



WELCOME

Welcome to our latest newsletter. Apologies for the lateness, we have had a very busy few months!

Your wonderful continued support is very much appreciated.



THE OPENING DOORS PROJECT

A stitch in time



From next month, the Opening Doors Project will be holding a new sewing class.

We have four machines available to use, though you are welcome to bring your own.

Fabric will be provided.

Check Facebook for details.

'BRAVE' SHEILA SHOWS HER LOVE FOR CHARITY WITH 100FT ABSEIL

Arts and crafts teacher Sheila has shown what heights she will go to to demonstrate her love and support for the Opening Doors Project.

Sheila Birch, 73, from Walton, who joined the charity in February, has raised £400 for the cause by abseiling the 100ft facade of the main stand of Liverpool FC's Anfield Stadium.

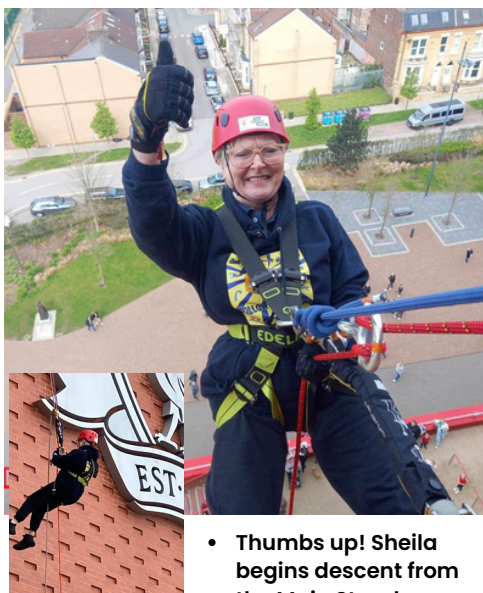
And to top it all, not only did she show nerves of steel to make the descent from the towering heights of one of the tallest football stadiums in Europe, but she is also a devoted Everton FC fan.

Posting on social media ahead of the feat, Sheila it "will be a horrendous ordeal for me, as I'm a Blue".

Following her achievement, however, she said: "It was an honour and a pleasure to do an abseil at Liverpool FC's ground to raise funds for the Opening Doors Project.

"I have raised money for a lot of good causes, but I honestly think that this charity is the cream of the crop. Thank you to the wonderful team that came to watch.

"It filled me with pure joy to hear my name



- **Thumbs up! Sheila begins descent from the Main Stand.**

being shouted. It felt amazing that that noise was there to cheer me on, and it was truly brilliant to feel that support.

"I felt like I sailed down with all the love I felt from them all. It was brilliant when Gayle and I added up the donations received.

"I then proudly sent my brother the video link and he offered to take the donations to £400, which made Gayle and I even happier.

"I would like to thank everyone who donated and/ or supported me from the bottom of my heart.

"Thank you all.

"I am thinking of a skydive for my 75th birthday. That's in 2026, but be warned!"

Sheila joined the Opening Doors Project in February as arts and craft coordinator.

One in a million

She has since led her class, known as Sheila's Crafty Tuesday Session, in a wide variety of fun and interesting activities from making jewellery, creating pictures out of buttons, glass painting and painting in the style of Vincent Van Gogh.

She has now shown us how creative she can be in raising money for the community and causes she serves.

Thanking Sheila for her generous support for the Opening Doors Project, charity founder Gayle Connor-McCreith said: "We are lost for words. Sheila you are so brave and very thoughtful.

"You are one in a million."

Burbo Bank Extension
Community Fund



'Wonderful' Dan serves up treat at community roast

Local singer Dan Hagan provided an additional treat at our recent community roasts.

The special two course meal and entertainment event is held once a month as part of our Good Food Hub.

Dan dropped by to lend his services and soon many were on their feet dancing along to the music.

Dan has performed all over the world and in the West End. His lively contribution to the community lunch was much appreciated.

Among those attending was Jan Berrington who afterwards posted on the Opening Doors Project's Facebook page: "What a day. It was fantastic. Thank you all and thank you Dan for great singing xxx"

While Suzanne Hulme said: "It was a boss day, loved every minute of it. Thank you so much xxx"

The Good Food Hub provides freshly cooked two course lunches on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, sandwiches and cakes for the Afternoon Tea on a Wednesday and a two-course dinner on a Monday evening for members of the community and beyond. Food parcels are also available on request.

These meals are provided free of charge to service users, though many give a donation of £1 for an adult and 50p for a child which helps to sustain the Good Food Hub in between funding.

Freshly cooked

On the first Thursday of each month the hub provides a full roast dinner and dessert plus entertainment. This is a very popular event, with up to 80 people attending.

All food is freshly cooked in the charity's kitchen using fresh vegetables, meat, fruit, etc.. Special diets are also catered for, including gluten-free.

If you have any special dietary requirements, please let us know.

Gayle Connor-McCreith, project coordinator said: "We would like to thank all of our funders of The Good Food Hub, listed overleaf and below.



• Dan Hagan



• The roast lunches are very popular.

"We are very grateful for your support."

About the recent community roast, Gayle added: "We were entertained by the wonderful Dan Hagan, who is a brilliant singer. Thank you so much Dan, what a day. It was lovely to see so many up dancing.

"A big thank you to the volunteers. We are truly blessed to have such a dedicated team.

"Thank you to everyone who came along, we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did."

The next community roast will take place on June 6th.

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 – 12.30PM (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

CHIT CHAT AND CROCHET
6PM TO 8PM
COMMUNITY LUNCH AND QUIZ
12PM TO 2PM

FRIDAYS

KID'S CLUB 6-7PM
FAMILY FOOTBALL SKILLS TRAINING
8PM TO 9PM
ACTIVITY FOR ALL STADIUM, MACGUIRE AVENUE, BOOTLE, L20 9PQ

Some activities are bookable. Please email us to find out more at contactus@openingdoorsproject.org.uk

A belated but very big thank you to everyone who helped make our Easter Egg Hunt in Stalmine Gardens such a success. We had great fun.

Dan Hagan, our Master of Ceremonies, and our wonderful volunteer team, went above and beyond.

Thank you also to everyone who came along, we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did.



• Easter Bunny and Mickey Mouse presented Easter eggs to every adult and child.

25th MAY

Tickets: £10 each

OVER 18'S SOCIAL NIGHT AT DUNNY'S

7:00 pm until Midnight

31st MAY

FAMILY BINGO NIGHT

6:00pm until 8:30pm

6th JUNE

COMMUNITY ROAST & ENTERTAINMENT

12:00pm until 2:30pm