the key purposes behind Matthew's Enterprise, namely, that the Trust 'gives disabled people many opportunities'.

The penny farthings designed and made by the students under the guidance of Ryan Black drew a lot of interest and many were sold, along with a few buyers preferring to come and collect one from the site

Other members of staff and students took over the sales and promotion of the stall to allow some of the



The gang at Driffield Show



Matthew's Enterprise products

Team to see the other sights at the show, in particular the rescue helicopter which landed close by. At the end of the day, some of the students summed up the event as follows:

Chris (Student) - *"It was a marvellous day, we sold lots of things."*

Dan (Student) - *"A very good day - I enjoyed it all."*

Jamie (Student and Trust Board member) - *"I enjoyed the experience, we sold quite a few products and the staff were very helpful. A good day all around!"*

By Florence Cartwright