

# Reach Update

Christmas 2020

Supporting people with learning disabilities across Nottinghamshire

reach

## Thank you for your support this year!

Although 2020 has of course been exceptionally challenging, it has not been without rays of light. At Reach, we have discovered what we are capable of as a charity and we have learnt that our supporters are always alongside us, helping to ensure a better quality of life for people with learning disabilities and their families.

I would like to express huge thanks to everyone who has stood with us in 2020 including the clients and families who have allowed us to share their stories in our fundraising appeals.

In 2021 we will continue to raise funds for our vital work across the county including a major appeal for our Southwell accommodation project. The year will no doubt bring challenges and difficulty. But we are confident that with the help of our supporters, we will achieve our goal of a brighter future for people with learning disabilities.

I wish you all the best for a peaceful Christmas – if you can, please do listen to the Southwell Renaissance Singers' 'Carols in the Chapter House' recording as described later in this update, it is truly beautiful!

Warm regards

Julia

Fundraising Director

Julia.sandhu@reachuk.org



## Big Give Christmas Challenge 2020



A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Big Give Christmas Challenge and helped us raise over £40,000 in just one week!

The money raised will go towards our 'My Place Online' project to provide online learning and social activities to people with learning disabilities and their family carers in Nottinghamshire.



Read more...



## Stories from across Reach

There is a hive of festive activities happening across Reach- carol singing, festive jumpers and Christmas crafts a plenty.

At Flower Pod we have been busy making bug hotels and beautiful Christmas wreaths. Despite many of our usual retail opportunities not being viable this year, we have been able to sell a number of wreaths and bug hotels. We were delighted to have a stall at Southwell Christmas Market which was well supported by the local community.

Reach Southwell's In, Out and About group welcomed Dr Helen Bates, Community Engagement Officer from the Leaves of Southwell Project at Southwell Minster. We have been learning about the history of the Chapter House and enjoying the nature represented in it.

Reach Newark have been busy making beautiful Christmas wreaths and decorations as well as donning our favourite Christmas outfits throughout December for Christmas Bingo.

Reach Mansfield's Monday Motivation group have been busy making Christmas cards and the baking group decorated ginger bread biscuits. Clients have also enjoyed completing crafts in their activity packs which they receive in the post.

At Flower Pod Newark we have enjoyed a time of festive fun, making tea light jars and glittery butterflies in between preparing the site for winter.

Centres will also be hosting virtual Christmas parties featuring all things fun and festive.

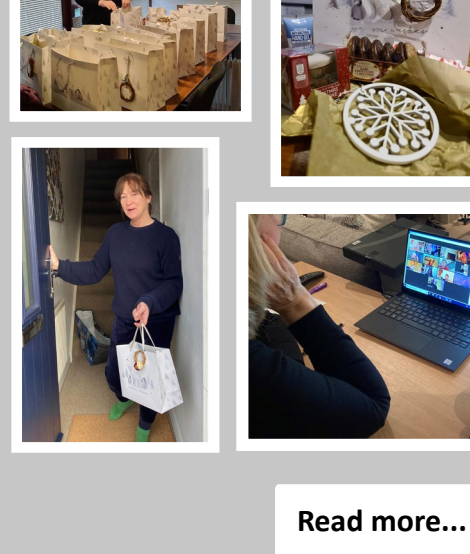


## Carers Matter Project

Catherine and Liz are continuing to support our family carers and recently hosted a Christmas Zoom afternoon tea. Before the meeting each carer received an individual gift pack including bauble, hand sanitiser, chocolate biscuits, Christmas cake, hot chocolate and a beautiful Flower Pod willow wreath.

"Hi, thanks so much for the lovely Zoom meeting yesterday, I really enjoyed it. The cake and biscuits, card and gifts are gorgeous too. As was seeing others, chatting and the brilliant quizzes! Happy Christmas

Jacqui x"



Read more...

## Carols in the Chapter House



We are very grateful to be one of two chosen charities to benefit from donations for the Southwell & District Lions Club CIO and Southwell Renaissance Singers 'Carols in the Chapter House'. The Lions have launched this initiative to replace their popular 'Carols for Everyone' event which they are unable to run due to Covid-19.

Go to <https://www.southwell-lions.org/carols-for-everyone-2020> to listen to the beautiful recording and to find out how to support this fabulous festive fundraising.

Read more...

## Thank you to our recent supporters:

- Boots Charitable Trust
- The Casa Stella Trust
- The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust
- Tackling Inequalities Fund (Active Notts/Sport England)

## With special thanks to our Big Give pledgers:

- First4care
- The Mary Robertson Trust
- Rotary Club of Mansfield
- Private individuals

Please see website for a full list of supporters

Read more...

## Reach Virtual Carol Service

LIVE ON FACEBOOK

20th December 2pm

This year we will be live streaming a Carol service celebrating all things Christmas on 20th December at 2pm from our Reach Learning Disability Facebook page. Watch live or catch up after the event to enjoy singing along to some well known carols and watch some films from across Reach featuring some festive fun.

@ReachLearningDisability



## Co-op Local Community Fund



Your shopping of Co-op branded products could raise vital funds for Reach and Flower Pod, at no extra cost to you! To choose us as your Co-op local cause, go to: [membership.coop.co.uk/causes/46843](https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/46843)

Jane Hufton, Flower Pod Centre Manager says:

"We have continued supporting our clients throughout the crisis, finding new ways to deliver activities and address social isolation. The funding from the Co-op will enable us to support people to re-join community life again through fun activities; from enjoying a socially distanced walk to learning vital life skills such as how to stay safe in the community".

## Ways you can support Reach

Amazon Smile customers can now support Reach in the Amazon shopping app on iPhones and Android phones, as well as on laptops etc! Amazon Smile is the same as amazon, but simply allows charities to receive a donation when you make a purchase, at no extra cost to you. To enable AmazonSmile and start generating donations, either go to <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/> in your browser and follow the instructions, or click on 'Amazon smile' in the settings tab on the app.

Other online shops also offer similar charity donations when you purchase their products using schemes like Easy Fundraising - [www.easypfundraising.org.uk](https://www.easypfundraising.org.uk) and Give as you Live - [www.giveasyoulive.com](https://www.giveasyoulive.com). Head over to their websites to see which shops they include in their schemes.



Read more...

## Thanks to our supporters we have been able to:

Deliver

4667 Wellbeing and activity packs

Make

4344 Welfare telephone calls to clients and families

Host

433 Online learning and social activity sessions

Figures correct on 15/12/2020

## Follow us on Social Media:



@ReachLearningDisability  
@ReachLDCare  
@flowerpodsouthwell



@reach\_ld  
@FlowerPodReach



reach\_learning\_disability  
flowerpod\_official

Head over to our website to fill in a Keeping In Touch form to find out about our work. You can also change your preference at any time on our website at <https://reachuk.org/opt-in/> or by contacting sarah.cobb@reachuk.org

• Watch our for exciting news about our accommodation fundraising campaign coming soon ...

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from everyone at Reach!

Thank you for your continued support  
Registered charity number 1076318

