

# News Matters

Issue no 30, October 2025



Welcome to our October edition. We hope that you enjoy reading about what our members, staff and volunteers have been doing this past month.

If you would like to find out more about People Matters and the services we offer, please go to [www.peoplesmattersleeds.co.uk](http://www.peoplesmattersleeds.co.uk).

## Staff Story: Laura



Hi, I'm Laura!

I've worked at People Matters for nearly 10 years. I started my journey with People Matters as a volunteer and gradually worked my way up to Service Manager, which I have now done for about 4 years! I have previously worked as a teaching assistant, support worker, group assistant, tutor, adult learning coordinator and outreach coordinator.

Since starting at People Matters, I have completed my PGCE, got married, passed my driving test, completed my Level 5 leadership and management qualification and gave birth to my beautiful daughter!

The next step for me is to move back to Liverpool with my family, to be closer to my family. That is why I will sadly be leaving People Matters at the end of October. It has been an amazing journey, and I have met the most wonderful, selfless and caring people whilst here. I am grateful for all the opportunities People Matters has given me!

I have loved working for People Matters as they are always striving to do better for both members and staff.

If I had to describe PM in 3 words, I would say: **supportive**, **honest** and **caring**.

## Christmas Raffle!

Our festive Christmas Raffle is back, with the draw taking place on 11th December!

We're calling on our wonderful community to help make it extra special – can you donate a prize for the raffle?

Every ticket sold helps support our vital work (the raffle ticket sales usually raise us around £1000 which makes a huge difference) – thank you for being part of it!

Keep an eye on our social media for full details, ticket info, and a sneak peek at the prizes.



## Member Story: Sally

Sally first learned about People Matters (PM) through friends and Adult Social Care. Before joining PM, she received support from other providers. Sally chose to become part of PM because she was seeking support that could meet her needs and allow her to be herself. Since joining PM, she has achieved several personal milestones, including maturing into womanhood and gaining more independence with managing money.

Sally was honoured with the Nicola Storey award and has participated in various activities such as completing courses, reading a poem at PM's open day, attending meetings with other organisations, and delivering speeches about the support she has received from PM.

Sally's life has changed significantly since being with PM. She feels more able to express herself and open up to staff. She feels she has more opportunities, and also feels more confident and comfortable sharing their emotions, whether happy, sad, or upset.

If Sally could describe PM in three words, it would be: **inspiring, helpful,** and **approachable.**



Shout out to one of our longest working employees,  
Rachel Jagger!

Rachel has worked with us for 10 years this August. We are extremely grateful for all your hard work and the amazing support you have provided over the years!

Thank you for continuing your journey with us.



## Employment Support Project

People Matters have recently completed an Employment Support project funded by Leeds Community Foundation. Its aims were to produce a training and awareness pack, based on consultations with employers.

We contacted a wide range of employers and consulted 15 in detail about employing people with learning disabilities and / or autism. We discussed potential barriers, useful support, and levels of awareness in workplaces. We also consulted with members throughout the project. This all led to the creation of awareness and training resources on the same topic including a presentation for employers.

Leeds  
Community  
Foundation

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