

Enabling people to reach their full potential



Awesome News...! We've been nominated for a Wigan Business Award. [Wigan Business Awards.](#)

Steps CIC has been nominated for a Wigan Business Award in the following categories.

Thank you to everyone that nominated us. We will keep you updated.

Wigan's Business of the Year Award
Not For Profit Award
Employer of the Year Award
Lifetime Achievement Award
Health & Wellbeing Business of the Year Award

It was the end of an era, as our first staff member Rob had turned 75 and reached retirement. Attendees, Rob's family and colleagues past and present had come together to celebrate and to wish Rob all the very best in his retirement. We are sad to see Rob leave, but we wish him every happiness in the future.



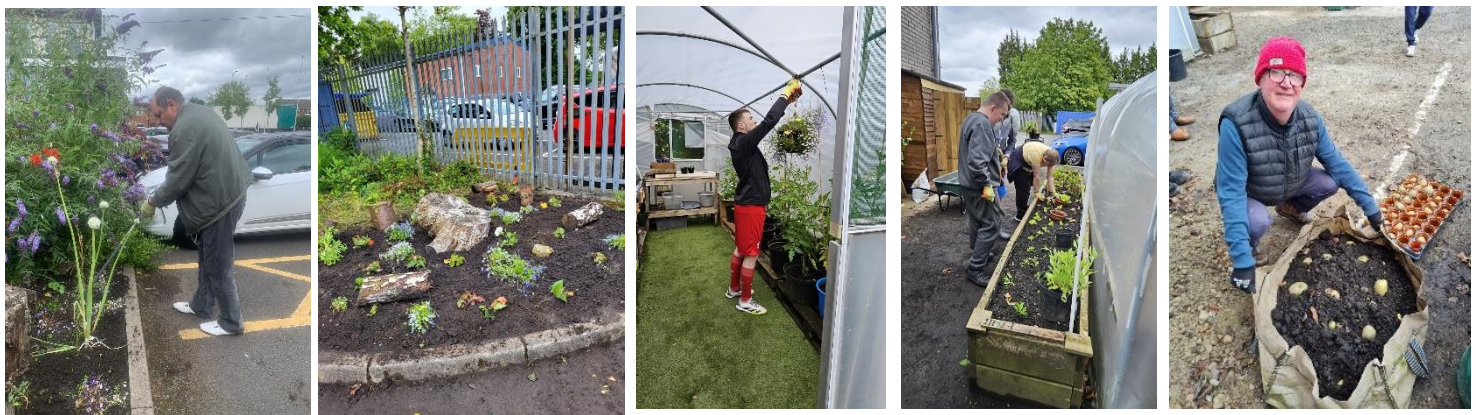
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Starting In early March, our gardening group were busy removing all the traces of winter and was getting ready for spring and summer. They had removed all the weeds, fallen leaves had all been cleared and they was planting the seeds and bulbs for our flower beds, hanging baskets and vegetables.



They have remained busy and have been working hard on the grounds, mowing, strimming and digging to prepare the new beds. We continue to work to improve the overall aesthetic of our environment.



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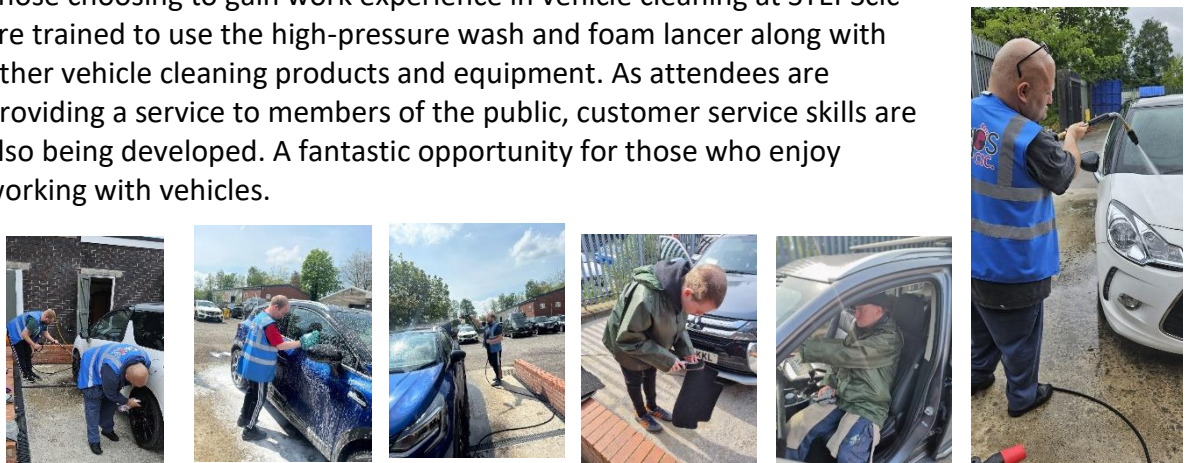


Painting and decorating is a new provision at STEPSic and has been a huge hit. A blank wall complete with false window, door, plug socket, return for ceiling and skirting board has been created to introduce attendees to painting a room. Facilitated by a qualified painter and decorator, attendees will learn how to apply caulk and create a mix of filler to fill indentations and gaps, before sanding down surfaces and learning how to mix and apply paint both on the walls and on the woodwork. They will also learn how to check their work and attend to areas missed. Congratulations to Joe and Ryan who have demonstrated good development of skills and successfully completed the introductory Painting and Decorating course. Alex and Damien are now part way through the course.



Those choosing to gain work experience in vehicle cleaning at STEPSic are trained to use the high-pressure wash and foam lancer along with other vehicle cleaning products and equipment. As attendees are providing a service to members of the public, customer service skills are also being developed. A fantastic opportunity for those who enjoy working with vehicles.

To Book, call
01942
247891



To teach the importance of keeping bicycles in good condition, bicycle maintenance has also been introduced to STEPS attendees. As a specialist tool was needed, we took a trip to the **Bicycle Centre**, on Walthew Lane Platt Bridge, where accessories and repairs can be carried out. Paul kindly donated his time and experience to demonstrate to Tom and Sean the process of removing and rebuilding parts. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Paul for donating his time and experience to inform and enthuse both Tom and Sean, who thoroughly enjoyed the experience.



Nomad Rangers

In May we spent the day with [Nomad Rangers](#) in the great outdoors at Bispham Hall. We've tried our hand at archery and axe throwing and had some success, before learning how to start a fire then toasting marshmallows and making our own shelter. A huge thank you to Nomad Rangers for their warm welcome and providing a thoroughly enjoyable day. We look forward to our next adventure day with you.



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So many new opportunities happening, and it continues with our attendees having been presented with the fantastic opportunity to learn Squash at **Wigan Squash Club** under the guidance of Lancashire Head Coach Julian Tomlinson, in partnership with **England Squash and Imas_sports4all**. Erol, Ryan and Joe were the first group to be shown around the complex before being introduced to the equipment and the techniques of play. Tom, Emily, Abigail, Dean and Roman were then offered the opportunity to participate. Having started with no previous experience, by the end of the session all were able to form a rally and thoroughly enjoyed playing, eager to return next week. A huge thank you to all involved for making this opportunity possible.



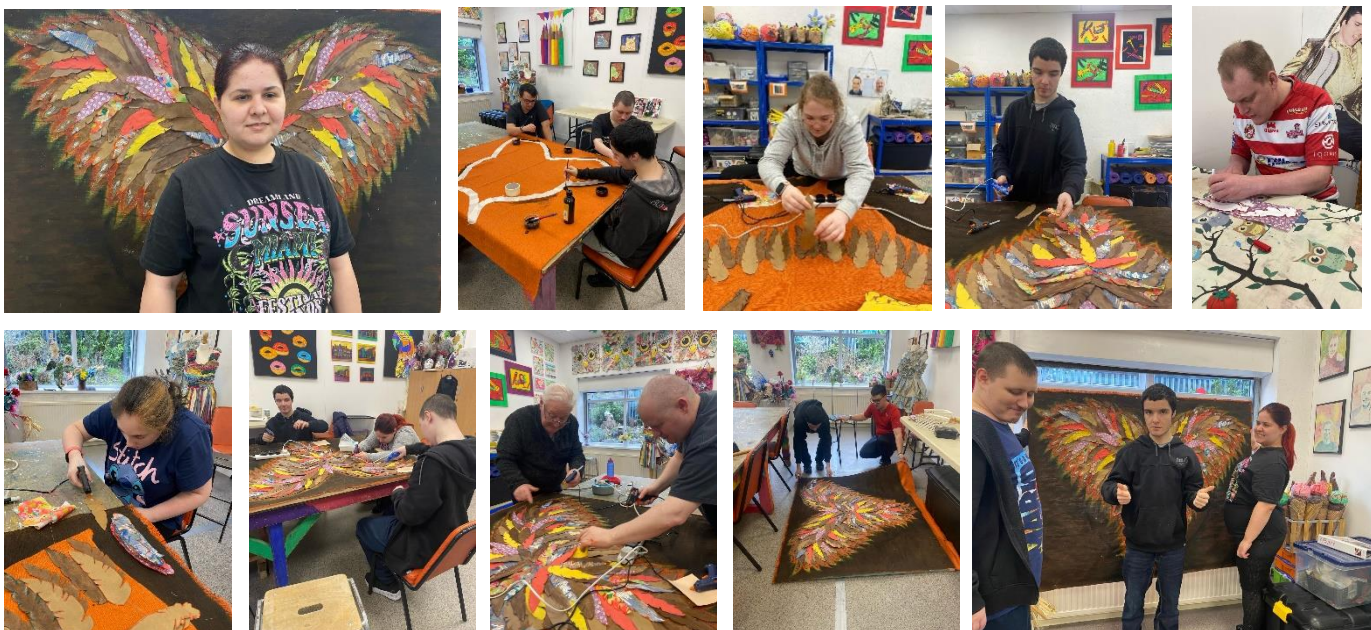
Our other sports provision proves to be very popular and can take place whatever the weather. With huge thanks to the support of **Ince Rose Bridge Sport and Community club** allowing us the use of their large indoor sports dome. Physical activity is promoted through drills, games, core skills and team sports alongside warm up and cool down exercises. The combination of exercising and socialising makes this a real win-win session.



As we follow the seasons, in March we had spring and easter themes on our mind. In our textile session we started with pattern cutting, then onto product creation, then embellishment to create these cute Easter bunnies that they created, this demonstrated their developing textile skills. Huge congratulations to all involved.



Also, within our textile groups, our attendees have been working collaboratively to create a large mural inspired by Kelsey Montague's wing murals, our attendees created their own set of feathers by upcycling pieces of fabric, each feather created was then layered and presented to create a stunning piece of interactive art.



Sign language was a recent project of our photography group. Starting with the alphabet our attendees have been learning how to form each letter before concentrating on getting a good, clear shot whilst considering background, lighting and positioning. This is an ongoing project that will help to develop both photography and communication skills.



The art groups have had great success in turning the simple mushroom into beautiful art, with many skills being demonstrated in this project. Starting with creating their own drawing through direction, attendees then transferred their drawing into print before adding watercolour. Well done everyone, you have shown huge progression, and the results are fantastic.



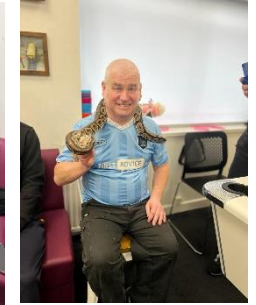
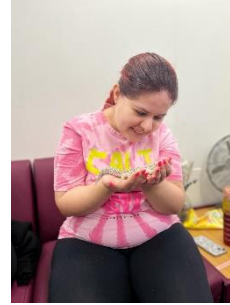
One of our more recent art sessions is where the group have been developing their skills through the medium of clay. They learned how to roll out, create shapes and attach using the score and slip method. The outcome was these stunning tiles. Amazing work, well done everyone.



Our woodwork provision is a popular choice and provides many opportunities to build on prior knowledge and experience in a fully equipped wood workshop. We provide a work environment enabling individuals to access real-life work experience in which they can develop practical woodwork skills and knowledge of health and safety.



We were delighted to have welcomed **Curious Critters** back to Ashland House. We thoroughly enjoyed getting up close to a range of exotic animals for a fun, educational and interactive experience. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Danny for a fantastic morning we certainly overcame some fears.



Boxing For Better C.I.C

Boxing For Better C.I.C. exists to give people opportunities to improve their physical and mental health and wellbeing through boxing. The sessions they provided last year proved to be very popular and we are looking to engage in their service again later in the year.



Poppywood Alpacas

We are looking forward to arranging our Alpacas on Tour activity. They will visit Stepscic, and our attendees will have the opportunity to meet and greet the Alpacas and get the chance to walk with them and feed them.



Nomad Rangers

As stated earlier, we are planning our next event with the Nomad Rangers at Bispham Hall. Our attendees engage in outdoor learning experiences. These inspire and encourage participation, improves self-confidence, promotes well-being and unlocks potential.

Further information will be sent out as soon as all dates are confirmed for each activity.



We've had lots of fun and competition at our annual sports day. With events that included egg and spoon, bean bag races and welly throwing. We then enjoyed a BBQ lunch and ended with our stocks and wet sponges. A huge congratulations to everyone who took part but particularly to Stephen, Gareth, Jack and Mark for being today's winning team.



CONGRATULATIONS AND WELL DONE TO ALL ATTENDEES FOR SHOWING GREAT SPORTSMANSHIP AND OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IN OUR ANNUAL SPORTS DAY