

WELLGATE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



Autumn 2023



INTRODUCTION FROM ALEX, MANAGING DIRECTOR:



I wish you all a very warm welcome to the latest edition of our quarterly newsletter. It is natural to reflect on the year passed as we enter the festive season and I look back on 2023 with such admiration at what you have all achieved for the people we support. I am always so impressed when I visit our services at your passion and dedication to deliver such great outcomes.

There is a lot to report from the last three months, two new supported living services have opened, The Grafton in Worksop and Wade Court in Stoke and we are getting closer to opening our new residential service in New Romney, near Folkestone following confirmation in September that our CQC registration application was successful.

We have secured a new office base for the business at Basepoint in Folkestone, visitors are very welcome! You will also have hopefully noticed our new website that we launched in September that brings together everything that we do in one place. We have added a new benefit in this quarter, an additional day off at Christmas so we can find more time to spend with friends and family and get that important shopping done! Helen has summarised the full range of our Club Wellgate benefits package in this issue of our newsletter. Finally, I am delighted to report that Sophie Needham, our Deputy Manager at The Old Printers in Sandbach is the recipient of this quarters 'Outstanding Team Player' award. I want to wish you all the very happiest Christmas and a prosperous New Year and I look forward to seeing you all soon. Alex.

Wellgate outstanding team player of the quarter



Our quarterly 'outstanding team player' award winner is Sophie Needham, Deputy Manager at the Old Printers. Sophie joined the organisation in the summer of 2022 as a support worker and quickly progressed to become our Deputy Manager. She has been integral to the success the service has achieved over the last year providing exceptional management and leadership across all operational areas. Sophie is a popular team member both with her colleagues and tenants at the service and the award could not have gone to a more deserving person Thank you for all your hard work
Sophie

Wellgate have sponsored Sandbach Service Manager, Michelles granddaughters football team.

Clayton Panthers, are an under 8 side that train once a week together and play matches on Sunday's.



Wellgate sponsor Cheriton Bowls Club, where Sharon - Manager of Burnham competed in the National Finals this year! Well done to Sharon and the team.





ANGELA - HEAD OF FINANCE FOR WELLGATE, MNP AND WELLGATE SUPPORT

I enjoy swimming in the pool and the sea and love to get out for a long walk with family and friends. I also enjoy getting into a good book, a thriller with lots of twists.

My favourite food is anything spicy – I really enjoy curries! Dinner party guest would have to be Mickey Flanagan as I find his observational humour very funny and hence he would make any dinner party enjoyable.



SAM - FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR FOR MNP

In my free time I enjoy gardening, learning French, DIY. My favourite food has to be moules mariniere with frites! If I could have dinner with anyone, past or present it would be my Dad – because I miss him.



KAREN- FINANCE AND PAYROLL ADMINISTRATOR FOR WELLGATE AND WELLGATE SUPPORT

In my free time, I love to read and go on long walks with our Labrador, Wilbur. I love to spend time with my family. My favourite food has got to be a Chinese takeaway. The person I would like to have supper with would be Paul O’Grady. He was always able to make people laugh and I am sure he would have had some great stories to tell!



ANDREA - PAYROLL ADMINISTRATOR FOR MNP

I love a good read, cooking, baking and walking for miles with my dog Nellie, I have two three-year-old grandsons so they keep me busy, in “spare” time.

I love all food, but my favourite must be any type of curry. Would love to have supper with my Great Gran, as I have such vivid memories of her as a youngster, she had a hard life, lived through 2 wars, and worked in the dockyards during the war, so would love to hear her stories.

SPOOKY SANDGATE



MYSTERIOUS MILLFIELD



MILLFIELD HOSTED A CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR RESIDENT STEPHEN FAWCETT, WHO SADLY PASSED. ALL STAFF AND RESIDENTS DRESSED IN BLUE AS STEVE SUPPORTED CHELSEA FOOTBALL CLUB.



FUN AT THE LODGE



HARRY POTTER WORLD



THANK YOU TO WAITROSE FOR SUPPLYING PUMPKINS



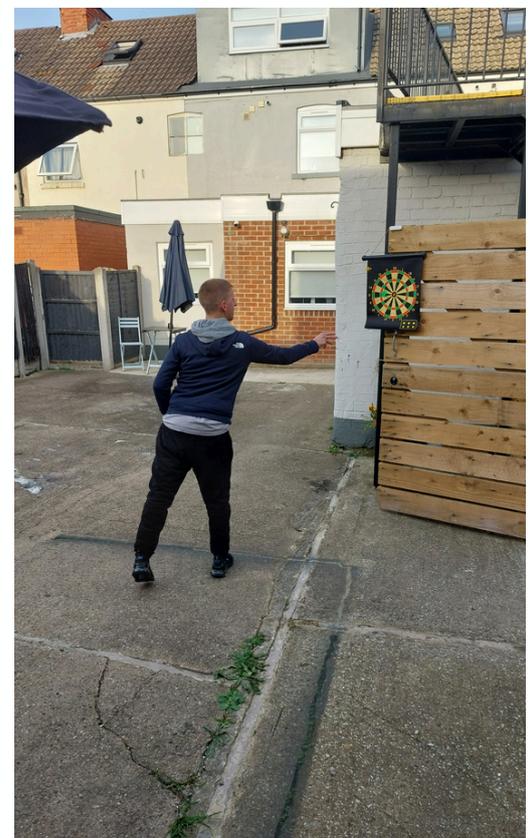
AUTUMN ACTIVITIES IN SANDBACH



DONNA GETS HER KEYS TO THE GRAFTON

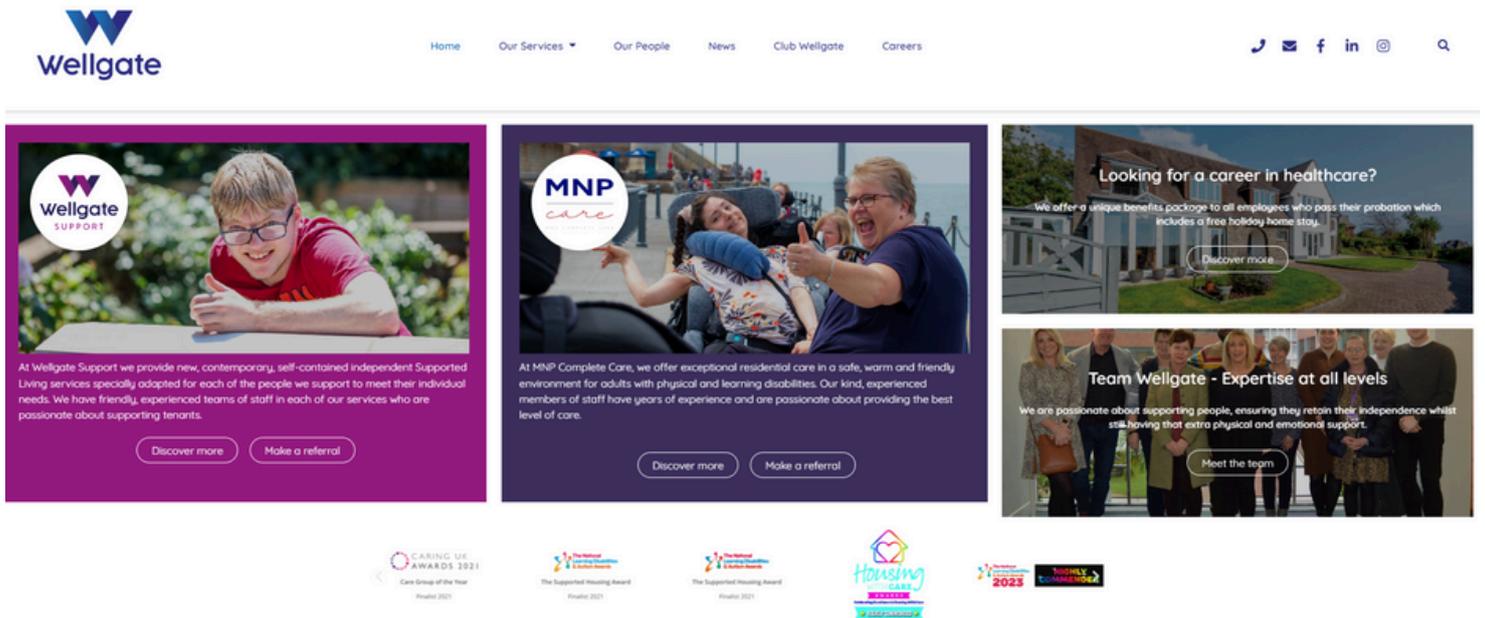


GETTING SETTLED IN



[Wellgate.com](https://www.wellgate.com)

We have launched our new website where you can see our current job vacancies, latest news stories, meet our team, learn more about our services, find out more about Club Wellgate, and much more!



DON'T FORGET TO ENTER THE QUARTERLY PRIZE DRAW

<https://www.wellgate.com/club-wellgate/prize-draws/>

This month's prizes - Q3 2023



£50 Amazon Voucher

The lucky winner of this prize draw will be provided with a £50 Amazon voucher to spend on whatever products they like.

Enter to win



£75 Radnor Arms Voucher

The Radnor Arms is a truly modern public house with a great selection of locally sourced food and drink.

Enter to win



GoApe Family Ticket

Family tickets = 2x adult and 2 x children. Click here for information on age and height restrictions.

Enter to win

A MESSAGE FROM HELEN, HEAD OF HR...



Here at Wellgate, we are always thinking of ways to reward our valuable colleagues.

We were therefore delighted to introduce some great new additional rewards and benefits for our contracted staff.

This year we have rolled out our Day off for your Birthday benefit where staff can book an additional day off to celebrate their birthday.

We have also given everyone an additional day off running up to the festive season which we hope gives some extra time to spend with family, get some of that shopping done or make arrangements.

We are extending our Christmas Bonus across the company for both MNP and Wellgate Support staff. Everyone with 2 years' service or longer will receive a bonus in their December Salary.

Our Holiday Home is very popular, and we have all enjoyed seeing the lovely photos of everyone's stay at The Mumbles. The company has grown and so has the number people working at Wellgate, so we thought we should expand this benefit to give everyone the opportunity to take a well-earned holiday; with our compliments. So, from Spring 2024 we will double the availability by having 2 holiday homes in different locations that can be booked for a week for free. Also included within this benefit is free travel to and from the holiday homes. Further information coming soon!

We also have some longer established rewards for both contracted and bank staff:

Refer a Friend - £150 reward for referring a friend once they successfully complete their probationary period.

Westfield Health - 24/7/365 online access to a GP, up to 5 counselling sessions with therapists and other health and wellbeing benefits available for free.

Blue Light Card - discounts from numerous retailers, gym memberships and venues. Wellgate refunds £4.99 cost of joining the scheme and the bi-annual renewal fee.

We are always looking for ways to recognise our staff and improve our rewards and benefits.

We welcome suggestions so please feel free to contact me with ideas.

Helen Dyball

Head of HR



CHRISTMAS TREE CUPCAKES

INGREDIENTS :

150g unsalted butter, 150g caster sugar, 3 eggs, 1 tsp, vanilla bean paste, 175g self-raising flour, 100g gold or white fondant, edible gold lustre dust or spray (if using white fondant), edible sugar balls, mini chocolate, beans, or multicoloured sprinkles (for baubles)

FOR THE BUTTERCREAM:

300g unsalted butter, softened, 500g icing sugar, sifted, 1 tsp vanilla bean paste, green food colouring (preferably oil-based)

METHOD

STEP 1

HEAT THE OVEN TO 200C/180C FAN/GAS 6 AND LINE A 12-HOLE MUFFIN TIN WITH PAPER CASES. BEAT THE BUTTER AND SUGAR TOGETHER IN A LARGE BOWL OR STAND MIXER UNTIL PALE AND CREAMY. ADD THE EGGS AND VANILLA ALONG WITH 1 TBSP OF THE FLOUR (TO REDUCE THE RISK OF THE MIXTURE SPLITTING) AND BEAT AGAIN.

STEP 2

SIFT THE REMAINING FLOUR INTO THE BATTER AND MIX TO COMBINE UNTIL NO STREAKS OF FLOUR ARE VISIBLE, BEING CAREFUL NOT TO OVERBEAT. DIVIDE THE BATTER BETWEEN THE CASES, ENSURING THEY ARE ALL AT LEAST HALF-FULL. BAKE ON THE MIDDLE SHELF OF THE OVEN FOR 12-15 MINS UNTIL GOLDEN. COOL IN THE TIN FOR 5 MINS BEFORE REMOVING TO A WIRE RACK TO COOL COMPLETELY.

STEP 3

ROLL OUT THE FONDANT AND STAMP OUT 12 STARS OR FLOWERS USING MINI BISCUIT CUTTERS. LEAVE TO DRY ON A SHEET OF BAKING PARCHMENT. IF YOU'VE USED WHITE FONDANT, LET THE SHAPES DRY FOR 5-10 MINS, THEN SPRAY OR BRUSH WITH GOLD LUSTRE.

STEP 4

TO MAKE THE BUTTERCREAM, SLOWLY MIX THE BUTTER, SUGAR AND VANILLA TOGETHER IN A BOWL USING AN ELECTRIC WHISK OR IN A STAND MIXER. ONCE COMBINED, BEAT FOR AT LEAST 5 MINS UNTIL PALE AND FLUFFY. ADD THE GREEN FOOD COLOURING, A LITTLE AT A TIME, UNTIL YOU REACH YOUR DESIRED SHADE. SPOON THE BUTTERCREAM INTO A PIPING BAG FITTED WITH A STAR NOZZLE. PIPE SWIRLS OF THE BUTTERCREAM OVER THE COOLED CUPCAKES, BUILDING THE SWIRLS UP INTO A CONE SHAPE. TOP THE 'TREES' WITH THE FONDANT STARS, THEN DECORATE WITH SUGAR BALLS, SPRINKLES OR CHOCOLATE BEANS TO MAKE BAUBLES.

IF YOU WANT TO SUGGEST A RECIPE FOR NEXT MONTHS RECIPE OF THE QUARTER, PLEASE EMAIL NEWS@WELLGATE.COM

WELCOME TO ALL OF OUR NEW STAFF:

Karen Apps, Emma Samuel, Thomas Smith, Kirsty Rivers, Jessica Jenkins, Lilly Miller, Sushma Tamang, Alex Farmer, Jessica Gajdova, Jina Rai, Agboola Oladeru, Terence Loftus, Nyasha Mhuma, Sisanda Zitumane, Will Morley, Krystina Cervenakova, Sian Roberts, Sharon Kiernan, Philippa Kay, Laura Allister, Deanna Williams, Julianne Barnes, Wesley Tunbridge, Alicia Bebbington, Ross Sadler, Katie Davis, Matthew Benson, Linda Collins, Michael McGuire, Tony Smith, Viola Whitley, Tulasa Gurung, Atoyebi Folayan, Priya Jose Lopez, Sandra Harling, Claire Harman-Stanford, Lucy Mountford, Stephanie Moore, Katie Morton, Karen Allcock, Eleanor Thompson, Keira Burgess, Emmie-May Brisco, Danielle Owsianko, Claire Vickers, Bola Davies-Olaniyi, Bernardita Orosco

REFER A FRIEND

If you know any friends or family who would be well-suited to work as a carer in any of our services, please contact your line manager.

When your referral passes probation and becomes a member of Club Wellgate you will receive £150.

