



# The Wren

Issue 26

January 2023



Together Everyone Achieves More

[www.jennyruth.co.uk](http://www.jennyruth.co.uk)



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@jennyruthworkshops



@JennyruthWorkshop

# Contents

**Happy New Year everyone!**

**Here at the workshop we have had a lovely relaxed start to 2023 and are already working on stock for Christmas!**

**The end of 2022 saw us being incredibly busy; out and about in our with various stalls, bag packing and community engagement events.**

**Building work has progressed swiftly over the holidays and the extension is coming together nicely.**

**Keep an eye on our events list for the coming year as it is steadily filling up and looking to be a bumper year of outings and activities for us.**

**I'll see you again soon as it will be February before we know it 😊**

*Nicky*

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Christopher

# Meet the team



**Editors** Anna Smith, Karen Taylor and Shelley Atkinson

**Deputy Editor** Chris Cerexhe

**Chief Reporter** Christopher Stanfield


**Food director** Matthew Evason

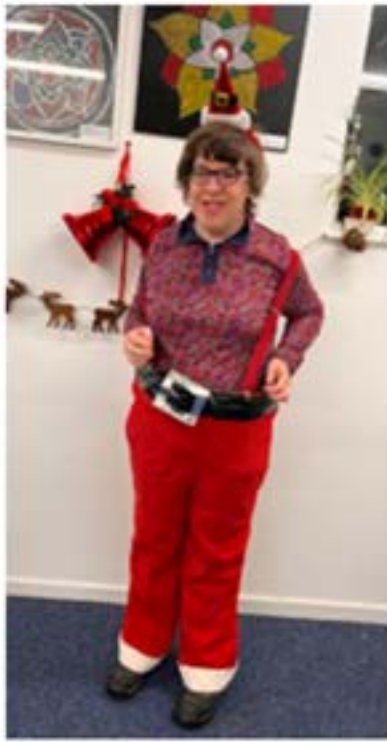
**Photographer** Alex Arnall



# Our Amazing WOWs

Every week we celebrate the incredible achievements of one of our workers. Last month Victoria, the Office Skills Group and the Team Building Group received Worker of the Week (WOW).

WOW 



Victoria Thomis  
Worker of the Week  
1st December 2022

- For being really productive in the last hour and not wandering around as much.
- For joining in with the video making.
- For great sanding of the plant markers, and continuing to work all afternoon. For listening to instructions and following them first time.

*Nicky*  
CEO

WOW 



Team Building Group  
Worker of the Week  
13th December 2022

- This group are really helpful. They have worked well together and have supported each other throughout the course.

*Nicky*  
CEO



  
WOW



Office Skills Group  
Worker of the Week  
15th December 2022

This group have gone from strength to strength; they have worked really hard and even shown others how to do their job. They have taken ownership of their role and offer their own suggestions for best practise. They can work really independently.

*Nicky*  
CEO



# Visits and Events

## Booths bag packing and stall

On Friday 2nd and 9th December, a group of workers from Jennyruth Workshops went to Booths in Ripon to have a stall and to do bag packing. It was very busy with lovely customers and we packed a lot of bags. We met a few interesting people. I was helping Linda with the bags for the customers that came to the checkout. We got some donations from the customers in the bucket. I was helping Richard to sell our products to the customers as they came and looked at or bought our products.

**By Jessica Lewis**

"On Friday afternoon I went to Booths and I started working behind the stall. We sold quite a few products and we have also been giving out Jennyruth Workshops' leaflets to customers to show them what we do. We all helped with bag packing for the customers and they gave money to our charity." - **Jamie A**

"I helped with bag packing for customers. I asked them if they would like any help with their packing." - **Rachael**

"I was doing the stall and sold a few products. I was using the card reader and it was my first time." - **Chris C**

"I did the stall and bag packing for customers. I had a mince pie and a hot chocolate with marshmallows and cream for a treat because I worked very hard." - **Ryan**

"It was quite busy and I was helping people pack their bags. The customers were interested in hearing about Jennyruth Workshops. I really enjoyed being at Booths." - **Alex**

"I helped at Booths by meeting and greeting the customers and by holding the donations bucket and handing out leaflets about Jennyruth Workshops. I met some people that I know and had a chat with them. I went to the cafe afterwards for a hot drink. It was really good." - **Matthew**



## Visit from Askwith WI Group

The ladies from the WI came to look around the workshops. Alex gave them a tour and they were really interested in seeing us painting in the paintshop and working in woodwork. They then had tea and biscuits in the training room, chatted with Alex and Avril and learnt all about the workshops. They did some Christmas shopping and bought some of our Christmas decorations and other products. They had a lovely afternoon with us and we thanked them for coming to see us.

## Skipton Building Society



Skipton Building Society launched an exciting new scheme called Branch Community Giving.

Customers who visited the Ripon branch over a six-week period starting on 31st October were given the option to vote for their favourite charity or community group. The charity or community group with the most votes would receive a cash donation of £500, followed by £300 for the runner-up and a final £200 for the remaining group.

We were lucky enough to not only be nominated as one of the charities but to get the most votes and therefore receive £500.

## Stall at Copt Hewick

Alex interviewed Steve about the stall he did at Copt Hewick. "It was steady. Not as many people as before but a lovely atmosphere. There was a lot of interest in what we did. The small stock such as Christmas Tree Decorations were the most popular. It was a great networking event that gave us the opportunity to meet lots of interesting people and share what we did."



# Workshop at Sharow School

A couple of workers and staff visited Sharow school to help the children paint their Christmas decorations. We had cut out the wooden shapes for the decorations on the laser cutter ready for the children to paint.

My role was teaching the children to paint. They all picked their colours and were very good painters.

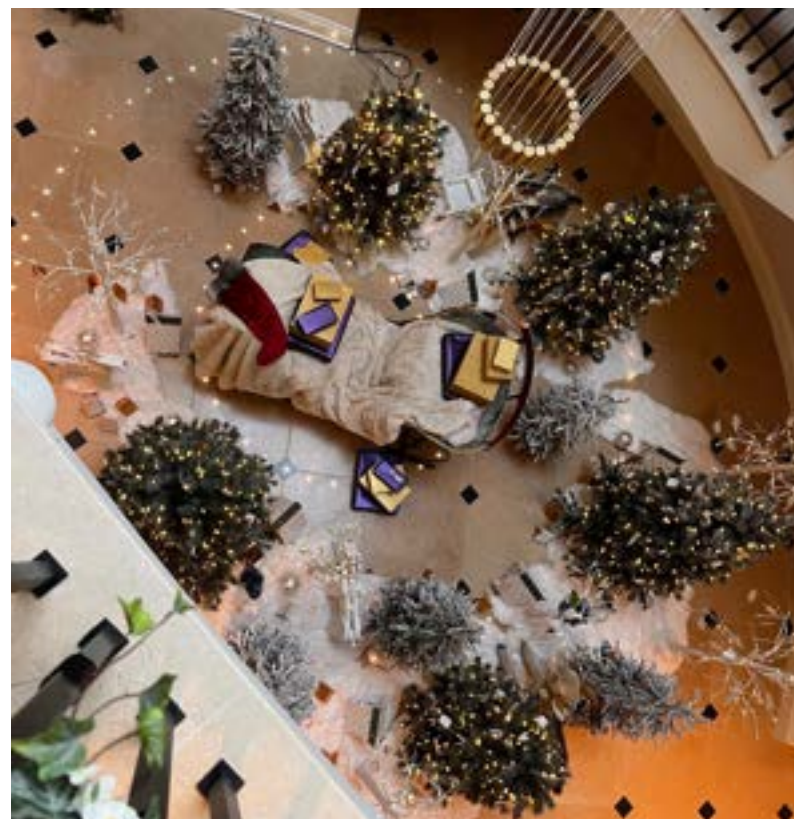
The first group was year 1 and the second year 2. They were all very excited. It was lovely that they invited us to their nativity the following week.

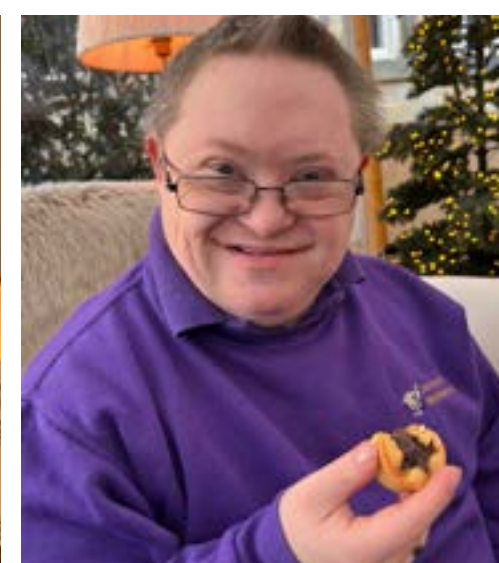
## Report by Beth Evason



# Visit to Grantley Hall

There was a buzz of excitement when we were invited to Grantley Hall to see the Christmas decorations that we had made for them. Alongside the replica of Grantley Hall, we also created mini birdhouses, candy canes, sleighs, stars and Father Christmas tree decorations that we painted in white and gold. They were all on display in their Winter Wonderland with our handcrafted reindeer scattered amongst the trees. At the end of our tour, we were treated to hot chocolate and mince pies in The Orchard.





"I liked all the Christmas Trees and the decorations. I liked it when they parked the minibus for us." - **Dawn**

"I really enjoyed it! I liked the Christmas Trees and seeing our snowflakes on display. My mince pie and hot chocolate were yummy!" - **Ryan**

"It was good and seeing our decorations was amazing! I liked seeing all the different decorated trees." - **Tom**



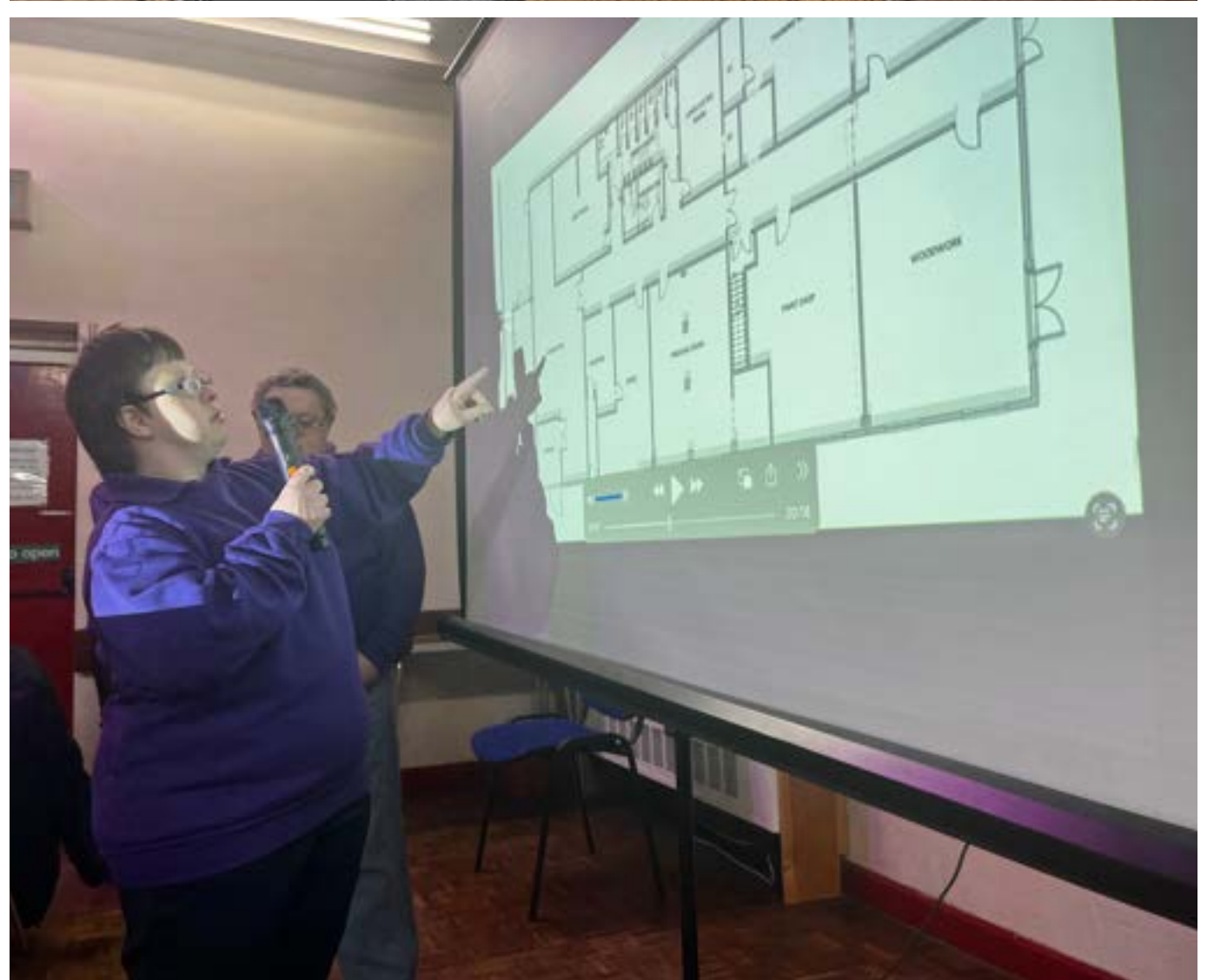
# Marton cum Grafton Coffee Morning

On the 3rd December, we had a coffee morning at Marton cum Grafton to raise money for Jennyruth Workshops and Jonathan cooked bacon butties. Matthew and Ben were waiters serving and clearing tables while Rachael and Rebekah were on the tombola stall. Beth ran the cake stall then at the end we worked as a team to clear and tidy up.

By Bethany Evason

# Talk to the Pudsey Friendship Group

Ryan and Beth did a brilliant talk to the Pudsey Friendship Group.



# Fountains Abbey

"We had a lovely walk around Fountains Abbey and learnt about its history. They showed us around the museum and then we went to the cafe for a drink and cake as a treat." - **Jamie Allen**



# News from the Workshops

## Medal Making for Muddy Boots

Book your spot now for the Muddy Boots 10k & Fun Run  
<https://racebest.com/races/muddyboots10K/enter>  
All the medals for the event will be made by us!

If you've got an event coming up then pop us an email  
[info@jennyruth.co.uk](mailto:info@jennyruth.co.uk) to have us create your bespoke medals.



Raising funds for  
St Wilfrid's Primary School, Ripon

**MUDDY  
BOOTS**  
**10K & FUN RUN**

**BOOK NOW**

**WWW.FACEBOOK.COM  
/MUDDYBOOTS10K**

On: Sunday 5th February 2023  
At: St Wilfrid's Primary School,  
Ripon, North Yorkshire  
10am - Fun Run  
11am - 10k  
Charity Number: 1057684

# Christmas Party

Our Christmas party was a roaring success! We want to say a big thank you to everyone involved and especially those who donated raffle prizes, tombola prizes, food and drinks. One of the many highlights was when Steve Dixon (one of our volunteers) arrived in the Dog Suit that he'll be wearing in an upcoming race to raise money for Jennyruth Workshops (**more details on p27**).

"Our Christmas party was so much fun! The food was really yummy and we watched our Christmas video." - **Hannah**

"We had to think of a name for the dog. My name was chosen out of the bucket. It made me feel good inside and I was very excited. The name I chose was Loki, the Norse God." - **Victoria**

"I had a really good night with everyone together" - **Chris**

"I enjoyed the music, the food was fantastic and I loved having a dance." - **Matthew**

"I had fun and it was nice to catch up and chat to people outside work." - **Christopher**





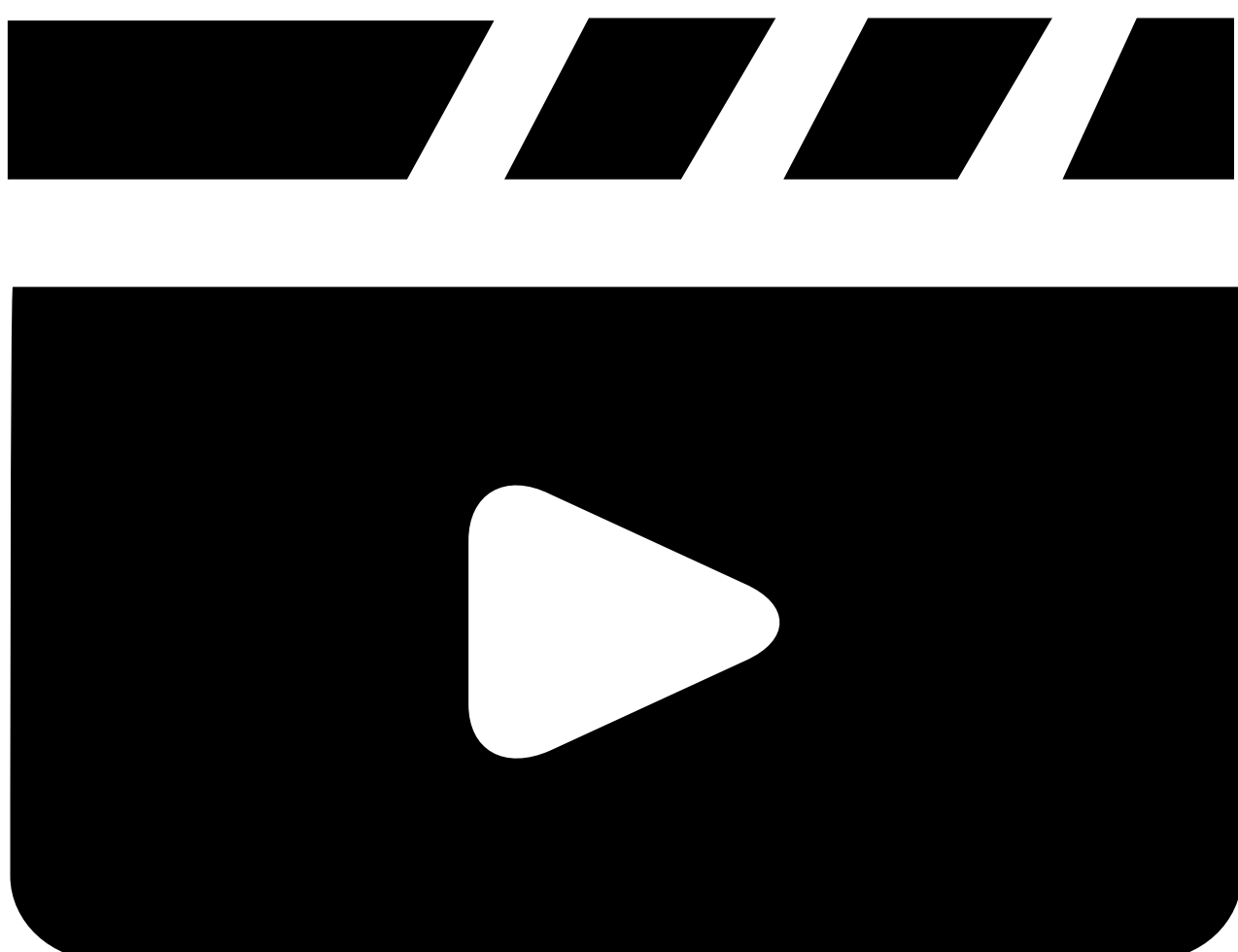
# Christmas Video

We had great fun filming our 2022 Christmas video!

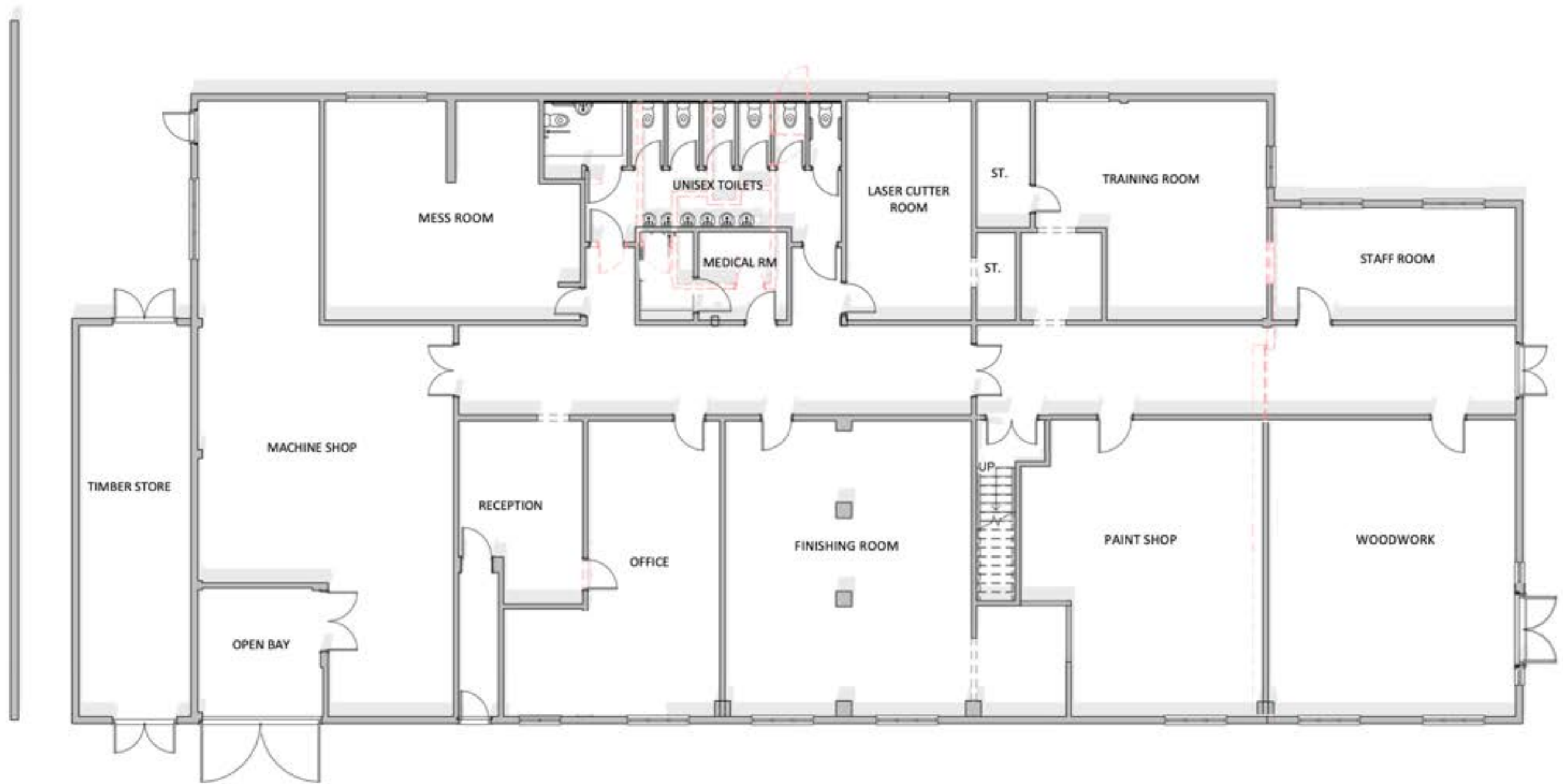
<https://youtu.be/Nvw2O4VEJ8I>



## The 12 Orders of Christmas



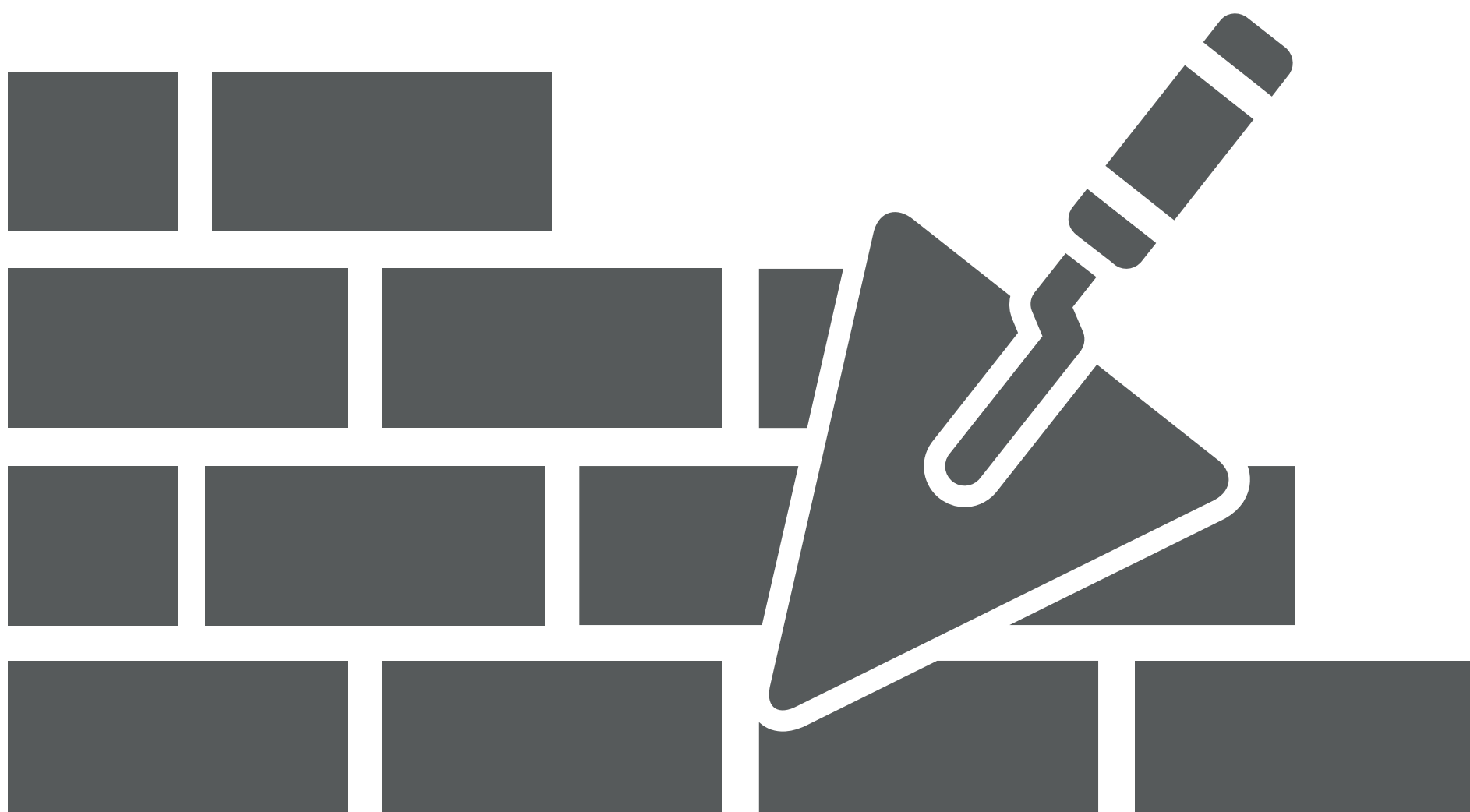
# Building Works Update



The next stage of our building works is well underway. With David busy building the inner walls.

**Emma says "I'm looking forward to being all together again and having more space in woodwork and for packaging."**

**Chris says "I can't wait for it to be finished and done".**





# Vote for Promo Video

Very exciting news!

Our brilliant film Jennyruth Workshops Small but Mighty is an entrant in this year's Smiley Charity Film Awards. Just a couple of clicks can help get us to the judging round and it's completely free.

Vote Here:

[https://smileycharityfilmawards.com/videos/jennyruth-workshops-small-but-mighty?](https://smileycharityfilmawards.com/videos/jennyruth-workshops-small-but-mighty?fbclid=IwAR3i9UrmMwfVYaKNvINZ5Q8atlhfkJc9rcOkaYzd5LpkJ0DvDYgYLLvpwc8)

[fbclid=IwAR3i9UrmMwfVYaKNvINZ5Q8atlhfkJc9rcOkaYzd5LpkJ0DvDYgYLLvpwc8](https://smileycharityfilmawards.com/videos/jennyruth-workshops-small-but-mighty?fbclid=IwAR3i9UrmMwfVYaKNvINZ5Q8atlhfkJc9rcOkaYzd5LpkJ0DvDYgYLLvpwc8)

Deadline for voting is January!



# Volunteering

## Volunteer Spotlight - Sue

**Sue started volunteering at Jennyruth Workshops just over 4 years ago and has been helping out in the paintshop on Monday afternoons supporting some of the Workers.**



**The magazine team interviewed Sue in December to find out more about her life and why she wanted to volunteer at Jennyruth Workshops.**

**What do you enjoy most about volunteering at Jennyruth Workshops?**

Seeing all the happy faces, having wonderful conversations and learning about the workers.

**What are your hobbies?**

I have a black Labrador puppy so I like walking the dog. I like going away on holiday.

**Do you have a job or do you do any other volunteering?**

I used to be a district nurse. I help with all the bills on the farm I live on. We have highland cattle and lots of crops.

**Do you like gardening?**

I do, we have a big garden so we have gardeners. We have a vegetable patch too but we need to grow some!

**Where do you like to go on holiday?**

I like to go skiing and also I like warm places.

**Is there anything you would like to try at Jennyruth Workshops? Like woodwork or any groups?**

I would love to try woodwork.

## Have you got any pets?

A black Labrador called Tiny, she is 10 months old.

## Have you put your Christmas Tree up?

Yes, we put our tree up at the weekend and we have decorated outside.

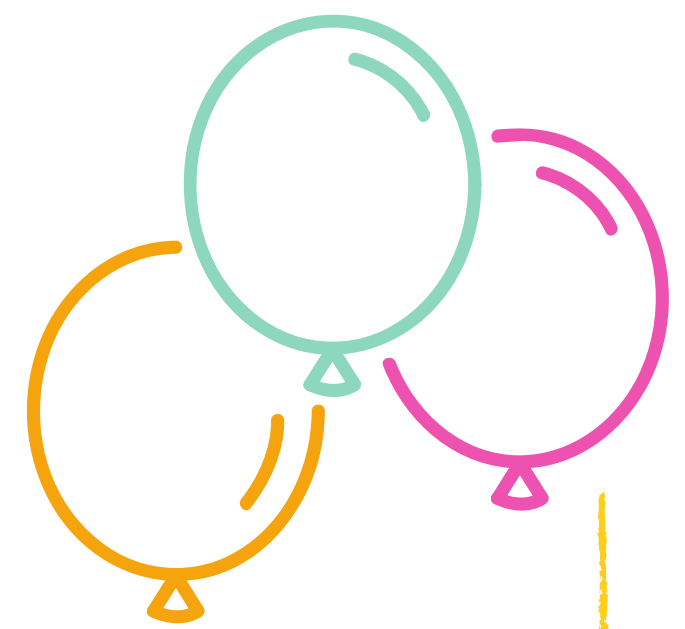
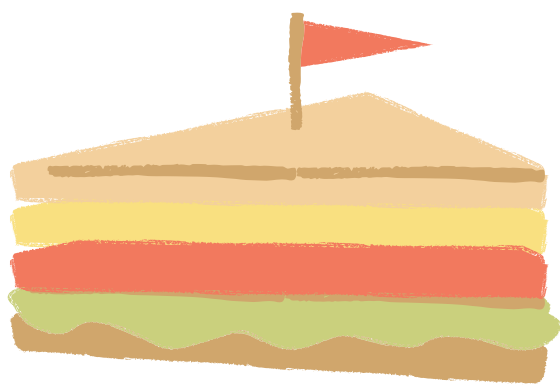


# Volunteer Social

The first social of 2023 will be on Friday February 10th  
2023.

7pm - 10pm at Copt Hewick Village Hall.

Partners welcome.



"Thank you, we loved the last one!"

"The first event was much appreciated,  
thank you"



"I haven't got round to thanking you all for a lovely evening,  
I really enjoyed it -  
Count me in the next one please, thanks again."



Please check the events list and if  
you would like to help out at any of  
these please email Avril at  
[info@jennyruth.co.uk](mailto:info@jennyruth.co.uk)



**We have a fantastic team of volunteers.**

**"As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands - one for helping yourself, the other for helping others." - Audrey Hepburn**



**Karen**

"My volunteer day is Wednesday and being with such a bright, happy, positive group of people sets me up for the week. It's simply a privilege and a joy to be part of the Jennyruth Workshops family - thank you!"

**Liz**

"I have been coming for so long you are all part of my life and I wouldn't do without, even though I still can't paint!"



**Sue**

"It is good to be involved in what Barrie started. There was never time when I was bringing up the family but now going to JRW helps me feel closer to Barrie - and it's good to see the family each week!"



**The next edition will have more quotes from our lovely volunteers.**

# 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:  
<https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/16026#!/DonationDetails>

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/>



Did you know that every time you shop through Amazon Smile they donate 0.5% of the total price to charities like ours.

Click the link below to support us while you shop:  
<https://smile.amazon.co.uk>



# Thank You Steve

The amazing Steve Dixon, one of our fantastic volunteers, is taking part in the Sue Ryder Mascot Gold Cup 2023 and is generously raising money for us in the process. The race is one furlong (220 yards) and includes 5 small fences with an 'open ditch' and 'water jump'. Made more difficult by completing the event in a dog suit.

Click to donate <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jennyruth-workshops>

A message from Steve: "As a volunteer - I am relatively new to seeing the magic of what Jennyruth Workshop offers to its workers, volunteers & staff - It's an amazing place and everyone involved there deserves all the support they can get!"

It's a few years since I last 'ran' a competitive event in the Dog Suit - so why not do something memorable and help put the Fun into Fundraising - I will also be using the race as part of my 65th Birthday celebrations (That happens earlier in April) - Lots of friends & all my close family have been calling me a bonkers old dog for years - so - dig deep and make a crazy old dog & a brilliant charity happy!"

Thank you Steve, you're awesome!



Do you love a coffee morning?



Have you always wanted to swim the length of the channel?



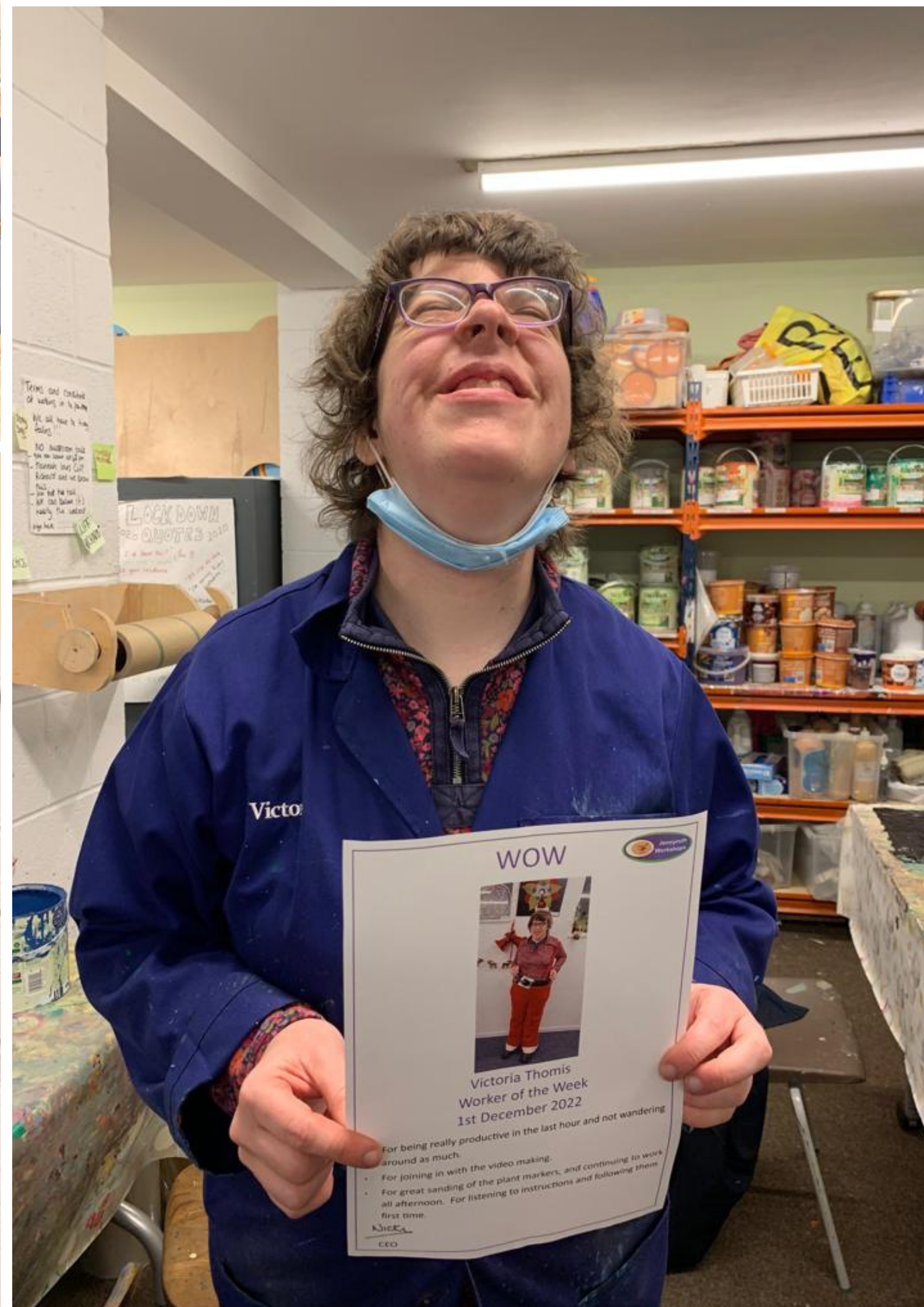
Is your dream to have a 24hour Danceathon?



Whatever your interest, you can add an extra feel-good factor by supporting Jennyruth Workshops at the same time.







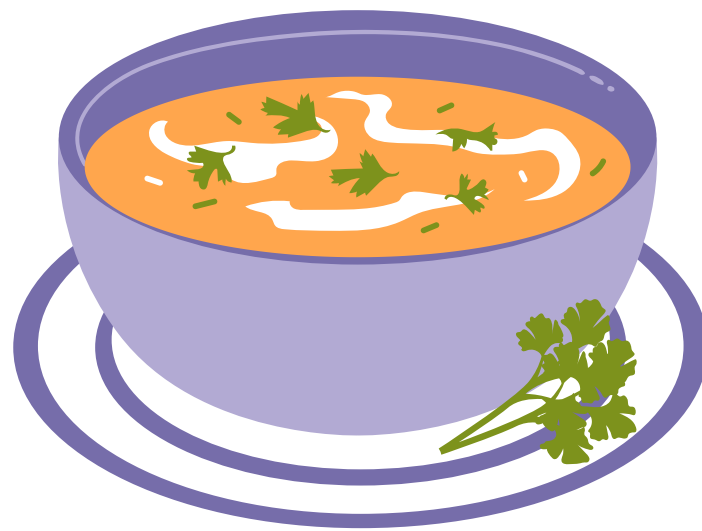
# Cooks Corner

What do you do with your Christmas dinner leftovers?

Turkey and Ham Pie



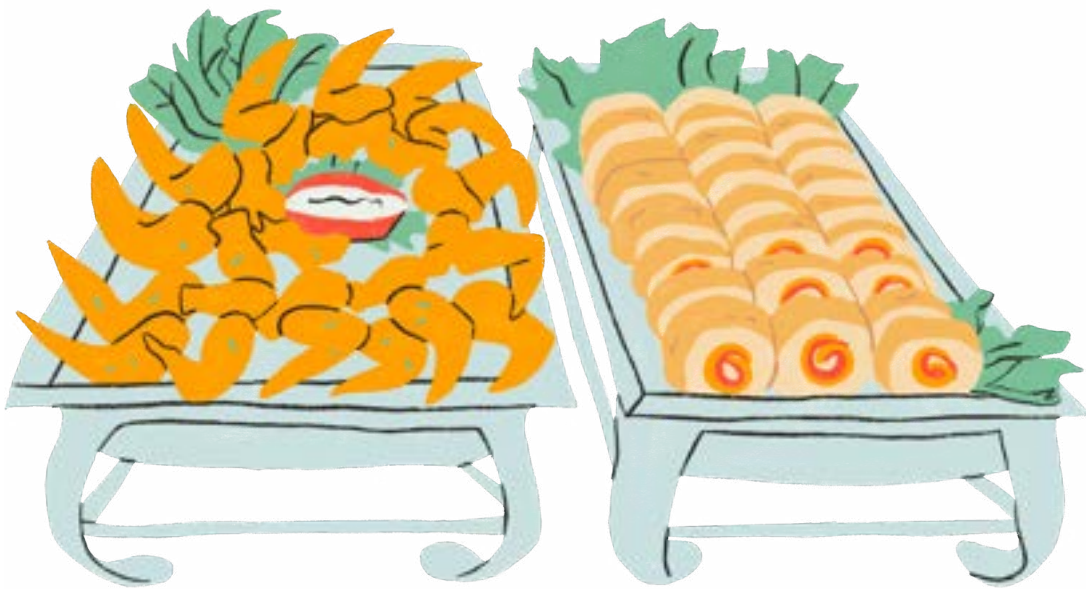
Vegetable Soup



Turkey Chowder



Boxing Day Buffet



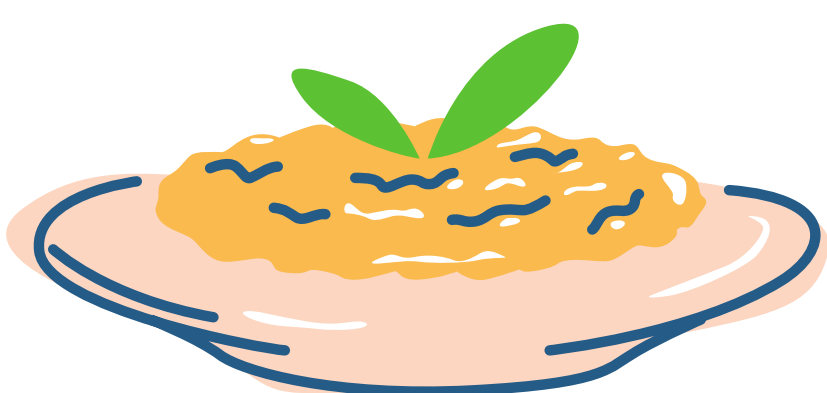
We eat it all!



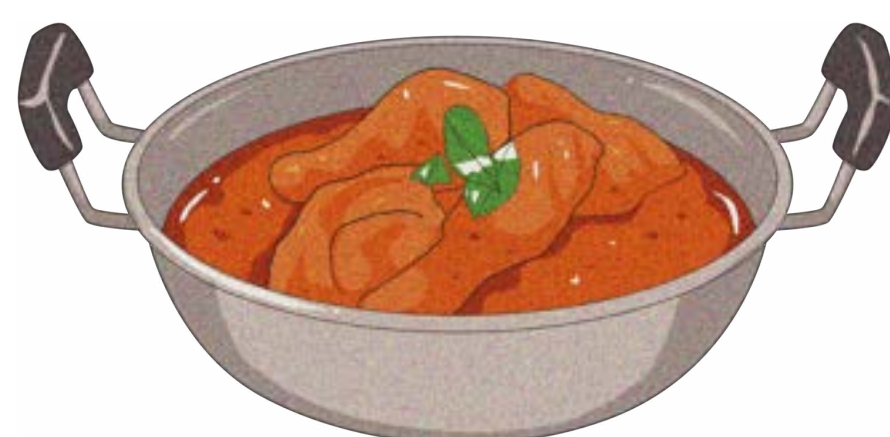
Fry Up



Risotto



Turkey Curry



Bubble and Squeak



# New Years Resolutions

We asked everyone at Jennyruth Workshops if they had any New Years resolutions or achievements.

Not to be silly on work outings!

To be honest with myself and work on my timekeeping.

Walk the 3 Yorkshire Peaks

Bring more exciting food to work.

Carry on painting.

Be clean and tidy.

Improve painting.

Improve hammering skills in woodwork.

Get through the wedding!

Be healthier.

Be in the design group.

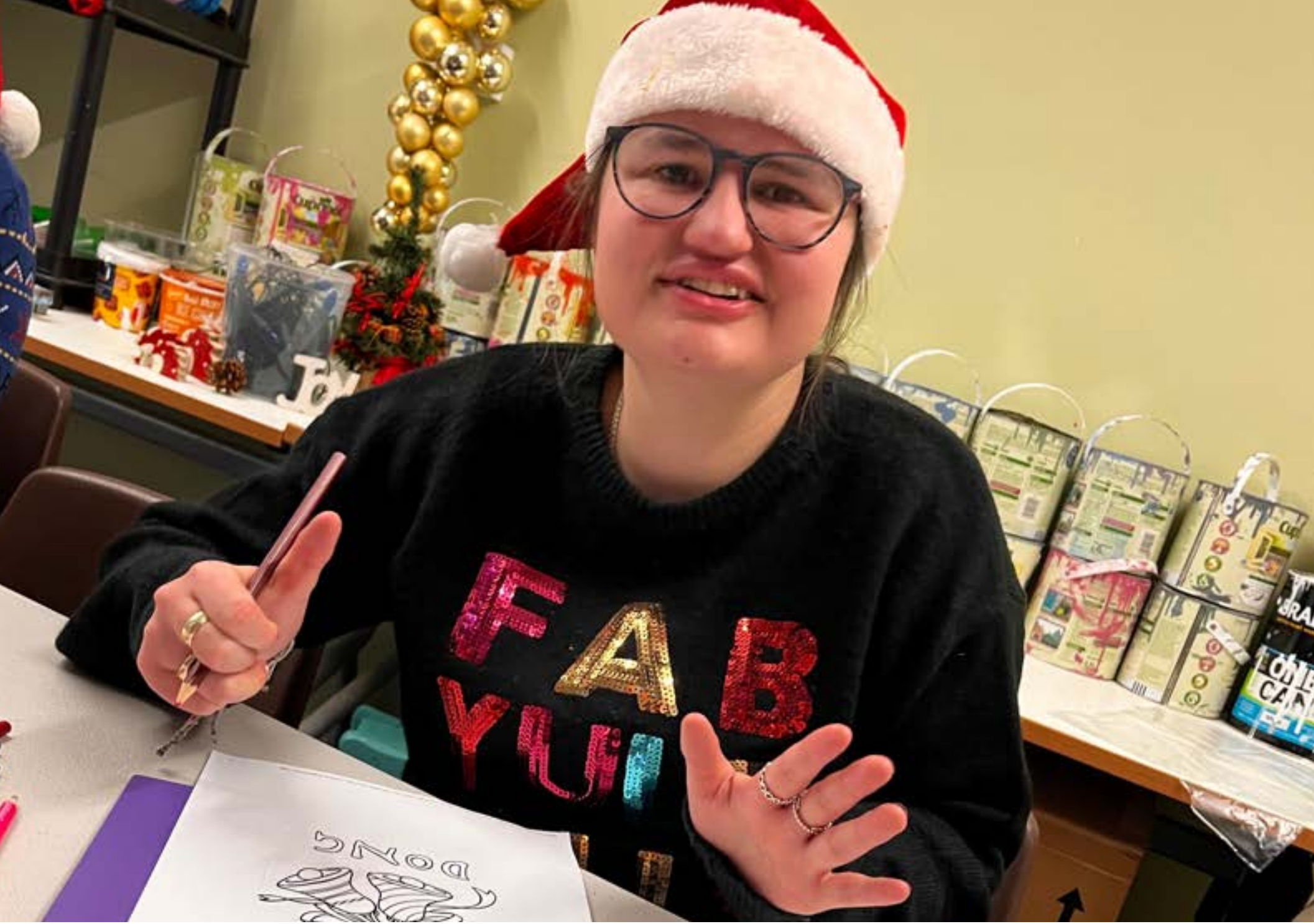
Stay overnight at Grantley Hall.

Moving into my new house.

Learn to scuba dive.

Use my magnifier more.







# Happy Birthday

## January



William Scrope  
Adam Chapman  
Richard Swearman  
Josephine Mitchell  
Julie Wright  
Chris Cerexhe  
Simon Headley  
Brenda Cussons  
Lucy Newell  
Jonathan Evason  
Richard Naish



## January 100 Club Winners

Thanks again to Jamie for announcing the winners.



**1st prize – No 88**

**2nd prize – No 95**

**3rd prize – No 79**

# 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](mailto:info@jennyruth.co.uk).

## April

### Little Bird Artisan Market Harrogate

**Sunday 2nd April 10am - 3pm**

An artisan market showcasing beautiful handmade goods.



### Spring Food, Home and Garden Fair

**Sunday 15th April 10am - 4pm**

A spot of spring time shopping.

### Little Bird Artisan Market Ripon

**Sunday 23rd April 10am - 3pm**

An artisan market showcasing beautiful handmade goods.



# May and July

## Rotary Club Bike Ride

**Saturday 13th May 8am - 2pm ish**

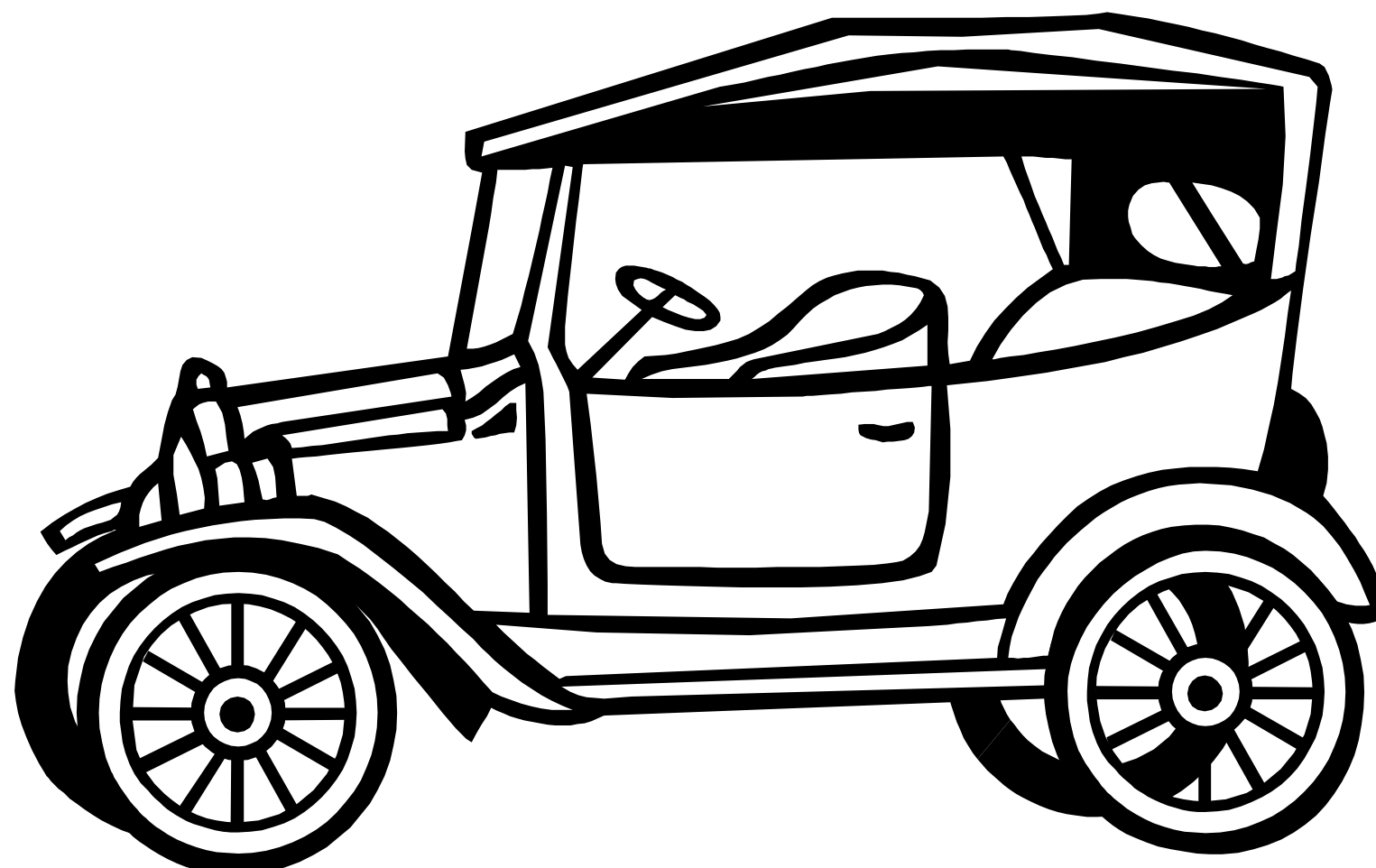
We will be marshalling the charity bike ride at Tollerton. Feel free to volunteer to help keep the cyclists hydrated at the water station. Last year we also gave out delicious fudge.



## Ripon Old Car Classic Gathering Ripon Race Course

**Sunday 30th July TBC**

A marvellous opportunity to see some old vintage cars. We also hold a stall to sell some of our products and showcase what jennyruth Workshops is all about.

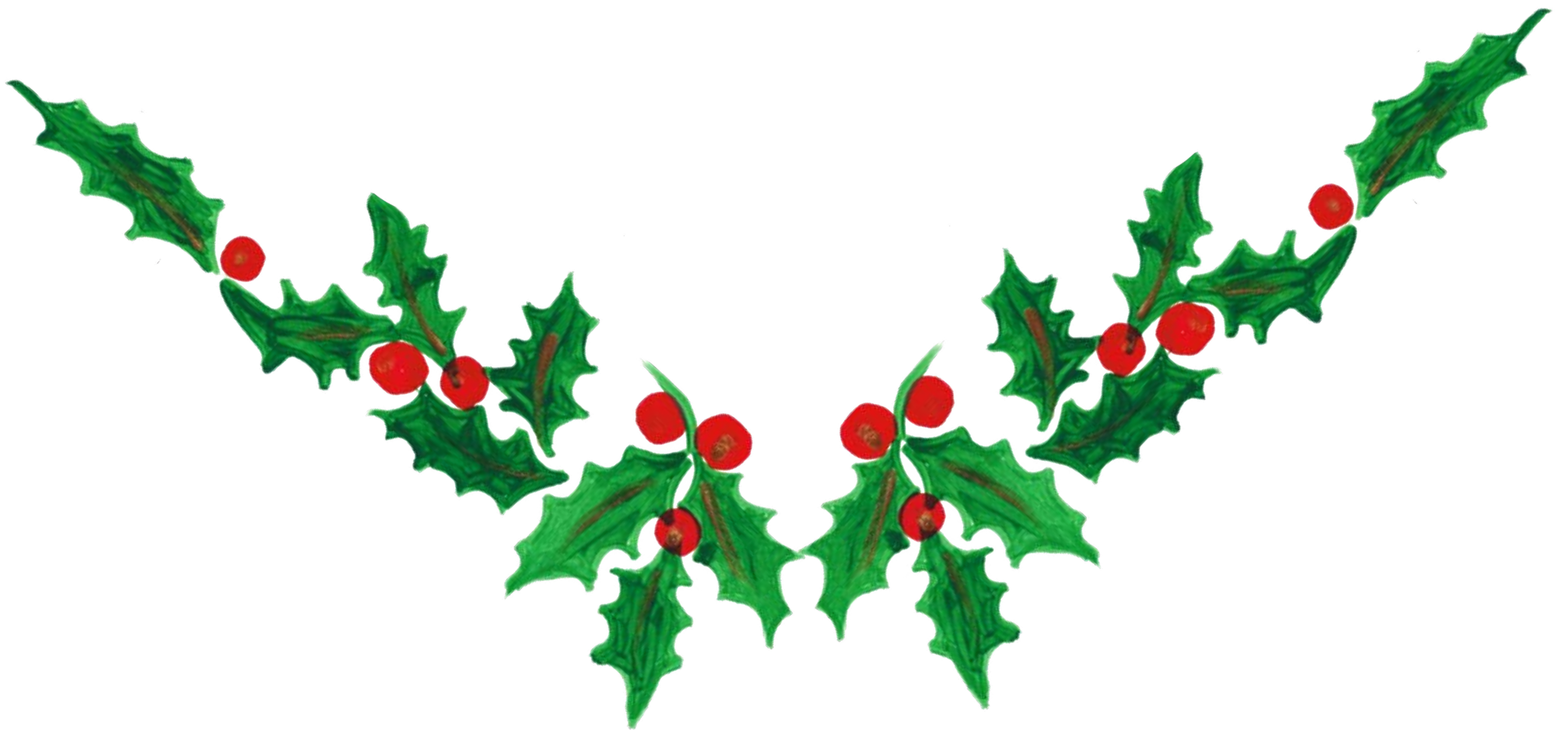


# December

## Christmas Party

**Friday 8th December 2023 7pm - 10pm**  
**Bowling Club Ripon**

Party time once again. More details will be released closer to the time.



### **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](mailto:info@jennyruth.co.uk).



# A Message from



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