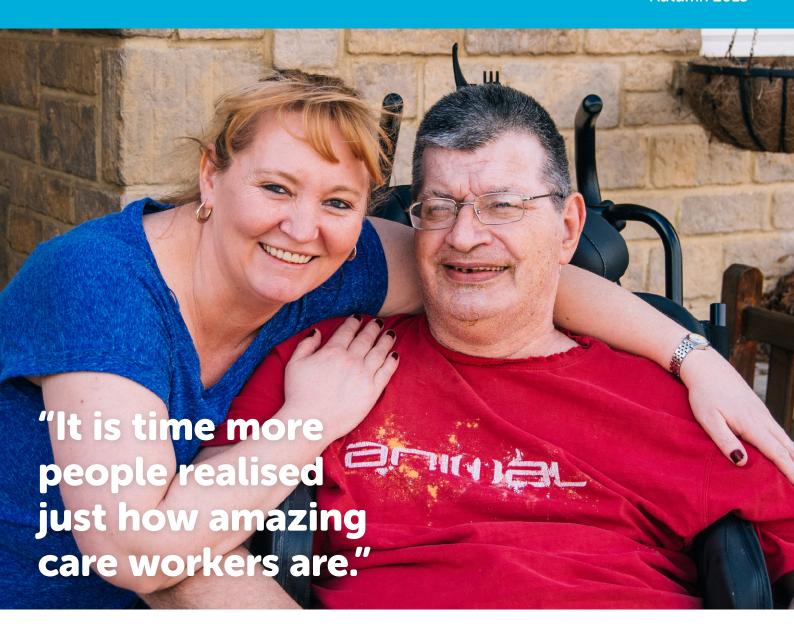


# news

Autumn <u>2015</u>



Lisa Rodgers, who has been working for FitzRoy for ten years, is bubbling over with admiration for dedicated FitzRoy staff.



Every time I visit our services I'm blown away. My visit to Nottingham and Newark was no exception. Not everyone knows how challenging being a Service Manager is, and I want people to realise just how amazing staff are. It involves juggling the needs of your team alongside those of the people we support, not to mention the legislative requirements and the odd visit from the CQC (Care Quality Commission). To add to this, Nottingham deal with daily referrals from the local authority to support more people. The pressure must feel overwhelming at times.

When I arrived, I was met by a dedicated team who told me that the best way to meet their never-ending list of challenges is to make sure they have the right people providing the right care, people who are driven by a passion to make a difference.

As Kimberley Cockram, Nottingham North Manager said "We want staff who are FitzRoy'd, who have our values. At FitzRoy, our staff do more than just care, we transform lives!"

We are proud of our staff and the values we share as an organisation. We are always looking for more people to join our brilliant teams.



Are you enthusiastic, creative and dedicated?
Learn more about working for FitzRoy and start transforming lives.



Want more than just a job?

Join us for a career in care,
watch our video.

www.fitzroy.org/careers



#### A chat in a pub led to a series of amazing fundraising opportunities!

A chance meeting with some old friends led to a series of extraordinary fundraising opportunities for Bev Hayes, a support worker at FitzRoy's service in Bury St Edmunds.

Hearing about Bev's work supporting people with learning disabilities, her two friends, Mary and Micky, chose FitzRoy to benefit from an event they were planning.

Emotions ran high at their Golf Day as Bev told moving stories about the people we support, including Gordon whose life was transformed when he discovered FitzRoy. With staff on hand to answer questions and a busy information table, they impressed everyone with their passion for their work. The event raised £1,500, but that was just the beginning.

The Golf Day sponsor, a local businessman, was so impressed by Bev's commitment that he offered even more help, including distributing 35 collection tins around his businesses for six months.

Bev spent hours printing off labels for the tins and writing an information sheet about the Blomfield Street service. This will raise around £5,000. On top of this other traders and businessmen offered their services to transform the garden, and an anonymous sponsor offered to fund the cost of laying AstroTurf.

The Council have recognised the fundraising efforts of so many local people and the impact the garden project will have on everyone living at Blomfield Street, and have offered to fund further garden work, such as installing raised beds.

The staff are planning an Open Day to thank the local community for their support once all the work is done.



Inspired?
You too can get involved,
just go to
www.fitzroy.org/fundraising

#### So proud of their achievements

Inspired by our Pride of FitzRoy awards, enthusiastic staff from FitzRoy's Nottingham Supported Living Services organised a local awards ceremony to recognise the achievements of the people they support.

This group of services is flourishing, and the staff love helping people explore opportunities for a more independent life.

After the presentation of the awards by Anna Galliford and Edward Thornton-Firkin, FitzRoy's former Chair of Trustees, everyone danced the night away.

One of the dads generously performed his live act – well-known locally – The Soulman. It went down a storm.

It was a brilliant evening, I was overwhelmed by the fantastic achievements of the people we support, and it was wonderful being able to celebrate all their successes.

**Anna Galliford, Chief Executive** 





#### FitzRoy Blog by Keith Goffe

#### This family was determined to change things.

Malcolm was born in 1969 in Petersfield, in the room that is still his bedroom today. We were worried about Malcolm because he seemed different to our other children, so we saw a Paediatrician. He opened up Malcolm's hand and said "I'm afraid to tell you he has mongolism".

He didn't give us any advice except that things would be difficult and Malcolm would probably only live to about 20, particularly as they discovered he had three holes in his heart. It was devastating news. Then Ann, my wife, met someone in Woolworths with a child with Spina Bifida, the same age as Malcolm, and that was the beginning of something special.

We decided to get something going. We put notices around the town and villages – asking anybody with a disabled child, relative, or friend, to join our meeting in Petersfield. We had a great response and the Petersfield Society for Special Needs was born. We now have over 200 members, a monthly disco, theatre trips, boat trips, and more.

All it takes is a bit of enthusiasm and some wonderful volunteers like Carole Patrick who has been the backbone of the society. She is a brilliant organiser and gives people with disabilities a voice on Hampshire County Council. I hope that small

groups like ours carry on as they provide so much for people with disabilities and their families.

Malcolm is now 45, outliving all the doctor's predictions and defying the odds!



Read more FitzRoy blogs www.fitzroy.org/voices







Huge congratulations to Martin McGibbon and his team at Selby Support who have made it through as finalists for the End of Life Care award for the 2015 3rd Sector Care awards

We're very proud of you, and your fantastic work!



## We've been talking to families

Thank you to all the families who took the time to come to our focus groups this summer. Many of you joined our groups to talk about the pressures, issues, and worries you face as relatives of children with learning disabilities.

It is clear from what you told us that many issues remain unresolved, and we're hoping to draw attention to solutions to these problems through our report which we're planning to publish this winter. Watch this space for more from our

To find out more about this project, or to get involved, we'd love to hear from you. Call Beth Vaughan, Marketing Manager, on 01730 711 103 or email beth.vaughan@fitzroy.org

#### **Order your Christmas cards from FitzRoy**

All money from the sale of the Christmas cards goes towards helping us transform lives.

One pack of 5 cards for £2.95

To order please call 01730 711 106/7, or email fundraising@fitzroy.org









#### **Fundraise for FitzRoy**

There are lots of ways to get involved. Go to our website, or call our fundraising team on 01730 711 106/7, or email us on fundraising@fitzroy.org.

We love hearing from you!

#### **Donation Form**

Help us transform lives. Your donation, large or small, will support someone with a learning disability to live more independently. Thank you.

**Online donations** visit www.fitzroy.org/donate to find more

**Cheque Donations** please make your cheque payable to FitzRoy Support and return it to FREEPOST RLTB-UUSU-LCKT, FitzRoy House, 8 Hylton Road, Petersfield, GU32 3JY

#### **Credit or Debit Card Donations**

Please debit my card for the sum of £ .					
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### **Start training now!**

**London Marathon 2016** 



Is it time to stop thinking about it and book your place for the **Virgin Money London Marathon** April 2016?

If this is something you've secretly always wanted to do, we may have the ticket you need. Take on this personal challenge with FitzRoy, and enjoy the added satisfaction of knowing you are transforming lives for people with learning disabilities.

We'll be with you every step of the way. If you need help fundraising we'll give you our expert advice, we'll motivate you to keep training, and we'll promote you whenever we can.

Anne, who ran the marathon for FitzRoy in 2014, really enjoyed it. "I have done so much in my life and it feels right to be raising money to help support this great charity."

To find out more about a place in the marathon with FitzRoy call Lauren Fitzgerald on 01730 711 106, or email lauren.fitzgerald@fitzroy.org

#### Join the conversation







Call: 01730 711 111, Email: info@fitzroy.org Web: www.fitzroy.org

If you would like to stop receiving this newsletter please email jan.deane@fitzroy.org, or call Jan 01730 711 107.

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