



**HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR**

The charity would like to wish all of our friends and supporters a happy and prosperous 2025. We hope that you will continue to join us in 2025.



**THE  
OPENING  
DOORS  
PROJECT**

**THANK YOU!**

THE Opening Doors Project is grateful to all the organisations and grant making bodies that have enabled the charity to carry out its activities.

In particular, the charity would like to thank PH Holt, John Moores Foundation, Garfield Western Foundation and Duchy of Lancaster for funding its provision.

## DELIGHT AS CHARITY RECEIVES 'MUCH DESERVED' £20K AWARD

THE work of Opening Doors Project has been given a significant cash boost with a grant of £20,000 from the National Lottery.

Staff, volunteers and members of the community celebrated the award at the Christmas party at Dunny's, with many friends of the charity saying it was well deserved.

Now in its ninth year, the Opening Doors Project provides a wide range of services and events for the benefit of the local community and it is all in large part thanks to the continued support of the National Lottery which has helped with funding from the beginning.

### Develop

Gayle Connor-McCreith, the charity's founder and project coordinator said: "We are delighted to be awarded £20,000 from the National lottery to help towards running costs for the Community Hub.

"The lottery helps the charity develop each year and we would not be able to do the work we do without their ongoing support.

"A very big thank you to The National Lottery players as you continue to make this funding available in the community."



### • Celebrations after receiving news of the Lottery grant

Among those congratulating the Opening Doors Project was Aileen Dunn, who said: "Brilliant news and very well done to all involved in the project for all your hard work in doing so much for our community."

While Rachel Workman said: "Very well deserved. Thank you for all you do."

Anne Coghlan added: "You really deserve all you get. The work and giving you give out is incredible. "



# Joint effort for community support

The Opening Doors Project has thanked Raise for providing support for the Information Day.

The event brought together experts on a range of subjects including benefits, health, housing, and local policing.

Gayle Connor-McCreith, the charity's project coordinator, said: "A very big thank you to the lovely Helen Oliver for all your support with the Information Day, we appreciate your support so much.

"A very big thank you to the organisations who attended and provided advice and support to community members.

"Lovely to network and meet some lovely new partner organisations, hoping to develop our new connections in 2025."

Helen Oliver, Welfare Benefit Team Leader at Raise Advice, said: "The RAISE Benefits Advice Team is excited to continue to support The Opening Doors Charity.

"Together, they aim to empower individuals and communities by



- Officers give advice and cop a cuppa at Information Day event.

providing expert advice on welfare benefits, debt management, and financial capability.

"This collaboration ensures that everyone has access to the resources they need to achieve financial stability and overcome challenges. By pooling their expertise, RAISE and The Opening Doors Charity are committed to making a lasting impact in the community."

## WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

(TERM-TIME ONLY)



### MONDAYS

**MINDFUL PARENTS AND TOTS**  
12.30PM – 2.30PM (INC. LUNCH)  
**DIAMOND ART**  
6PM – 8PM (INC. DINNER)

### TUESDAYS

**CRAFT CLUB AND LUNCH**  
11AM – 2.30PM (INC. LUNCH)  
**CHIT CHAT AND CROCHET**  
12.30PM – 2.30PM (LUNCH AT 12PM)

### WEDNESDAYS

**AFTERNOON TEA & BINGO**  
12PM TO 2.30PM  
**CHAIR-BASED EXERCISE**  
6PM TO 7PM

### THURSDAYS

**COMMUNITY LUNCH AND QUIZ**  
12PM TO 2PM  
**CHIT CHAT & CROCHET** 6PM– 8PM  
**RECYCLE, RESEW, RESUSE** 6PM– 8PM

### FRIDAYS

**FAMILY FOOTBALL SKILLS TRAINING**  
6PM TO 7PM / STALMINE ROAD GARDENS  
**BINGO**  
**LAST FRIDAY OF MONTH 6PM–7PM**

Some activities are bookable. Please email us to find out more at [contactus@openingdoorsproject.org.uk](mailto:contactus@openingdoorsproject.org.uk)

## FESTIVE FEAST OF FOOD AND FUN



- The Grinch pinching a ride on the Polar Express and Father Christmas spreading cheer.

The Christmas season is a favourite time of the year at the Opening Doors Project as the charity embarks on a busy schedule to spread cheer and create magical memories for children and adults alike.

Festivities started in early December with the annual and

much loved Christmas float. Father Christmas took his place on his comfortably equipped trailer- cum-sleigh and over three weeks enjoyed a nightly trip around the street of Liverpool L9. He was accompanied by the Grinch, along with other entertaining characters.



Other Christmas events included a festive bingo, a trip to Bury market and a lavish meal for the community.

### Much Love

Seasonal celebrations ended with Winter Wonderland. The event was held in both St Nathanael's Church, where there were food,

stalls and entertainment, and Stalmine Road gardens where there was a return of the Polar Express, providing a magical 'train' journey around the garden's paths at no small speed in the twilight.

The charity's project coordinator Gayle Connor-McCreith, said: "A very big thank you to ASDA Foundation for funding our Christmas meal.

"We had an absolute ball, once again, we didn't want the night to end.

"A very big thank you to all our lovely team who work endlessly behind the scenes to make events like this happen. Much love to you all.

"We love bringing the community together and spreading Christmas cheer."