

*Welcome to our newsletter - keeping staff informed of all the latest developments happening across the various amazing projects we have running in Pembrokeshire*



### SCOLTON MANOR STATION SHOP

Make, Grow & Eat! Gwneud, Tyfu & Bwyt!

*Nigel Bevans*

After a busy spring and summer the staff at the Station Shop finally had a chance to catch their breath in the quieter days of winter. This though did not last long with the festive period heading towards us, for which we are holding some late night opening until 8pm every Wednesday throughout December.

The Station Shop is continuing to stock snacks and serve hot drinks over the winter months while Edie's Tea Room is running on its winter hours. There are some fantastic seasonal gifts which have been provided to us by the craft department here in Norman Industries. Well done to these guys – the

new items are amazing! We are already making plans for some items that will be coming to the shelves in the spring – some exciting lines... keep your eyes peeled.



A Winter Fayre was held in the Green Barn on the 11th and 12th December which had stalls with local crafts people and small businesses. There was also hot food and drink available to purchase thanks to the team at Edie's Tea Room.

Exciting times ahead and we can promise you some dates for your diary throughout 2022!



Thank you to all the suppliers that have kept our shelves full during the year, including our very own Norman Industries Arts & Crafts, Training room and Production area. It is a team effort! Most of all thank you to everyone that has visited and supported us since our opening earlier this year. It has been a great few months and we look forward to seeing you all again very soon!



## TACKLING IN-WORK POVERTY IN PEMBROKESHIRE

Michelle Workman  
/Mary Howes

### Supporting employees within health and social care with Access to Work

Tackling in-work poverty Pembrokeshire team was approached by The Anchorage Day Centre for initial advice on how we might be able to support one of their clients, Lana Watkins, back into work after the pandemic. She has downs syndrome with special needs and had been working with the local Co-op in Kilgetty until the COVID-19 pandemic hit. Once it was time for Lana to return to work, the employer felt it was necessary for extra support to help Lana with the new routines and to keep her safe with the new COVID-19 measures we are all abiding by. Mary Howes, Quality and Performance Supervisor, provided advice and support in obtaining funding from Access to work, a DWP initiative to provide funding for support in the workplace. Lana was assessed to have a support worker and travel to enable her to continue to work in an environment she loves.

Tackling in-work Poverty Pembrokeshire were also able to help by providing a suitable candidate for the position. Jane Davies had been referred to the project after a period of sickness absence from her previous employment. Jane's confidence had been knocked and she was looking for an opportunity to have a better work life balance. Employment Liaison Officer Michelle Workman identified Jane's Skills and after completing some in house confidence building sessions, Jane was put forward for the support worker position, where her skill mix matched Lana's requirements.



(Pictured: Lana Watkins showing Jane Davies how it is done at her place of work, Co-op Kilgetty.)

Here are some comments about this success story.

Lana:

*“ I am glad to be back in work with my friends ”*

Jane:

*“ I cannot praise my mentor and other staff members enough for all the help I have received and feel so much more confident and valued. ”*

David Darracott COOP manager:

*“ We are delighted with the support we have had to enable Lana to return to work. Jane has fitted in well and is excellent at supporting Lana. ”*

Eleanor Brick Performance and Quality Manager:

*“ Congratulations to Lana and Jane! It is lovely to see that two of our participants have come together with the support of our team to improve both their employment and wellbeing. ”*

Employment has a huge impact on our wellbeing, as well as improving our income, it can contribute to feeling purpose, feeling valued, improves our social inclusion and connections with others.

Sometimes it is difficult for people to see what their strengths are and to see that change is possible, the barriers can feel too big to overcome, the Tackling in-work Poverty project works 1-1 with people to identify their strengths, overcome barriers and find opportunities to improve their employment.

As well as the 1-1 support the team provides access to additional provision such as access to work applications, complementary therapies and works with employers and support organisations

If you are looking to improve your employment situation or return to work from long term sickness absence (4 weeks or more) please contact the Tackling in-work Poverty team to see how we could support you 01437 776609 or email [employability@pembrokeshire.gov.uk](mailto:employability@pembrokeshire.gov.uk)



Yasmin Riggs

We are still seeing a good amount of referrals over last few weeks, which is fantastic for the project. We have a mix of participants who are looking for training, to upskill and for support back into employment. As we have slowly come out of the lockdown, training courses are running more frequently, and training providers are able to provide training but with reduced numbers in order to comply with COVID-19 rules. We are looking at ways to get more training booked for participants.

We continue working alongside other employability projects within PCC, DWP and Careers Wales to encourage new referrals. Mentors have started working out of Haverfordwest JCP every other Wednesday to allow more support to job coaches to showcase what Workways can do, and engage with participants attending there, offering them advice and support moving forward. This has been productive and will continue throughout the winter.

Mentors and ELO'S are now meeting participants face to face and we are benefitting from seeing people again. However, we are still carrying out calls via phone, WhatsApp, virtual platforms to engage. All new referrals are to be emailed using the [employability@pembrokeshire.gov.uk](mailto:employability@pembrokeshire.gov.uk) address where they will continue to be triaged for the relevant project support.

The new members of the team have settled in well and we would like to welcome Rhian and Thomas to the team. We have now moved into the new office, which is working well, and we are looking at ways to make the most of the space to create a great working environment. Big thanks to the staff at Norman Industries for supplying us with wonderfully colourful office chairs, desks and sofas.



## CATERING

Marty Andrews



It has been a busy few weeks for catering, with the launch of Caffi Cyfle @No.5. The new team came together headed by Gemma, our new Cook Supervisor, and we opened to the public on November 12th with a number of taster sessions for partner groups in the days before.



Edie's Tea Room at Scolton Manor has also had some new staff. We welcome Chelsea, who will be taking over as Cook Supervisor. Scolton Manor was in full Halloween mode and Edie's Tea Room joined in with creepy quizzes, Spicy Pumpkin Soup and Ghoulish Cupcakes!

Speaking of Ghoulish cupcakes, The Social Zone hosted a 'decorate your own Halloween cupcake' event. With Steff, Dan and AJ helping customers to make some scary creations!





## TIMBER 2 & SCOLTON MAINTENANCE

*Dai Brock, Site Manager*

Since our last edition of for our newsletter, a great amount has been achieved throughout all the projects the team have been working on.

Summer passed and autumn was truly with us – proving to be as wet as last year. However, this weather has not lessened the enthusiasm and commitment of the team, and they continue to give 100% effort in their work.

Well done to the whole team!

### Farm Shop



The farm shop is now fully open and functioning and there has been very positive feedback from councillors and many members of the public alike.

The feedback commended the quality of the build and the overall improvement this has made to the visitor experience at Scolton Manor.

The railway and platform has also received excellent feedback and is enjoyed daily by visitors to the Manor.



### No 5 Café

During September and October, the team were asked if they could help renovate and decorate the new café within the Riverside shopping centre. Jobs included painting and renovation of the entire property along with repairing windows, doors and other woodwork requirements. The team completed the work to a very high standard and well within the completion time required. Again, I have received many compliments and excellent feedback regarding the excellent work from the team and the manner in which they carried out their duties. Fantastic effort by the whole team.

### The Timber Mill

Progress on the Timber Mill has really take shape over the last few weeks. The new sawmill shed has



now been constructed along with covering sheds for timber and log storage.



The aim is to get the timber mill fully functioning and to full production by end of March 2022. Watch this space for developments over the next few months.

and other woodland materials to form an eco, bird and insect friendly environment in our hedgerows.

Pictured below with their certificates are:

Kyle Thomas, Dylan Crolla, Adam Billington, Steve Harman and Emyr Thomas.



Well done guys!!

## Hedge Laying Course

Congratulations to the members of the team who recently underwent a training course, focusing on how to make and install hedge building using willow



## REPAIR CAFÉ

*Marty Andrews*

Our October BIG REPAIR CAFÉ at Scolton Manor was very well attended with repairs to tools, bikes, a lamp, clothing ceramics and a printer among the items given a new lease of life. Fixers from partner Pembroke Circle repair café organisations joined the Scolton Manor regular volunteers in one big event. Radio Wales were in attendance to record the day for a later broadcast – more on this on the next page.

We are now hoping to bring repair cafes to more venues. Watch this space for news on repair events coming to Pembroke and Haverfordwest soon.



The Library of Things finally opened its doors at No.5 Riverside on 12th November! It was great to see so many people come to support us and Pure West Radio gave us some great opportunities to tell the community what we were all about. We have been running virtually since earlier in the year but now that we have a town presence we are expected to get a lot busier.

The Library of Things will hold a variety of items which you can borrow out at a reasonable rate.

Items such as grass strimmer's, soup kettles, children's board games to gazebos! Most of our items have been donated by the general public – items that they have owned but do not use very often or not at all.

If you have any item that is not used very often or not at all then you can donate it to the Library of Things, you can contact us on 01437763650 (Norman Industries) or 01437776611 (No5 Riverside).

To make an account so that you can loan an item, simply visit [www.pembrokehirecircle.org](http://www.pembrokehirecircle.org) and sign up free of charge. A huge thanks to the team that have worked so hard on this since it we first started. It has now finally come to fruition and your hard work really shows, well done!

## BBC Radio Wales Broadcast

*Karen Davies*

BBC Radio Wales came to Caffi Cyfle to record a piece about the repair café and the Library of Things for a programme on repair and reuse projects in Pembrokeshire. They conducted interviews with those helping to run the project. Well done Nigel and Lee for your brilliant contributions!

The programme was first broadcast on 28th November and is still available to listen to the BBC website until the end of the year. The web address is provided below.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m0011xyj>





## **NORMAN INDUSTRIES: TRAINING, ARTS & CRAFTS**

*Lee Adams*

The training rooms are winding down for Christmas and as we look back on the past year, I would like to give praise and credit to all those involved.

The Training Room and The Letterston Group have worked extremely hard over the last year. One of many important jobs they have is saving unwanted and unloved furniture that has been donated to Paul Satori and is looking for a new home. They do this by painstakingly stripping back years of varnish and paint. They do this on almost all items that come in with our partnership with Paul Satori. The finished product would not be possible without their hard work.

Another important job I feel needs mentioning, is how well they have kept up with the demand for our very popular bird boxes and bug hotels, sold through our shop at Scolton Manor. The team have been working extremely hard on this. It is at the Station Shop where a few of the participants have now been given the opportunity for employment – just one of the fantastic opportunities we have been able to offer.

We have also recently welcomed back Portfield School pupils on a Thursday and Portfield Adults on a Friday morning and look forward to continuing our successful collaboration as time goes on.

A special mention and a huge thank you to Amanda Harvey, who is huge part of the rejuvenation of our preloved furniture, working out of our workshop in Letterston. Without Amanda, everything would be painted grey!!

Also thanks to Steven Campodonic and Nick Salt, our resident support for the training room at the moment. You can also see Nick working in the Station Shop at Scolton Manor while Steve also works on our Library of Things project.

## **Maths and English**

All the guys have been working extremely hard through this difficult year continuing with their Maths and English and am extremely proud to announce that Mark and Paul have received their certificates (see photo Attached) Paul was to shy for a photo on this occasion.



## **The Craft Room**

Wow! The Craft room has certainly been busy this year. With the opening of the Farm shop, it has been non-stop supply and demand, especially for the hugely popular custom hand-painted glass selection, which is just a tiny selection of what the Craft Room offers. Craft has also welcomed new volunteers as well as pupils from Portfield School who are thoroughly enjoying themselves. This pretty much sums up the craft section – a friendly safe space that caters for all, and where imagination is your only limit!

A special mention and a huge thank you has to go out to Sue Rivett who runs our craft section. Her skills are endless and enthusiasm is infectious, and she is fantastic at what she does. Now couple this with our resident seamstress Jayne Haigh and craft section becomes a place of joy!

When Jane is out of the craft area, she covers all our machine work – anything from embroidery on our new work shirts to completely recovering sofas. Jane really is a talented member of the team and we hope her support and experience will help us expand on this in the New Year.

### **CNC/Laser Printer/3D printer**

The newest member of the crew lestyn has been working extremely hard this year and although the equipment is still relatively new, it has already proven itself a valuable asset across all of our projects. lestyn is able to design and make anything from custom-made and personalised signs, name

plaques, wood engraving – the list goes on. They really are fantastic machines and all this has to be designed and set up so each machine can work together to understand a task. This is where lestyn's works his magic!

All of the work lestyn has done can be seen and purchased at Scolton Manor Station Shop or at Café Cyfle at No.5 Riverside Haverfordwest, or we can be contacted through Norman industries for more customised items.

To all staff and volunteers, again a HUGE thank you for all your hard work and being a part of Norman Industries.

