

News from The Brandon Day Centre

December 2018



*Wishing all our
Members and their
families a
very Merry Christmas
and much good health
and happiness
in 2019*

*From Bella, Bec, Sally, Ben, Kerrie, Paula
and the Brandon staff team*

Merry Christmas from all at Empanda

With the unseasonal mild weather, it's hard to believe that we are just a few weeks from Christmas! This is a time of year to reflect on all that's happened during the last twelve months.

2018 has been a time of change at Brandon Day Centre. In July, we saw the long awaited opening of Café 27 after weeks of painting and redecorating. In August, our new lounge furniture arrived followed, later that month, by our shiny new minibus. The bus was only possible due to a very successful fundraising campaign organised by Cllr David Palmer and Brandon Community Association.

In September, Matt Hancock made a guest appearance, along with hundreds of friends and partners at the re-launch event. It was a great day and a lovely way to celebrate the refurbished/refreshed centre.

As we draw to the end of our second year in Brandon, we'd like to thank both the care and catering teams for their hard work and commitment, our volunteers for the time and energy they devote to making the centre the great place it is, the steering group (including Brandon Community Association) for their support and fundraising achievements, our partners and supporters and of course, all our members, customers and the local community for their continued support.

We wish you all a very merry Christmas and good health and happiness in 2019.



A warm welcome to ...

We are delighted to welcome two new team members and a new volunteer to Brandon.



Deborah Savory joined our Café 27 team recently as Catering Supervisor.

Deb will be working with Kim Allen on a job share basis, three days a week.

She has many years' catering experience and brings a wealth of knowledge from her previous roles as cook/supervisor and from running her own catering business.

Deb is never happier than when she is cooking and is looking forward to working with her new team to develop café 27.



Lee Roach recently joined us as a Relief Care and Support Assistant.

Lee has previously worked as a carer and is looking forward to his new role, being part of

the team and spending time getting to know our members.



Carolina Ruddick joined our team of volunteers and will be helping Deb, Kim and Carl in Café 27.

Carolina is keen to gain some experience in a work environment and is

looking forward to meeting new people.



At the first sign of a winter illness, seek advice from a pharmacist.

Cold weather can be seriously bad for your health. That's why it's important to look after yourself, especially during the winter. If you

start to feel unwell, even if it's a cough or a cold, don't wait until it gets more serious, seek advice from your pharmacist.

You are eligible for the free flu vaccine if you are aged 65 years or over, have a long-term health condition, or are a carer.

It's an important, easy way to stay well this winter. Ask your GP, pharmacist about the free flu vaccine.

The flu vaccination is important for people with long-term health conditions because flu, on top of any long-term health condition can easily develop into something very serious, and you could end up in hospital.

Don't put it off, contact your GP or pharmacist to get the flu jab now. It's free because you need it.

Please help us to keep you warm



Travelling two and from the day centre in the minibus can be a chilly business, particularly now the winter is upon us and mornings are getting colder. To ensure that people already on the minibus aren't kept waiting longer than necessary, please can you ensure that you are ready with your coat and shoes on when we come to pick you up. Many thanks.

Souper troupers

We were delighted to be able to play a part in helping young homeless young people by participating in **The Big Broth** on 2 November.



A total of £45 was raised for Centrepont through donations and the 'Soupstake' which was won by Bill.

Many thanks to everyone who contributed. The money raised will certainly make a difference to the lives of young homeless people and will help to give them the fresh start they deserve.



Christmas lunch arrangements



We have two Christmas lunches planned which are taking place on Tuesday 18 December and Thursday 20 December. We will pick up customers who normally attend on those days as usual. If you **don't** normally come in on these days, the bus will pick you up between 11.00am and 11.30am on your pre-arranged day and will drop you home after lunch.

Just a reminder that family and friends are also welcome to join us but will need to make their own travel arrangements.

If you haven't already booked your place(s), please ask a member of the care team.

Christmas/New Year Opening Times

Monday 24 December	Open
Tuesday 25 December	Closed
Wednesday 26 December	Closed
Thursday 27 December	Open
Friday 28 December	Open
Monday 31 December	Open
Tuesday 1 January	Closed
Wednesday 2 January	Open



Giving back to the community

The Community Payback team came to the day centre twice last month to clear the overgrown bushes and shrubs in the back garden area and do a general tidy up. They will be returning later this month to lay some paving slabs and erect a greenhouse to enable the propagation of seeds and growing of fruit, veg and herbs for Café 27.

Community Payback is a scheme that allows offenders the opportunity to make amends for their crimes by carrying out unpaid work on local projects.



Christmas raffle

The Christmas raffle will continue to run during December and the draw will take place on **Thursday 20th December.**

There is a fantastic selection of donated prizes, including Christmas gift ideas, which are on display by reception. Tickets cost £1 per strip and are available from the care team.

Birthdays

Wishing a very Happy Birthday to everyone celebrating a Birthday in December.

Geoff	11 December
Carl (Café 27)	11 December
Lena (staff)	14 December
Keith	16 December
Peter	22 December
Chelsea (staff)	27 December

Pat celebrating her special day in November



Jacen Unplugged To Memphis and Back Classic 50s & 60s



Brandon Day Centre

Thursday 27th Dec 1.45pm
www.jacenbruce.com



November highlights

Here are some activity highlights from our November programme.

Arts and crafts

Christmas decorations with Jayne

A morning with Jayne making Christmas decorations showed some real talent amongst our members.



Sue busy making paper chains

David ready to start painting



Jayne and Maureen decorating a Christmas tree

Jigsawing made easy

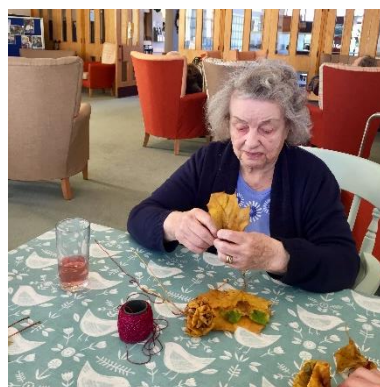


Jigsaw genius Amanda with her assistant Katy

Rose making with Anna



Who'd have thought that something so beautiful could be created from a simple leaf?



Amanda, June D, June P, Mary and Anna spent a lovely morning taking old London Plane leaves that Anna had collected locally and transforming them into beautiful bouquets of roses.



Making the flowers not only brought our members closer to nature but instilled a new confidence in them following a job well done.



The autumnal colours worked a treat and the flowers look truly wonderful. Well done to all who took part.

CAB run free energy advice clinics at Brandon Library

The next clinics are being held at the library between 10am and 12noon on:

4 December 2018

8 January 2019 (in place of New Year's Day)

5 February 2019

5 March 2019



Dance with Jo Nichols

A couple of lively and upbeat sessions with Jo brought everyone to their feet. Even our volunteers and staff team joined in. Katy certainly dressed for the occasion in her lycra leggings!

It was such a pleasure to see so many of you having fun whilst improving your mobility and balance.

Jo – thank you for your energy, enthusiasm and fantastic talent. You give so much pleasure to our members.

Here you all are in action.



World War I commemorative events



In the lead up to Armistice Day, we were treated to a morning of poetry readings by Jill Blanchard and a short film.

The following evening, we hosted a screening of the film War Horse which was attended by about 15 people. Cllr Penny Etherington who funded the showing, introduced the evening before the lights went down. Pop corn and ice creams were served as part of the cinema experience and donations were received for the new minibus as well as the Poppy Appeal.



Causing a bit of a stir!

As is the tradition at the Day Centre, Kim invited members to each have a stir of the Christmas pudding and make a wish.



As they say, the proof of the pudding is in the eating. You can find out how the puddings turned out when they are served at our Christmas lunches.



Live music

We enjoyed the live music sessions from our regular entertainers as well as a new face to Brandon – Jacen Bruce. Jacen serenaded us with a mixed programme, including 50s rock 'n' roll and blues. He was a huge hit and will be visiting again this month.



Staff member John and his wife Julie were the first to take to the floor with their jive and soon, many of you were joining in either from your chairs or up on the dance floor.



An afternoon with Parallel Lives



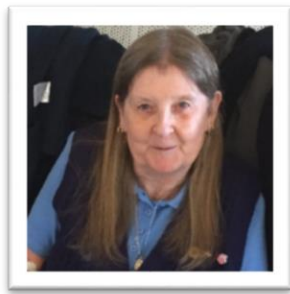
More great moves being demonstrated when Parallel Lives came to play for us earlier in the month.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our external

entertainers and the many people who have run a class or activity session in 2018. Your support is invaluable and makes the Day Centre experience for our members very special. Merry Christmas and we look forward to seeing you again in the New Year.

Competition time

Thank you to those of you who entered our November biscuit quiz.



Our winner was Annie whose was the first entry drawn with the most correct answers. Well done! A sweet treat is winging its way to you.

Here are the answers:

1. What do you get if your engagement ring goes in the freezer?
ICED GEM
2. Prince Harry and Chris Evans are?
GINGER NUTS
3. Rhubarb and Coffee and?
CUSTARD CREAM
4. A famous Italian General?
GARIBALDI
5. Dials on a cooker top?
HOB NOBS
6. Enzymes and juices?
DIGESTIVE
7. A place, or just pleasant?
NICE
8. Half a loaf?
SHORTBREAD
9. Affluent supper?
RICH TEA
10. Alcoholic drink with a crunch?
BRANDY SNAP
13. Lucky and artful?
JAMMY DODGER
14. Robin Hood's religious friend? Friar ...
TUC
15. Christmas treats that go with a bang?
CRACKERS
16. An alcoholic drink?
BOURBON

For our last competition of 2018, you might like to have a go at this festive word search but watch out; one of the words is missing. Can you spot which one it is?

When you have completed the word search, write your name and answer below and hand your entry in to a member of the staff team by **Friday 21 December** for the chance to win a prize.

Good luck!

Name:

Answer:

Bauble	Mistletoe
Bells	Nativity
Carols	Myrrh
Crackers	Presents
Egg Nog	Reindeer
Frankincense	Snow
Gold	Tinsel
Holly	Santa
Mince Pie	Snowman

F	O	O	R	Y	R	E	I	N	D	E	E	R
H	R	R	Y	M	T	R	B	E	N	Y	E	H
B	C	A	X	X	L	E	S	N	I	T	O	H
A	B	Z	N	J	C	V	M	T	L	A	M	O
C	R	A	C	K	E	R	S	N	D	K	I	L
A	O	Z	J	L	I	P	W	W	O	N	S	L
R	E	I	P	E	C	N	I	M	M	Y	T	Y
O	T	O	P	P	C	K	C	B	E	L	L	S
L	X	V	P	J	A	U	L	E	S	T	E	V
S	S	N	S	N	O	W	M	A	N	U	T	T
B	A	H	I	H	P	Q	L	X	T	S	O	D
S	N	N	U	A	B	B	A	U	B	L	E	L
S	N	A	T	I	V	I	T	Y	O	N	N	O
Y	L	C	D	A	Y	Z	E	G	G	N	O	G



Planning ahead

Monday 3 December (1.45 – 3.00) Tuesday 11 December (1.45 – 3.00) Wednesday 19 December (1.45 – 3.00) Friends and family welcome	Parallel Lives Ken and Paulette entertain for us	
Tuesday 4 December (10.30 – 11.30)	Avon Cosmetics Sales Demonstration Opportunity to buy Christmas gifts	
Wednesday 5 December (11.00 – 12.00) Monday 17 December (11.00 – 12.00) Friends and family welcome	Dance, Dance, Dance with Jo Nichols	
Wednesday 5 December (1.30 – 3.00) Wednesday 12 December (1.30 – 3.00) Friends and family welcome	Sing-along with Joyce and Mick A great opportunity to get your feet tapping	
Thursday 6 December (10.30 – 11.30)	Craft Sales with Kelly Another opportunity to buy Christmas gifts	
Wednesday 12 December (11.00 – 12.00) Friends and family welcome	Glade School Carol Concert	
Thursday 13 December Friends and family welcome	Sunshine Boys	
Friday 14 December (2.00 – 3.00) Friends and family welcome	Advice Surgery with Sarah Bradbury (CAB)	
Monday 17 December (1.45 – 3.00) Friends and family welcome	Jackie Raven sings	
Tuesday 18 December (1.45 – 3.00) Friends and family welcome	Mandy entertains	
Tuesday 18 December (1.45 – 3.00) Friends and family welcome	Mandy entertains	
Tuesday 18 December (12.15 – 1.30) Thursday 20 December (12.15 – 1.30) Friends and family welcome – reservations to be made with Andrea	Christmas Lunch	
Thursday 20 December (1.45 – 3.00) Friends and family welcome	Patsy Rose sings	
Friday 21 December (1.45 – 3.00) Friends and family welcome	Kalamity Kate entertains	
Monday 24 December (2.00 – 4.00) Open to the wider Brandon community and family, friends and carers are welcome	St Nicholas Hospice Open House - (Café 27)	
Thursday 27 December (1.45 – 2.45) Friends and family welcome	Jacen Unplugged to Memphis and Back	
Every Monday (10.00 – 12.00) 	Meet up Mondays (Café 27) Open to members of the community who are isolated or lonely and keen to meet new people and form new friendships over a cuppa and a chat.	

Looking ahead to January

More in our January newsletter, but here is a glimpse of what we have planned

8 January

14/22/30 January

15 January

23 January

24 January

28 January

Every Monday

Live Entertainment with Dave Gibson

Parallel Lives

Curtis Cronin (singer/acoustic guitar)

Dementia together Drop-in Session (Café 27)

Jacen Unplugged

St Nicholas Hospice Open House Session (Café 27)

Meet up Mondays (Café 27)



Appearing here on TUESDAY 8 JANUARY 2019



"THE ONE AND ONLY"
DAVE GIBSON
Singer/Entertainer

During the 1970's, I was the founder member of a group called "Western Union". We made 4 records.
Three were hits for Philips and Bell labels.
Since then I have been performing as a soloist at various venues around the country,
including a tour of the U.S.A.

Jacen Unplugged To Memphis and Back Classic 50s & 60s



Brandon Day Centre

Thursday 24th Jan 1.45pm

www.jacenbruce.com

Thank you for your continued support