

Garden Transformations

With more than a little help from some amazing volunteers our residents can now tend and enjoy their gardens



During the summer months two sets of volunteers came into NET to help improve the gardens at our properties.

Firstly we had a group of 16 and 17 year olds who came to help from NCS (National Citizen Service). They not only came to work, but they also raised money to buy gardening tools that NET could keep, which was fantastic. As the photo shows we now have some excellent tools.

Their first task was at one of our mum and baby houses. They worked with their leader and ourselves to see what would be best to make the garden easier to maintain and to keep tidy. Working as a team to reach their goal, they moved slabs and dug the borders. They positioned the slabs in a different place so that the bins could stand on them, then laid stones to make the area look neat and tidy. All the hard landscaping was finished off by

planting flowers in the newly dug borders and the pots that were kindly donated by **Newark Homebase** – a good days work achieved

Day two saw the volunteers working in a garden at one of our communal properties, there they did an excellent job of weeding, painting, cutting back ivy, and generally tidying up the garden. We would like to thank them for all their hard work over the two days.

The second group of volunteers were from local firm **Knowhow** and they went to another one of our mum and baby houses garden to help tidy it up. This is the second time this group have volunteered at NET. It was like a whirlwind hitting the garden,

whilst some started to dig up the borders others started to cut back the over grown hedge and another group started to paint the fence! The resident who lives there came out and helped the group when it came to planting, and David — one of the group — gave us some handy tips on what to plant and where. Child friendly bark was laid on the borders to keep the weeds from returning, and some shrubs and herbs were planted. When the work was completed we thanked the group for their efforts and for transforming the garden.

We would also like to thank local firm **Conica Ltd** and their Director James Wright who have kindly donated a soft play area and to Paul — also from Conica — who laid it and which looks fantastic and will provide a safe area for the resident to play with her daughter.



Thankyou's...

We would like to say a huge thankyou to Dave Scott from Magnus Church of England Academy for the use of their sports facility free of charge where our young people go to play 5-a-side football every fortnight with Carl, one of our Project Workers.

The young people really enjoy attending and it also helps them to build on their team skills, social skills and confidence, they also like to make sure Carl gets plenty of exercise too!



Hello's...

Welcome to new residents Max, Dennis, Charlotte, Josh, Ben, Alan and Andrew

...& goodbye's

Good luck to Natalie, Tamzin, Sophie, Tia, Adam, Alicia, Sophie, Gaby, Jessica and Lucy who have all moved on to their new homes in the local area.

The young people who completed the City & Guilds Employability Skills Course in our own Training Centre recently attended an event to celebrate their achievements. To receive their certificates the students had to build up a portfolio of evidence either by written work, witness testimonies from tutors and practical sessions in all aspects of the course including; Parenting Awareness, Career Planning, Managing Personal Finances, Drug and Alcohol Awareness and Keeping Safe.

Mac Mallard from Newark Patriotic Fund and Catherine Redfern from Newark Rotary Club (pictured above with three of our residents) presented the certificates to the students. Mac and Catherine came in to the Training Centre for the Career Planning Unit and conducted mock interviews with the students which were very successful. They all received excellent written feedback both on how they conducted themselves during the interview and how they had dressed appropriately.

Catherine and Mac said "this is the second time we have had the pleasure of conducting these interviews, we were really pleased with the efforts the students made on the day and the outcomes of the interviews."

Here is the feedback from the students about how the course has helped them:

"They helped me when I struggled as they know I am dyslexic"

"They showed care and support"

"I am pleased with what I have achieved and my confidence has grown"

"I enjoyed the Parenting units, they were spot on and as I am a Dad it has helped me"

"The programme has helped me a lot with money management which is important as I have now moved on"

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