

Magic Life

Sharing Experiences

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Looking Back

Head Office

Dear Magic Life Community,

As the editor of Magic Life magazine, I've had the unique privilege of chronicling our collective journey throughout the year. I've witnessed the vibrant tapestry of experiences that have unfolded across our 20 sites, capturing not just the physical moments but the emotional heartbeats that resonate deeply within our community.

It's undeniable that this year has posed its share of challenges; moments that tested our mettle, where the magic seemed momentarily dimmed. Yet, through it all, Magic Life has remained a beacon of positivity and engagement for those we support. This resilience is a testament to the incredible dedication and passion of our staff. Flipping through the past editions of our magazine, each page speaks volumes of the unwavering commitment and love poured into every endeavor.

The summer months were a vivid tapestry of memories. From exhilarating trips to the seaside and the bustling streets of London to those simple, yet profound outings that remind us of life's beauty. We celebrated under the sun with BBQs, cheered for our stars during talent shows, and danced our hearts out at various parties. Every celebration, every laughter shared, is a reminder of the close-knit family that we've built.

Feedback from family members, healthcare professionals, and social workers paints a clear picture – Magic Life is more than a magazine or a collection of sites. It's a movement, a testament to the positive impact that genuine care and support can make in people's lives. It's an echo of gratitude for the transformative work that's being done every single day.

It's easy to get lost in the immediacy of our daily tasks, often forgetting to step back and truly appreciate the bigger picture. But through the lens of Magic Life magazine, I'm given a panoramic view of our achievements and the myriad of lives touched by our collective efforts. It's humbling and deeply moving.

Remember, Magic Life is not just a catalogue of our events – it's a narrative of our shared journey, an ode to the lives of the people we support, and a testament to the tireless work you all put in. This magazine is your platform, your voice. I urge each and every one of you to use it, share your stories, and let the magic continue to unfold.

With heartfelt gratitude and admiration,

**"Magic Life is not just a catalogue of our events
it's a narrative of our
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Go Mo Go Now Available for Weekend Bookings

MO IS NOW AVAILABLE DURING WEEKENDS AND SELECT EVENINGS.

This provides you with the opportunity to book him for special outings, such as a theater night or a Saturday trip to amusement parks like Thorpe Park.

Please note, “Magic Life car” is designed to enrich special activities and outings. It’s not meant as a complimentary transportation service. Our goal is for Mo to amplify social experiences and introduce you to incredible places, like museums and other captivating sites.

Car Calendars Now in Outlook



Autumn Embrace

57 Grove Park Road

In the heart of autumn's embrace, the vibrant energy of our community continues to shine, and September has been truly magical!

Indoor BBQ & Residents Meeting: On the 19th of September, several of our heartwarming residents took the initiative to bring a sizzle to our day. They prepared an indoor BBQ, perfectly timed with our residents meeting. This ensured that everyone could be part of both the feast and the forum. And oh, did they participate with enthusiasm!

NR's Scrumptious Birthday Feast: The ever-radiant NR marked her special day this month. Honouring her wish, we brought in a tantalising selection of Chinese delicacies from a local eatery. NR, with her ever-giving spirit, shared these mouthwatering dishes with her fellow residents. Here's to more culinary adventures and shared moments!

Cake Day with a Jamaican Twist at GPR: EL's zest for life was on full display during our cake-making day. Together, we whipped up a delectable triple chocolate fudge cake. EL, with her unique flair, suggested adding a dash of Jamaica to the mix, introducing us to the magic of Wray and Nephew white rum. It gave our cake that extra zing! The cake was joyfully devoured by residents and staff alike. While we have photos to commemorate the moment, the empty plates truly tell the tale. Absolutely divine!

End of Summer Merriment: Our dear DR made her way to the End of Summer BBQ at Winns Mews. It wasn't just about the food, but the spirit of camaraderie that filled the air. DR mingled and even found herself dancing away with a gentleman from the Bruce Grove service. Her infectious joy was evident as she danced, clearly having the time of her life.

ET's Artistic Adventures: The serene and talented ET spent her month immersed in the world of arts and crafts. During one memorable session, she collaborated with her father, creating beautiful paintings that captured their shared moments.

WORDS & PHOTOS BY **JOOREEN HENRY**



Self Sufficiency

171 Harringay Road

Though the month was pleasantly uneventful, our residents showed their independent spirits in full swing! Many embraced the local community, attended important appointments, and skillfully carried out day-to-day tasks without any aid.

However, not all moments were of solitude. JC, one of our residents, orchestrated a fulfilling day out, complete with staff support to make it even more memorable. His day started with a fresh haircut that uplifted his spirits. This was followed by a delightful lunch, and some much-needed retail therapy. JC capped off his wonderful day with grocery shopping, stocking up on his favorite essentials.



Talent Is Flowing

672 High Road

It sounds like 672 had an absolutely joyous Talent Show this year, uniting service users and staff from various projects in a celebration of creativity and community. Connor, a resident at 672, lent his decorating prowess to the event, shifting furniture and setting the stage for a memorable day.

The day was a tapestry of talents—our service users wowed the crowd with singing, dancing, and storytelling, and even the staff unleashed their vocal chops, getting everyone to shimmy and shake. As for the food, our staff organized a delightful spread to suit all palates, both vegetarian and non-vegetarian, which was a hit!

Adding to the festivities, we commemorated two birthdays with a special cake, delivering a heartwarming surprise for a new service user who was visibly moved by the gesture. And let's not forget Connor's culinary adventure; he whipped up some delicious tuna pasta, sharing his homemade goodness with fellow residents. Connor's been having a grand time participating in activities of his choice, including Go-karting and Bowling.

WORDS & PHOTOS BY: **672 HIGH ROAD**



Talent Triumphs

Burlington Lodge

In September, a group of four from Project 672, including service users Sam and Michael, took to the stage at Magic Life's talent show. Designed to connect like-minded communities, this event was a fantastic platform for individuals with diverse physical and mental abilities to shine. From rapping to poetry, the talents displayed were as unique as they were heartwarming.

These events are more than just entertainment; they're stepping stones to personal growth for our service users. Taking part boosts not only their self-esteem but also their social skills, providing an outlet to interact and build relationships. Plus, let's not forget the therapeutic benefits—these activities are a natural stress and

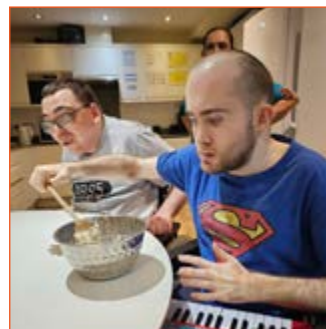
As caregivers, we have a wonderful opportunity to elevate these experiences for those we support. Pre-event rehearsals can work wonders in preparing our service users, setting the stage for an even more meaningful event.

anxiety reliever.

A big round of applause goes to the organizers, who ensured everyone felt included and at ease. From arranging accessible facilities to serving up delicious refreshments, their attention to detail made all the difference.

This event was a beautiful reminder that with the right resources and encouragement, our service users can continue to explore and excel in their hobbies and interests. After all, these are the moments that add color and joy to the lives of those we have the privilege to support

WORDS & PHOTOS BY: **BURLINGTON LODGE**



Joyful Activities

The Chapel

Alban

Alban enjoys a balanced life, partaking in a daily dog walk and special training sessions with his furry friend. He explores his artistic side every Tuesday and unwinds with Yoga on Wednesdays. Recently, Alban drummed to his heart's content in his sensory room, a session facilitated by Segun. He even had the chance to visit Belgium for six wonderful days with his family. While we'd love to share pictures, Alban prefers to keep those moments private for now.

Ryan

Ryan's September was jam-packed with joyful activities. He stole the spotlight at the 672 Talent Show on September 1st, dancing with gusto. His singing brought smiles to everyone's faces. Ryan also enjoys blowing off steam at Harlow town centre's bowling alley, usually treating himself to a meal afterward. At home, he's stepping up, mastering chores like drying clothes, making his bed, and even tending to his garden. He also had a delightful trip to Southend-on-Sea and takes pride in keeping his kitchen spotless.

Indigo

Indigo is a culinary enthusiast, using her unique "Now and then board" to plan her breakfasts. She loves to prepare "grandma sauce" for dinner, a skill she excitedly shares with Segun the next day. Like Ryan, she also enjoys bowling at Harlow town centre. Although we'd love to share pictures, her mom has decided to keep her daughter's life more private.

The Chapel: Service Update

Our service continues to thrive, with staff leveraging individual support plans and unique communication styles to foster growth in our residents. The team's recent NHS team PBS review has also led to improved care standards. Community engagement is at an all-time high, with neighbors interacting more frequently with our service manager. Lastly, we wish our staff member all the best as she embarks on her maternity leave journey.

WORDS & PHOTOS BY: **THE CHAPEL**



It's Been Busy

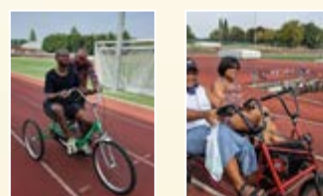
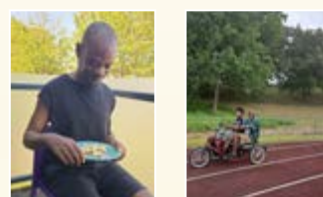
Devonshire Lodge

First of all, a heartfelt thank you goes out to Abdi, Mohamed, Christian, Aisha Mohamed, Kenny, Albert, and Maria. Your dedication shone brightly when OB was hospitalized. Not only did you provide exceptional care, but you also earned high praise from the hospital staff. Sundus and I, as the management team at Devonshire, are incredibly proud of the way you supported OB and represented Magic Life.

September kicked off on a joyful note, enriching our service users' lives with a blend of familiar and novel activities. From BKD and SS making a splash during a canoeing race at White City Water Centre to SS's oceanic adventure at the Sea Life Centre, happiness was in the air. Not to be left out, all our service users are now eagerly embracing Cycling Fridays! BKD got to explore West Ham Stadium, IW found peace in his daily strolls, OB had a wheel-y great time in Milton Keynes, and JI continued to thrive at his day centre and weekend walks.

A special congratulations to Lamin, who graduated on September 14th, 2023, from the University of Worcester. He earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree with Honours in Health and Social Care. Well done, Lamin!

WORDS & PHOTOS BY: **DEVONSHIRE LODGE**



Well Done Lamin Congratulations



A Symphony of Progress and Unity

Staff Highlights

Welcome to another uplifting month at Hale End! Our team has welcomed new staff who are not just settling in but truly shining. Special cheers to Temitope and Ebenezer, who have stepped up as Senior Support Workers. Their promotion, announced in our monthly meeting, has already led to tangible enhancements in our services.

It's a joy to witness the deepening sense of camaraderie among the Hale End family. Communication has blossomed, and we credit this shift, in part, to our in-house training guru, Peta. Thanks to her invaluable coaching, we've managed to uplift the quality of life for our residents amidst our demanding schedules.

We also want to tip our hats to the families of our residents. Your trust and satisfaction in our work make every day worthwhile. Simply put, Hale End has transformed into a well-oiled machine of care and compassion, all thanks to a united team.

Improvements All-Around

In the spirit of offering even more personalized care, each resident now has a designated key worker. This month, we threw a wonderful party to celebrate our staff, a heartwarming event that brought staff and residents closer.

Space wise, we've reorganized! Our staff and activity rooms have undergone a transformation, offering a more spacious, tidy environment for everyone. Oh, and agency staffing? A relic of the past.

Resident Round-Up

Michelle:

Still our ray of sunshine, Michelle has enjoyed community walks and swimming sessions. Raphael (RE): Raphael's park outings on Wednesday evenings have been a hit!

Irfan & Toby:

These travel buddies had a blast at Colchester Zoo and have been actively enjoying the community. Sarah (SR): Despite her challenging behaviors, Sarah continues to find joy in music lessons.

Jude:

Jude had a turbulent month, but with professional support, we're optimistic about the road ahead.

Anjan:

This chap is turning into a pro swimmer and bowler!

Adrian:

Our resident 'drama king' relishes the spotlight and

Hale End

had a special visit from family.

Ayhan:

He's increasingly comfortable exploring the garden and beyond.



Claire:

Claire's enjoying quality time in the activity room.



Alicia:

She's a regular at the lake and the swimming pool, and even spent five days at home.



Peter:

Peter's musical journey and new hydrotherapy sessions are exciting developments.



Rebekah:

After a family visit, she's happy to be back and has joined the Gamestaars Club.



A massive thank you to everyone making life at Hale End special!

**With warm wishes,
Patsy Asare and
Temitope Aiyenimelo**

New Faces, Steady Progress

Manor Lodge

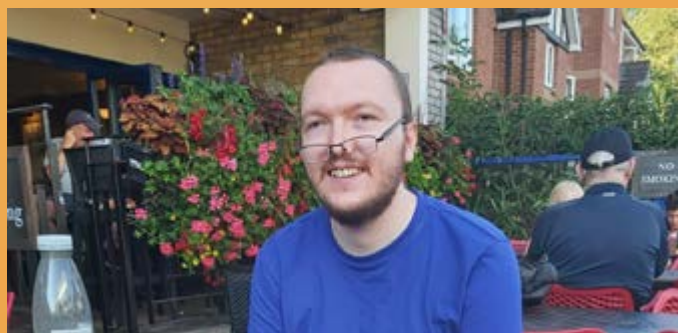
September was an exciting month at our Magic Life home, packed with both personal and professional visits. These interactions weren't just check-ins; they played a critical role in enriching the lives of our residents. We welcomed a potential new member to our community, filling the space left by a former resident. Just two weeks into their transition period, things are looking promising. Both staff and current residents have embraced these changes with open arms, setting the stage for a seamless integration.

Staffing Update:

Our team has been busy with interviews to ensure we maintain our strong support staff. Some of our part-time crew are even keen to go full-time, which is a testament to our nurturing work environment. We've been fortunate to have a stable, dedicated core team, which is crucial for the well-being of our residents.

Service User Highlights:

SH



SH's family has maintained their weekly Wednesday visits, providing a comforting routine. This month, SH has made significant strides in his recovery, fully engaging with our team to meet his needs. He's taken a particular liking to a new activity—Brain Teasers—which has turned into a bi-weekly engagement. At a recent residents' meeting, SH contributed to the house rules discussion and even met our prospective new resident, sharing positive first impressions.



JO

JO had an active September filled with assessments and planning for future employment or education. His personal advisor and supported employment adviser made multiple visits to tailor the perfect plan for him. He's been flawlessly keeping up with his daily community activities, and he also met our potential new resident. JO and his father are optimistic about what this new member could bring to the community.



GS

GS had a good month, managing to keep his mood swings in check, particularly during the mornings. A last-minute work cancellation proved to be a stress test he passed with flying colors, earning praise for his mature handling of the situation. He's shown keen interest in multimedia work, and despite funding limitations for out-of-borough activities, he remains optimistic. His strong work performance has caught the eye of his restaurant manager, and his community engagements remain robust. GS also met our prospective resident and gave his seal of approval.

WORDS & PHOTOS BY: MANOR LODGE

Delightful

Northlands

This month, the Northlands home orchestrated a delightful outing to Thorpe Park that was a hit with our residents! Two friends in particular shared an incredible experience, enjoying a day full of activities and fun, all while supported by our compassionate staff. Over at another location, LM and Lucy from LVM have been soaking up the joys of summer. They took a splash at the local swimming centre, experimenting with different moves in the pool, and their faces lit up with happiness the entire time!

WORDS & PHOTOS BY: NORTHLANDS



Marvelous

Park Lodge

At Park Lodge, we kicked off a marvelous September with a day of sunshine and smiles at Pymmes Park for our Ice Cream Day! Residents and staff alike savored scrumptious scoops while soaking up the cheerful atmosphere.

Our adventurous souls then ventured to Lake Side, where the ladies treated themselves to a shopping extravaganza, leaving the gents to relish a leisurely lunch. When the time came to reunite, everyone gathered on the cozy benches within the shopping center, sharing tales of their day's escapades.

But the highlight of the month? Our heartfelt Cultural Diversity Day on September 26th. We brought our vibrant community together, showcasing and celebrating the rich tapestry of backgrounds that make up Park Lodge. Delicious foods, rhythmic beats, and colorful attire turned the day into a beautiful mosaic of culture and joy.

WORDS & PHOTOS BY: **PARK LODGE**





Buzzing With Joy

Park Side

This month at Parkside has been buzzing with joy, activities, and personal milestones for our service users and staff alike.

PC has been thriving against all odds. She enjoyed a cultural day out at the museum alongside Chris from Park Lodge. Not stopping there, she stole the limelight at a talent show held at 672 High Road. A highlight of her month was the opportunity to meet the Mayor of Enfield at the day center—definitely a moment to remember!

SM is stepping out more than ever! Whether it's attending important appointments or simply going grocery shopping, he's engaging more and more with the world around him. His regular café visits have become special outings, especially when he's accompanied by staff. The exciting part? He's communicating exceptionally well with our new team members.

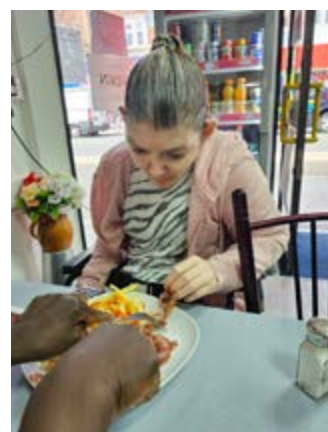
ED seized the last traces of summer in the grandest way possible. From meandering through Kew Gardens—the world's largest botanical garden—to marveling at views from the London Eye and exploring the London Aquarium, he had an action-packed September. In addition to these adventures, he faithfully attends a day center twice a week and finds spiritual solace at church every Sunday.

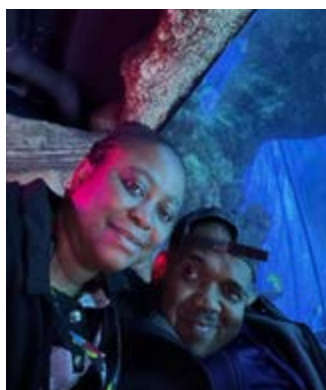
SR kicked off her college journey this September. Despite health challenges, she's paving a career path for herself with the unwavering support from our Parkside staff. When she's not hitting the books, she's participating in activities with fellow residents and spending quality daytime visits with her family, particularly her younger daughter.

ESB has taken meaningful steps forward this month. She's embraced the outdoors, whether it's a leisurely park visit or enjoying her patio space, all with the encouraging presence of our staff. Her weekends are particularly special as she spends them visiting her mom, continuously working on boosting her mental wellness.

DM is ticking all the right boxes! From attending all his scheduled appointments to indulging in his favorite activity—weekly grocery shopping—DM is doing it all. A big shout-out to him for focusing on a healthier diet. It's no wonder he's become quite the social butterfly in our lounge, getting along exceptionally well with new and old staff alike.

WORDS & PHOTOS BY: **PARK SIDE**





Yard Party

Winns Mews 4





WORDS & PHOTOS BY: WINNS MEWS





Winns Mews: A Celebration of Community Spirit

This past month, something extraordinary happened at Winns Mews. A wonderful party unfolded, filling the home with laughter, joy, and an unmistakable sense of community. The best part? Everyone joined in!

It wasn't just a party; it was a celebration of togetherness, a testament to the sense of community that makes Winns Mews so special. The event was planned with love and executed with care, ensuring that all residents felt welcomed and included. Whether it was the heartfelt conversations, the delightful games, or the mouthwatering food, every aspect of the party spoke volumes about the importance of community spirit.