



The Wren

Issue 62

January 2026

Happy New Year!



Together Everyone Achieves More



@JennyruthW



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@JennyruthWorkshop



www.jennyruth.co.uk



[jennyruth-workshop](https://www.linkedin.com/company/jennyruth-workshop/)

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Letter from the Deputy Editor

Happy New Year to us all at Jennyruth Workshops! We have got very exciting new events coming up for 2026. We are looking forward to new shows and talks in their communities and painting workshops.

The Jennyruth Workshops doors are now open for the New Year, sharing all the fun for us and laughter. It's a new start for all the Workers to start working with Staff and Volunteers.

I was so looking forward to coming back at Jennyruth Workshops to see all my friends again to catch up all the chat about what we have done in the year we just had and all the fun we have created together.

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Happy
New Year



Meet the team



Editors Anna Smith & Shelley Atkinson

Deputy Editors Jamie Allen & Hannah Rollings

Art Director Vee Leigh

Creative Director Ryan Rhodes

Graphic Designer Sam Manning

Digital Editor Ryan Hearfield



Visits and Events

Painting Workshop at HELP Friendship & Exercise Club

On Thursday 4th December I went to do a painting workshop at Help Friendship Exercise Club inside the St Wilfrid's Community Centre with Rachael, Emma, Phe and Phoebe. I was helping Phe and Phoebe to set up all the tables with some help.

By Rachael and Emma

We all sat down to help the people in the club. We had tea, coffee and biscuits. It was warm and very tasty.

The weather was cold and a bit windy.

We were all freezing because it was cold inside the building, but the radiators were on to keep us warm.

By Jessica



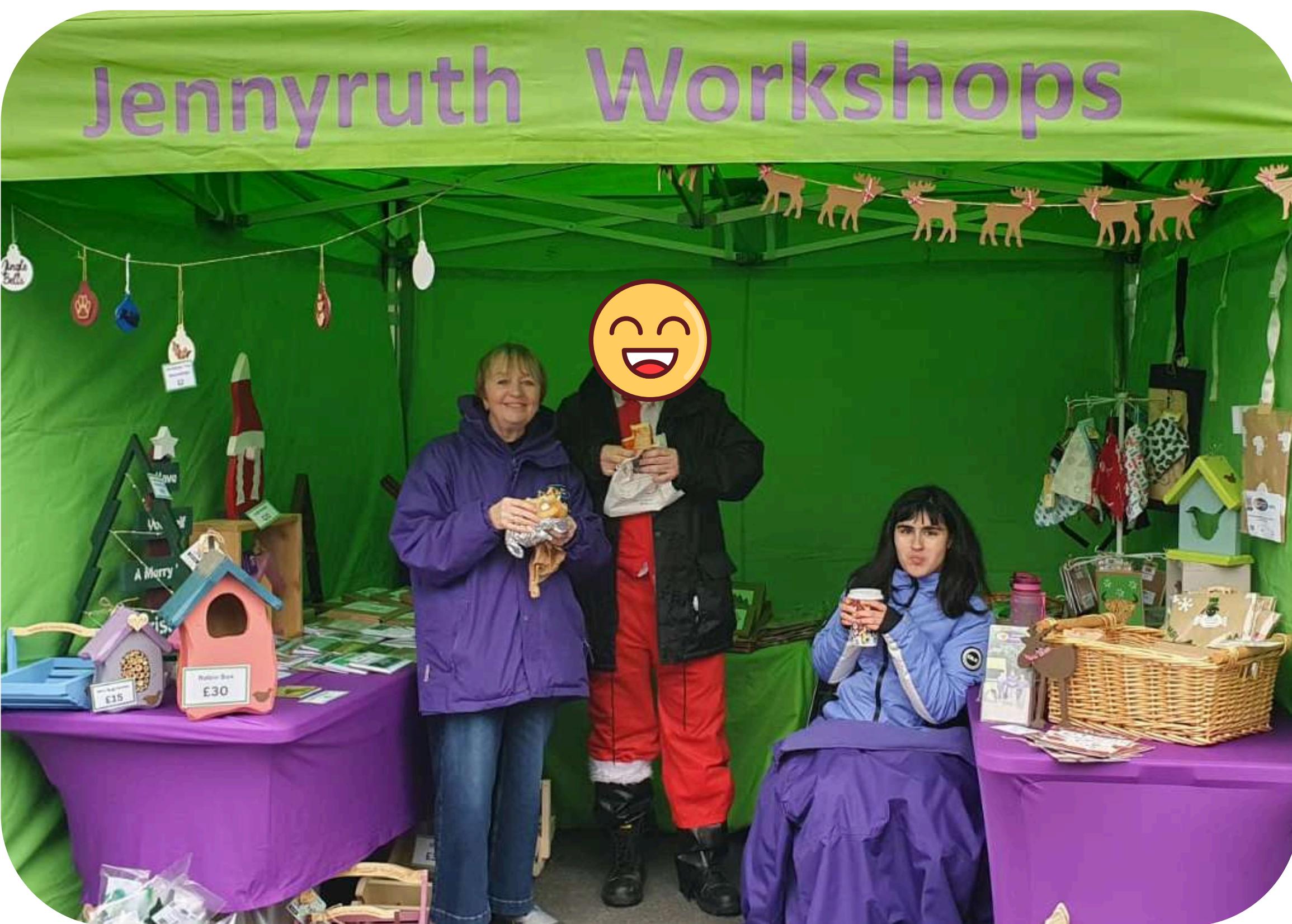
Marton Cum Grafton - Coffee Morning

It was a lovely sunny morning and the good people of Marton Cum Grafton were definitely ready for delicious cakes and bacon sandwiches.

I was so pleased when Jonathon arrived who did an excellent job of delivering the tasty bacon sandwiches to everyone. We were so busy and had to go back for extra bacon and sold out completely-well done Jonathan.



Wetherby Artisan Market



My Dad and Jayne drove me to Wetherby Christmas Market to join Richard, Rachel K and David M to do a stall.

As we were driving through Wetherby, I spotted our Jennyruth stall straight away again because it was right at the front. On the other side of the Market square they were playing Christmas music.

I was on the Zettle scanning all the products that the customers bought, I had a little bit of help from Richard and Rachel. Rachel took me for a walk around all the stalls but it was jam packed with a lot of people. Then we went to a candle, soap and shampoo stall to get a Christmas present for my sister.

Rachel got me a mint hot chocolate to keep me warm.

Then I continued to do the stall doing the Zettle until Richard left but when I was just about to have my lunch Avril came to help at the stall.

Avril got me hot chocolate and we could not stop dancing to the songs that were on. I helped Avril and Rachel pack a little bit of the products away before Jayne came to collect me.

My two favourite parts were being on the stall doing the Zettle and looking at all the other stalls.

by Jessica Lewis



Harrogate Christmas Tree Festival



I went to see the Christmas Tree Festival with Kelly, Rachel, Emma, Ryan and Bethany. We got to vote for our favourite Christmas tree. The weather was sunny but it was cold. My favourite part was seeing all of the Christmas lights. Also, we went to Mel's House for lunch in Harrogate at St Peter's Church.

By Beth



Osmotherley Coffee Morning



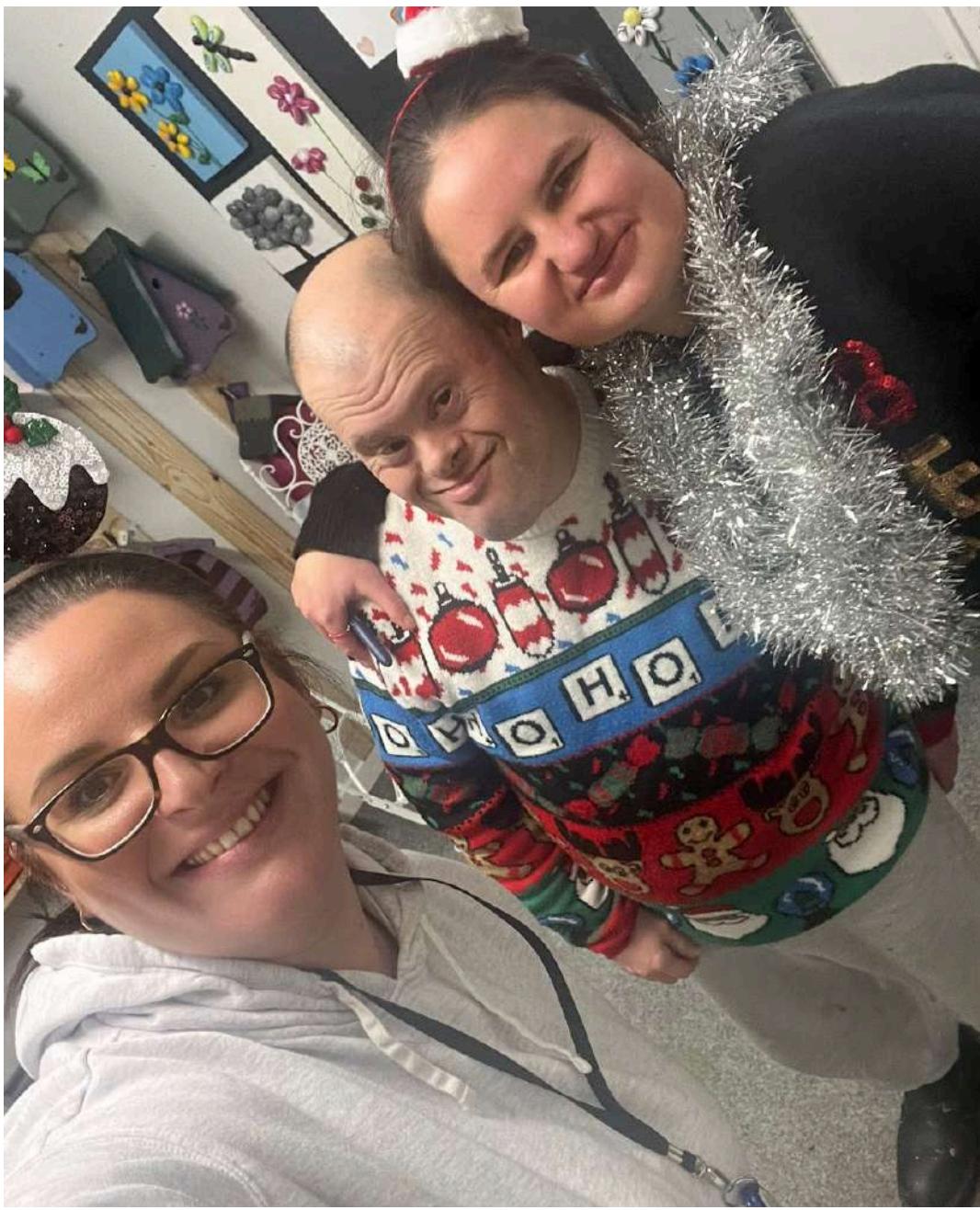
We attended a Christmas Coffee Morning with our stall with coffee, cake, Mince Pies and refreshments. The stall was run by myself, Anna, Daniel and Rachel, a volunteer. The weather was sunny but windy. I ran the stall with Daniel. My main job was talking to people about products and selling them to the general public. After an hour, me and Daniel swapped and I counted the products that had been sold. The most exciting part of the morning was when a local school choir sang beautiful, calming Christmas carols. The stall made a very healthy profit of £450. It was lovely to meet people and sell our handmade products to local people living in Osmotherley and visitors on holiday living in the local area. My favourite part was talking to customers and selling products.

By Tom O



Christmas Fair

Our Christmas Fair was a roaring success! A big thank you everyone who attended and supported us!



Tap on the Tutt Bottle Tombola

Sue, Janet and I had a great time running the bottle tombola raising over £200, we also had a number of children collecting a lovely decoration after completing the Bauble Trail.



Therese's Carol Concert



We went to watch Therese singing in her choir. I got to sing along. Therese had a solo, she was amazing! - **Ryan H**



Carol Concert at Hampsthwaite Primary School

Chris, Dawn and Ben had a lovely festive morning at Hampsthwaite Primary School, they joined in with their Christmas Sing along.

The choir group was amazing, we also joined in with the Makaton song and some dancing.

It was a joy to be invited and listen to the fabulous children.

ITV Studios Christmas Fair

Jonathan, Ryan H, Avril and Anna went to the ITV Studios to do a stall at their Christmas Fair.

Ryan H said, "We did really well. I saw some of the Emmerdale cast. They signed my Emmerdale hat. It was really exciting! The Grinch was there and quite scary but then we became friends!"



Wonky Willow

Beth, Emma, Shaun and Robin along with a few staff and volunteers enjoyed a lovely Willow Weaving workshop. They made some reindeer and stars that are hanging up in the workshop. Nellie from Wonky Willow was kind enough to teach the session and supply all the materials, we all had a lovely time.



Riverside Court Care Home

Dawn and Christopher were great at helping the residents to paint some Christmas Jumpers on Tuesday. They also loved the wrapped up jigsaws that we took for them, they put them under the tree. We had a lovely festive afternoon!



News from the Workshops

Christmas Party

We had great fun at our Christmas Party!

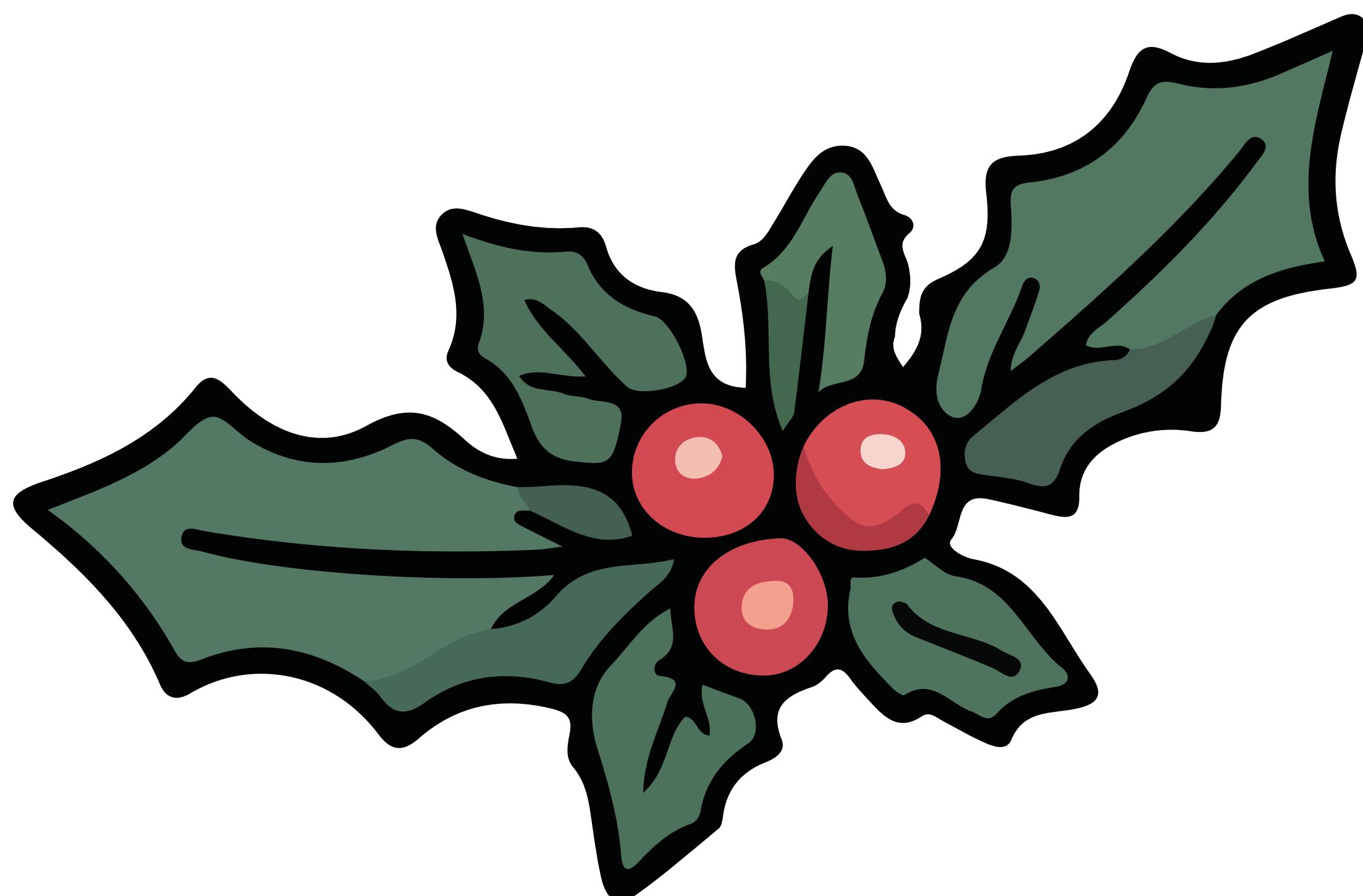


Christmas Video

The workers were superstar actors in our fabulously festive Christmas Video!

<https://youtu.be/YZ8-rknpwTk>

Merry Christmas
Everyone



Thank you to everyone who donated Raffle Prizes

Special shout out to the amazing local businesses for supporting us!

Appletons Butchers

Ripon Inn

Ripon Races

Monk Park Farm

Harlow Carr

Corney & Barrow

Fare (Cafe/Wine Bar in Otley)

MKM

Bozza Fodder (Langthorpe)

Cathedral View Cafe

Thank You

Jessica has already used her Raffle Prize!



My day out with Linda to Otley

On Saturday 20th December, I went to Otley with Linda because I won a meal for two at Fare cafe in a raffle prize at the Christmas party on Friday 12th December. We drove to Otley, but it was a very long journey to get there. When we got there, we were a bit early to go for our lunch. So, Linda said to me why don't we go for a walk around the Market square in Otley which was packed with lots of people.

Then we went for lunch at Fare Cafe, We both had water in glasses and Chocolate brownies to try as a sample when we had finished. I had Brie and Palma ham with some crackers, bread with oil on, olives and chutney which I tried, and it was a brand new taste for me that I have never tasted before, and I never want to try again!

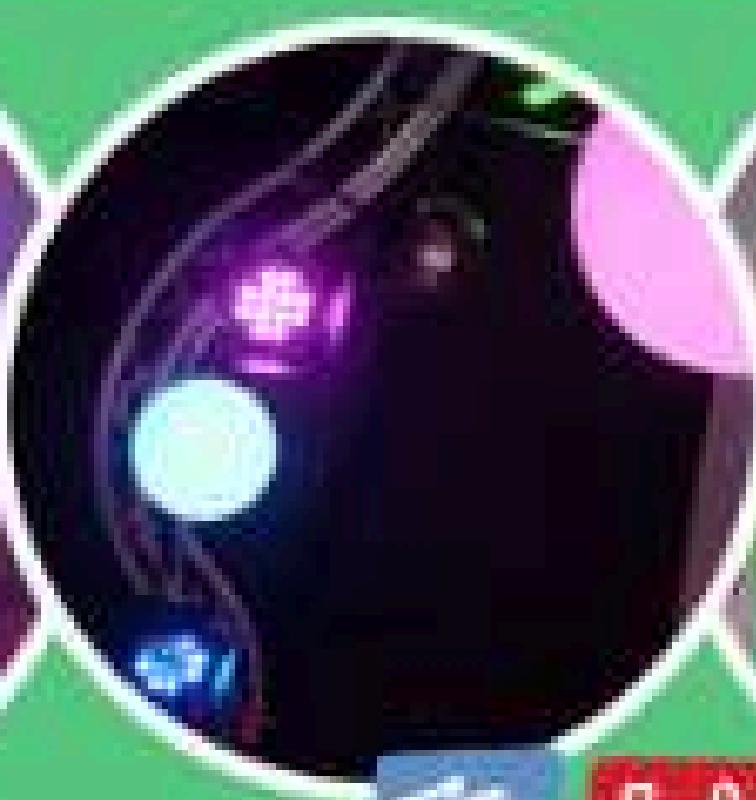
Then Linda had a Brie and ham toasted sandwich with crisps. But I had a chocolate brownie for pudding which was "yummy in my tummy". Linda and I saw Carole and Martyn's son in the cafe as well. We have a photograph with him.

Then we went to a shop that were selling candles, soaps, washing up liquids and other products. It was for my stepbrother's present but I couldn't find what I was looking for which didn't make me a happy bunny!

So, then Linda and I went to the garden centre in Otley to keep on looking for candles, but we found a nice purple candle. While looking at Christmas decorations it felt like a Christmas wonderland. After our lovely outing in Otley, Linda took me home.

Written by Jessica Lewis





Pendragon

COMMUNITY TRUST

At our centre based in Northallerton, North Yorkshire. We offer sensory sessions for adults and children with additional needs.

The centre is fully padded and includes a giant soft slide, interactive walls, ball pool, waterbed, bubble tubes and much more for you to explore!

We are fully hoisted and changing facilities located on site as well as a small café serving hot drinks and refreshments.

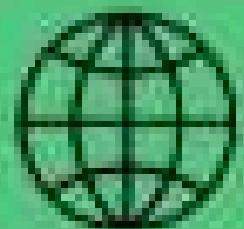
If you would like to speak to our friendly team, Please don't hesitate to contact them on the following.



01609 760330



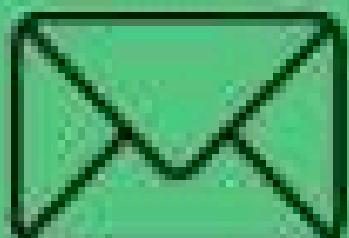
Pendragon Community Trust



www.pendragon-ct.org



Pendragonsensory



Julia.Downes@pendragon-ct.org

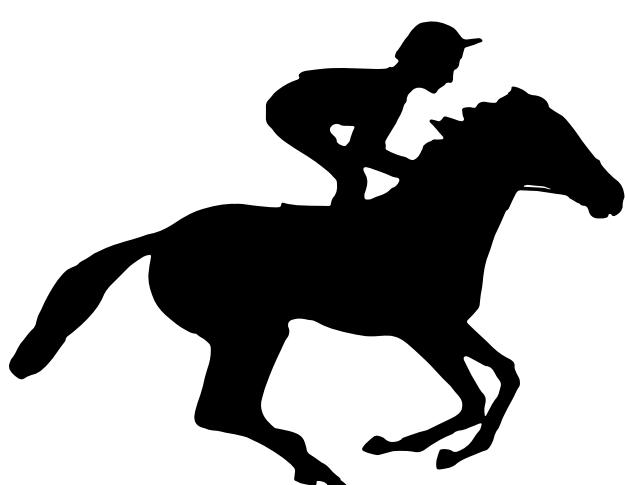
WONDERFUL WORKERS

A section dedicated to our fabulously fantastic workers!

**Each month we will be putting different workers
in the spotlight by interviewing them about their life!
This month it's all about Christopher!**

What did you do before you came to Jennyruth Workshops?

I went to Belmont College in Lancaster , I stayed there and came home during the holidays.



What's your favourite hobbies?

Horse Riding and chilling in my hot tub, I also go Scuba diving.

Do you have any New Year Resolutions?

I'm just happy being me !



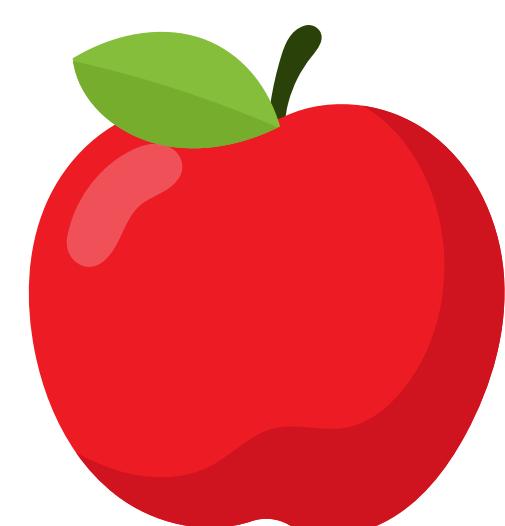
What's your favourite film?

Home Alone because it's funny! I love watching the pranks, they make me laugh.



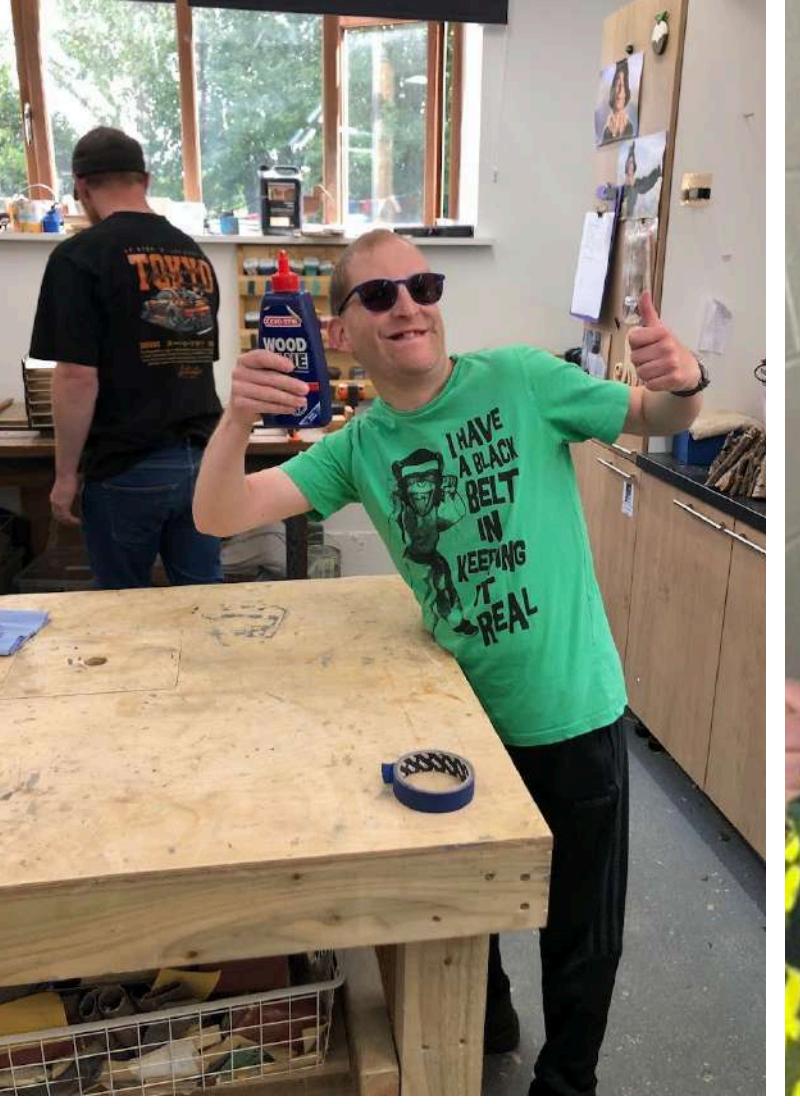
What do you bake at home ?

I like to help make apple crumble.



What's your favourite thing about Jennyruth Workshops?

Hang out with Richard and Simon! I'm happy doing anything that needs doing!



Volunteering



**Would you like to be a part of a vibrant social enterprise?
Here you'll work with wonderful, friendly people and make a
difference!**

We offer a range of volunteering opportunities where you will be enabling and supporting our workers in:

- Sewing, baking, cooking and educational courses in The Mess Room
- Painting wooden products in the Paintshop
- Cutting out wooden items and assembling products in Woodwork
- Packaging and promoting products in The Other Room
- Stenciling, designing, gardening, Blue Peter Badge Group and so much more in The Training Room
- Work experience and volunteering in the community
- Stalls at crafts fairs and shows, talks and fundraising events

We are also a popular choice for '**Employer Supported Volunteering**'.



**Please check the events list and if
you would like to help out at any of
these please email Emily at
volunteers@jennyruth.co.uk**

Fundraising

There are numerous ways that you can support Jennyruth Workshops.

Fancy starting your own fundraiser? Click the link to create a Just Giving page and start raising money for Jennyruth Workshops!

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising-page/creation/?cid=3261823>



You can donate via our website:



Click the link to make a regular or one off donation!

Easy Fundraising gives people an easy and free way to raise donations for Jennyruth Workshops through online shopping

You can also add the Donation Reminder button to your browser so whenever you're shopping online – the Donation Reminder automatically lets you know when you're on any site that offers donations with #easyfundraising.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/donation-reminder/>

It's now been made even easier....just scan the QR Code to sign up or visit <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/> to find out more.



Support Jennyruth Workshops Ltd

You donation helps us do more, every day!

Whether it's a one-off gift or a regular contribution, donations form a vital part of our revenue to enable us to keep doing what we do best.

Ways to Donate

- **Online via Our Website**



You can make **one-off or regular donations** directly through this page and enable Gift Aided donation(s).

Please email - **finance@jennyruth.co.uk** for forms

- **Set Up a Direct Debit or Standing Order**

Prefer to arrange it through your bank? Just ask for a form.

Once completed, **send it directly to your bank** - not back to us.

- **Gift Aid It**

If you're a UK taxpayer, your donation could be worth 25% more at no extra cost.

Fill in a quick **Gift Aid Form** and we'll do the rest.

Every penny makes a difference.

Thank you for supporting Jennyruth Workshops Ltd.

Registered Charity No. 1093957

Happy Birthday



January



Martyn Dean



Kelly Mazza

William Scrope

Adam Chapman

Richard Swearman



Jo Mitchell

Julie Wright

Chris Cerexhe

Simon Headley

Carol Gauld

Lucy Newell

Jonathan Evasion

Richard Naish





Dates for the Diary

A note for volunteers

If you would like to help out at any of our events then please get in touch by emailing Avril at info@jennyruth.co.uk.

**Stay tuned and
keep checking our
Social Media
Channels for
upcoming events!**



A Message from



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