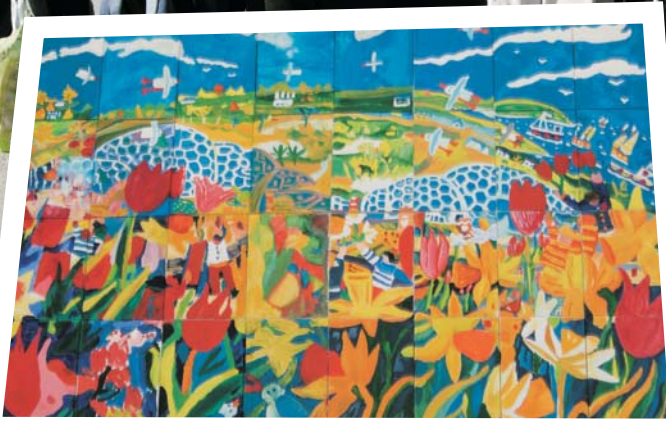
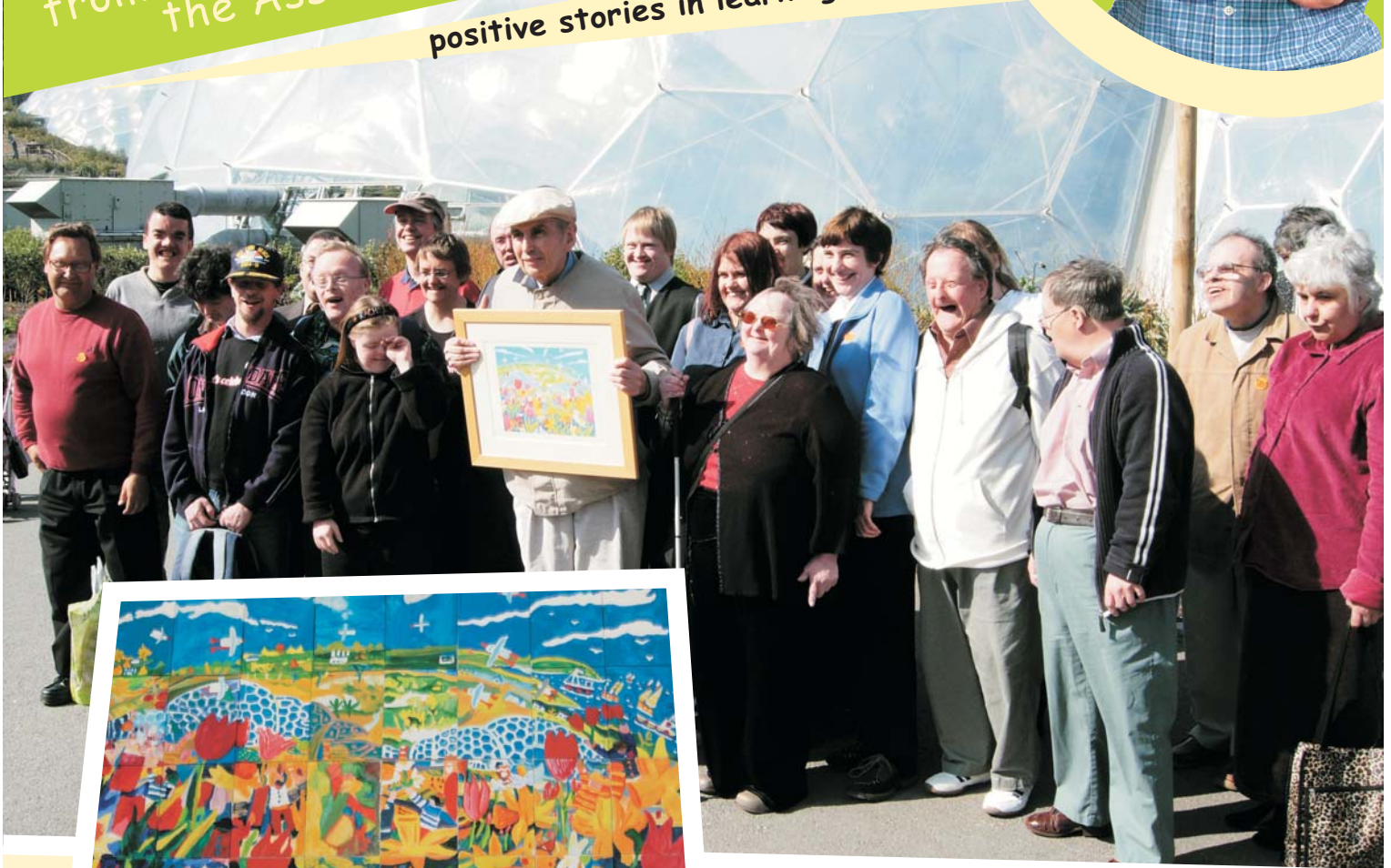


# Real Change

from members of  
the Association for Real Change  
positive stories in learning disability



## EDEN Art Project

Waterloo House has co-ordinated an art project involving 7 mencap homes within Cornwall. Thirty two individual canvasses

have been painted which together form a 40 square metre reproduction of John Dyer's paintings of the Eden Project. A grand unveiling was held at Eden on April 4th, and was on display for two weeks. For more information contact Simon Trundle at: [simon.trundle@mencap.org.uk](mailto:simon.trundle@mencap.org.uk)

Association for Real Change,  
ARC House, Marsden Street, Chesterfield, Derbyshire S40 1JY  
Tel: 01246 555043 [www.arcuk.org.uk](http://www.arcuk.org.uk)

Spring  
2007

# Moving Forward; Our Story Part 2



## The Story So Far...

Ann & Jeremy (supported by Southern Focus Trust) have moved to their own flats at Sturgess Court, met and fallen in love.

Now read on ...

We both decided earlier this year that we would like a holiday together. We decided that we would like to go to Gunwharf Quays in Portsmouth and stop in the new hotel that had just opened. We travelled to Portsmouth by train. We ate out at a Pizza Hut. We went to a bar for a drink. In the morning we had a continental Buffet breakfast in the hotel. After looking round the shops we decided to go to the cinema. We really enjoyed ourselves and felt proud that we had spent our time together with no support, we both felt confident and proud about being independent, this has encouraged us to do more things independently.

Ann: "On the train journey back Jeremy proposed to

me, I of course was happy to say YES!!!. We also decided that we would like to share a flat together."

We understand this may take a while as flats are not easy to get but we are still intending to get our own place.

Jeremy: "I like being able to make my own decisions, I feel more and more confident each time I do things for my self or Ann"

Ann: " I never thought I would be able to do all these things when I first came to live here . . . I feel very happy."

**Jeremy Hatcher and Ann Tinsley**

# David's Dogs

David loves dogs, but cannot have one at home. Staff wanted to help David have the opportunity to have regular contact with a dog and to take an active role in caring for it. David doesn't use words but gave us a thumbs up which means "yes"! Now David walks Dotty every Wednesday morning with the help of his community guide Tony. He wipes her muddy paws and sometimes grooms her but mostly they just enjoy a good walk and ball throwing games on the way. He has become good friends with Dotty's owners Shaun and Barbara.

Faz Holder, Home Manager says their use of Person Centred Planning has helped people to tell us what they need and to show us what support is needed from us to enable them to live full and active lives.

Faz can be contacted on 01454 411161 or at: [churchroad26@btinternet.com](mailto:churchroad26@btinternet.com)

Church Road is an Aspects and Milestones home. For more details email: [admin@aspectsandmilestones.org.uk](mailto:admin@aspectsandmilestones.org.uk)



## Going Organic

Service users at **St George's Association** in Cheltenham said they wanted more meaningful work opportunities in a café. After a search for a suitable place they moved into premises just off the High Street. **George's Organic Cafe** is open to the public and has regular contracts, including one of the county colleges and the volunteer bureau. They are now equipped to take on larger contracts for up to 200 covers.

If you would like more information please contact April at:  
**George's Organics and Windows,**  
10 Bennington Street, Cheltenham,  
GL50 4ED  
Tel. 01242 238733



Association for Real Change,  
Supporting providers of services for people with a learning disability

# Cleaning Up

The ROC social enterprise, **Mopit** was begun in January 2007. They have already secured 2 contracts and are soon ready to expand. Robert Owen Communities is helping people

with a learning disability find ways into work. For more details contact ROC at [www.roc-uk.org](http://www.roc-uk.org)



"It makes me feel really good working for MOPIT."



"I enjoy working for MOPIT & I work really hard!"



"I enjoy the hoovering & cleaning the windows."



George is new to the team and was put to work straight away.

# Move On Up

The Broad Group is a small, family-run, independent organisation which doesn't draw too much attention to itself. As they say, "We blend in rather well in the community and that's how we like it to be. We are always very proud when our service users move on." Service users like Annabel . . .

"My name is Annabel. I am 27 and have lived at The Old Rectory in Droitwich for nearly five years. On Friday I'm moving to a new house where I am hoping to learn new skills. I want to learn about looking after the future, just like my friend Craig."

For further information please contact The Broad Group on 01905 28486 or email [enquiries@thebroadgroup.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@thebroadgroup.co.uk)



To share your positive stories and experience contact:  
Rod Landman on 01237 441786 email: [rod.landman@arcuk.org.uk](mailto:rod.landman@arcuk.org.uk)