



## WINTER NEWSLETTER

The creation of a thousand forests is in one acorn.

**Happy New Year 2024... let's hope it's a good one for all of us.**

### CHRISTMAS 2023!

It seems a long time ago now but we had a very enjoyable festive celebration party in December. Angus the Auctioneer hosted our charity auction and was great fun, as he usually is! He helped to raise a lot of money for Acorn and there was a bit of a surprise for him with the last lot! Please see photo....! The brilliant Nobodys helped us to dance the night away and, as always, Tom was one of the first to get up on the dancefloor! The tombola was very popular as was the photo booth and the buffet was very well received. Thank you to all who helped to gather up donations and prizes and to the people who donated, without you we would not be able to have a charity auction.

There were lots of trips out with Acorn Supported Living over the Christmas period, especially to the spectacular display at Castle Howard. We hope everyone had a fabulous Christmas, only 45 weeks to go to the next one!





## DOWN ON THE FARM

I'm sure that everyone will have noticed that the peacocks and peacock babies are no longer living at Whinflower Hall. As the babies grew bigger, the decision was made that the pen we had was too small and we needed to rehome them at a more suitable location. We are pleased to announce that Becky Cutsforth found them a lovely new home at her friends place in Old Malton. We're sad to see them go but happy that they will thrive in their new abode! Another 'missing person' is Bob the cat! For many reasons it was felt that Bob may be safer in a home environment and Sue Speight kindly offered to take him home with her. From the photo you will see he looks very happy and warm in front of Sue's log burner.

We have 25 rescue hens coming to the farm from Harrogate Fresh Start For Hens. Commercially, all laying hens are slaughtered at the age of 72 weeks, when their production drops slightly. Their carcasses are worth very little and are usually sold for dog food, baby food or cheap, processed pies etc. Harrogate Fresh Start purchase the hens just before their slaughter date and find them new homes. Acorn Day Service have been very busy building a large hen hut for the rescue birds which is now installed in the field ready for the new hens. We can't wait to welcome them to their new home, updates will follow.....

At last, there are signs of Spring on the farm!! Snowdrops, crocus and amonites are springing up and there are buds on the trees. Hooray! In other places there has been a lot of work going on. Toby has made an amazing smoker in the welding shop and we look forward to sampling some smoked garlic and cheeses. Toby has

also been very busy at The Milton Rooms where he has been helping to paint the stage scenery. Well done Toby! There has been a lot of work in the welding shop with more horseshoe sculptures and a spot of mechanics!



### **COOKING FOR A CAUSE!**

Gilly Robinson from The Cooks Place in Malton is teaming up with Acorn Community Care to provide a monthly cookery lesson for some of our people in supported living. This partnership is set to provide an opportunity for individuals to learn new cooking

skills, buying ingredients from local traders and enjoying a fun-filled afternoon. Not forgetting the enjoyment of eating the delicious food that has been made. The first lesson went very well and focused on Italian recipes. Everyone made Walnut & Sage Pesto, Pasta Pie with homemade Pasta and an Italian Chocolate Cake. It was great fun and the food smelt delicious! Thank you Gilly for sharing your culinary skills and doing all the washing up afterwards!



## FUNDRAISING

The fundraising event at the Milton Rooms on 24<sup>th</sup> November was a huge success with well over 200 people attending! The Ryedale Stray Notes opened the show with a 25 piece orchestra from Ryedale School. So many talented musicians, they were a joy to watch. New York Brass Band then took over for the rest of the night playing their amazing New Orleans style music. They had the place rocking and finished off with a conga around the room! What a night! The evening raised over £1500 for

Acorn Community Care and the good news is it is all happening again on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024, hooray!

The Pickering Rotary Club are teaming up with Spice4U to put on a fundraising curry day on 18<sup>th</sup> February, with all proceeds going to Acorn Community Care. The funds will be used for the Potter Hill Project and we thank Pickering Rotary Club for their continued support of Acorn Community Care, it is very much appreciated!



### **We're all going on a.... Winter Holiday!**

After an initial cancellation for Russell's Amsterdam holiday, because of one of the many storms, he made it to Amsterdam! Russell loved his holiday, especially the Ferry! Tom, Gary and Joel had a fantastic time at Centre Parks and spent a lot of time in the hot tub, even though it was January! Blayne also went to Cropton Forest Lodges where he could try out a different hot tub. Fun was had by all. There were lots of day trips over the last few months including a visit to 'Bangers and Cash' garage in Thornton le Dale where Derek had a chat with our guys and showed them round. Joel has had a very active few months and has also been singing with the Hands & Voices Choir in York. There have been lots of trips to York, Whitby, Scarborough, Cineworld and also the Trampoline Park, NYM Railway, Boccia, Pendragon and trips to different Pantomimes.





Care, Respect, Empowerment, Trust and Integrity

