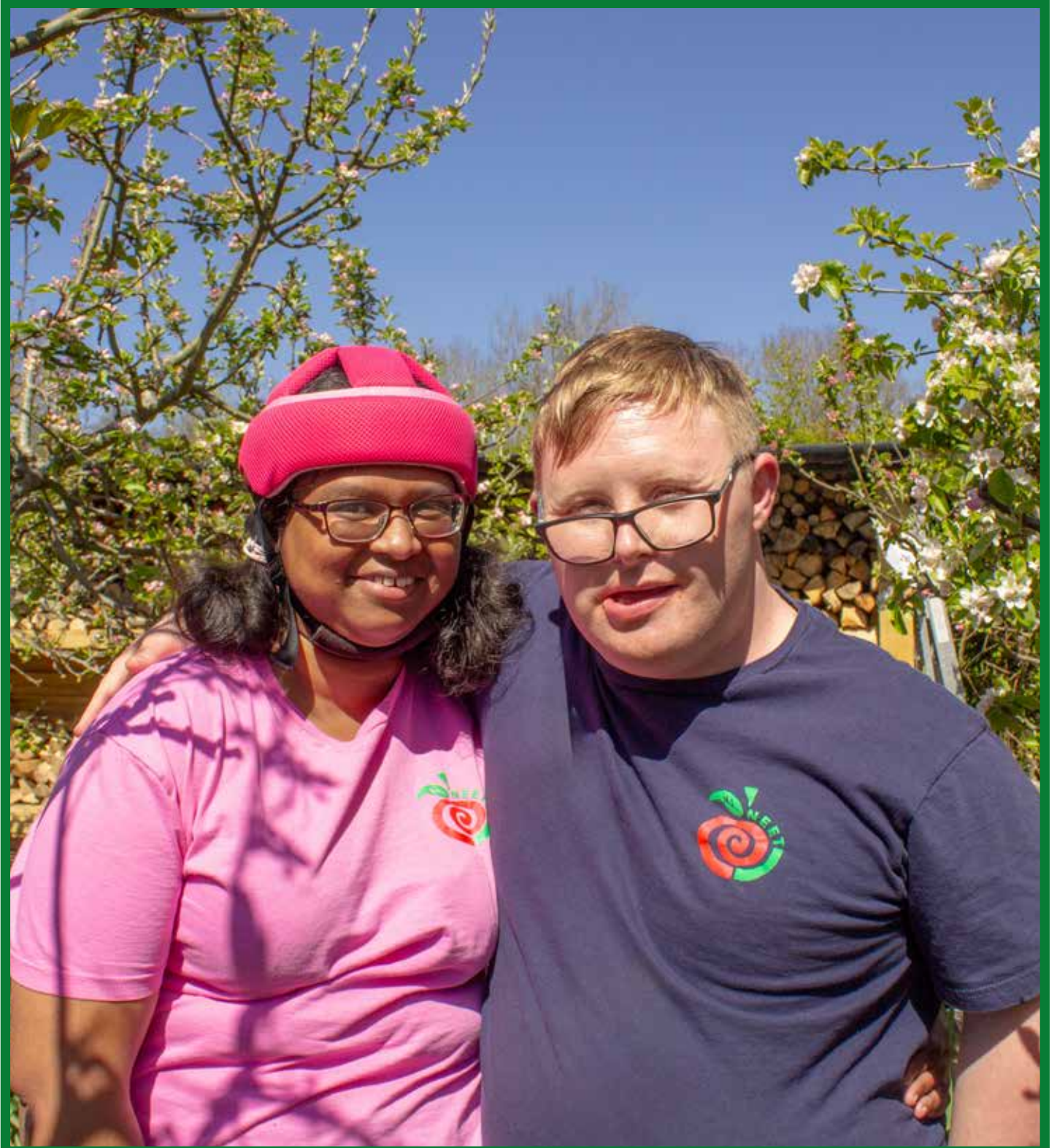




NEWS

NEETPEOPLE CIC



SPRING 2026
ISSUE 1

NEET

2006 - 2026

NEETPEOPLE CIC



Welcome to the first newsletter from the newly formed NEETPEOPLE CIC.

We're excited to share what's been happening in the world of NEET since our last newsletter. On 1st February, we officially launched a new Community Interest Company. As many of you know, NEETPEOPLE CIC was created so we can run in a more entrepreneurial way while staying true to our team-member-centred approach.

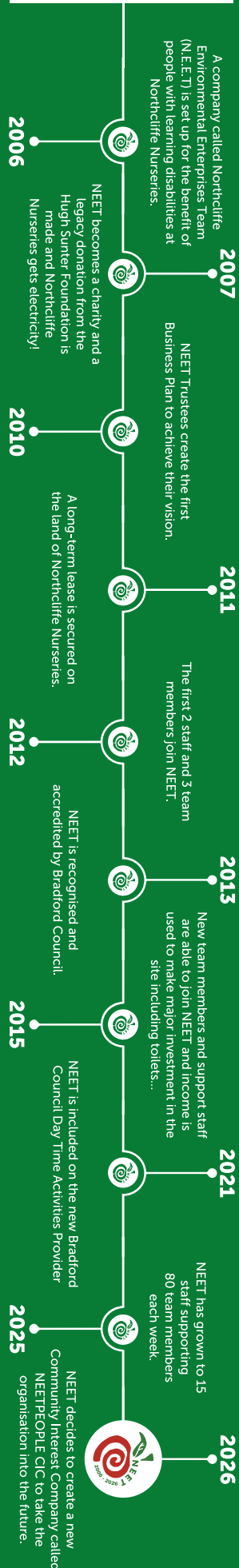


"Our team remain at the heart of everything we do."

Although things may look the same on site and in day-to-day operations, becoming a CIC gives us more flexibility. It allows us to respond more quickly and create new opportunities and choices for our Team Members. 2026 marks **20 years of Northcliffe Environmental Enterprises Team** charity which will continue to support the new CIC.

Suzanne, Ian & Richard
Directors of NEETPEOPLE CIC

Thanks to all the dedicated, inspirational people over the past 20 years who shared their skills, knowledge, and enthusiasm to help create and achieve an inclusive vision of support and opportunity.



NEET grows

The life of a plant at NEETPEOPLE

Follow the journey of a plant from seed to sale! It is a long process and the NEET team treat each stage with care.



The journey begins with choosing the right seeds or young plants. The NEET Grows team create a growing list mixing much-loved regulars with new varieties.



The team collects the plants and prepares them for the next stage. This part of the process is time-sensitive, as the tiny plug plants – sometimes 360 to 480 in a single tray – need to be potted on very soon after they arrive.



Young plants are moved into larger pots to give their roots space to grow. This includes fresh compost, careful handling, and the right pot size.



Labels are created on site, each plant is labelled clearly with its name, variety, and any care instructions.



As the plant grows, it needs regular care. This includes removing dead flowers, trimming damaged leaves and keeping the plant tidy and healthy.



Consistent watering keeps the plant thriving. Team Members check moisture levels and water according to each plant's needs—never too much, never too little.



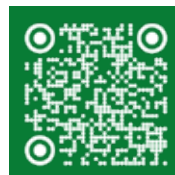
Plants are rotated regularly to ensure even growth.



Once the plant is strong and healthy, it's ready for the next step. Customers can come and buy on-site, and we also deliver plants throughout Bradford. Of course we grow plenty for ourselves – fresh cut flowers, plants to fill our borders and planters, and lots of vegetables that we use in our cooking sessions.



SCAN TO SEE
PLANT LIST
2026



NEET grows

Fruit Grafting

We recently welcomed a company called Fruitworks, who delivered a fruit grafting course in the potting shed. During the session, we learned how to graft and create new fruit trees, by the end we had produced 30 young trees ready to grow on. Across two sessions 14 team members got hands on with grafting, writing labels and potting on!



We will nurture these trees and sell them on in the future.



Seed Sowing

The NEET Grows team have expanded our seed-sowing programme this year by successfully using seeds collected from last season's plants. We're already seeing excellent results, with calendula, sweet peas and cornflower, all of which have germinated strongly and are growing on well.

To complement this year's seed sowing, Cathy is trialling compost mixes made with coconut fibres, vermiculite, and several peat-free brands. She is monitoring both germination and early growth rates of each mix to see which is most successful.



Seed Snails

Seed snails have been popping up all over the internet this year, so we decided to give them a try! They're a great space-saving way to start seeds, we made ours using recycled materials like old compost bags. The results have been impressive - Cathy sowed carrots on the same day in cell trays and a seed snail, the seedlings grown in the seed snail developed much stronger roots and better top growth. It's definitely something we will continue to experiment with on site.

Creating a Kokedama

Holly has recently taught herself — and the some of her growing team, the art of Kokedama. These are soil based, moss wrapped plants that originate from Japan. We've hung our new Kokedama in the window of the Zen Den, where they bring a sense of calm to this lovely space. There are plans to create a hanging sculpture using this technique too.



NEET makes

Creative projects

Our NEET Makes team have had a fantastic start to the year with hands-on learning, new creative projects and of course lots of fun! With our Spring Fair approaching at the end of May, the team has already begun crafting items for sale.

We have been making beautiful seed paper using wildflower seeds and recycled wastepaper. They have been drying in the sun and are now ready to be used. When the paper is planted in a pot of soil, the seeds grow and the paper composts away.

To complement our growing and plant sales, the team have created vibrant, herb markers using acrylic paint, perfect for identifying herbs in the garden. These handmade pieces will soon make their way into our on-site shop, where Team Members sell their creations.



I loved helping
Leo make mushrooms
for the art trail
STEVEN

I Luv
Owl
Mushrooms



Hannah, who is qualified in Reflexology and has a passion for wellness has expanded our NEET Makes range with honey foaming foot soaks, almond hand creams and our ever-popular Lip balm—the Green Pod smells incredible on these days.



Nicola, our creative artist, has also organised themed crafting days for birthdays and special occasions, giving each team member the chance to choose a theme and work together on creative projects. These days are really special to the team. So far this year we have had a Frozen themed day, Cowboys & Indians and a beach party!

NEET eats

NHS Programme

Our Thursday kitchen group has been exploring healthy lifestyles for a while now, and we're happy to share that we've been selected to take part in an onsite pilot of the Learning Disabilities Healthy Lifestyle Training — the first of its kind with Bradford Council.

As part of this pilot, NHS clinical dietitians will be working alongside our team covering accessible, easy to follow sessions on heart health, staying strong, managing sugar, understanding portion sizes, and food shopping skills.



New chef at NEET!

In January, we welcomed a new chef tutor, Chris, to the NEET Eats team. He and the group have launched a fantastic project exploring global cuisines through an "around the world" theme. Each week, we pick a country out of a hat, find it on the world map, and choose dishes to cook inspired by its culture. Chris loves weaving in as much learning as possible, so alongside the cooking, the team has been watching documentaries and exploring traditions of each place.



"I joined the team back in February and have been running a regular session with our Wednesday NEET Eats group.

Over the weeks, each team member has blossomed, and together we've found a rhythm in the kitchen. It's been fantastic to share my knowledge and watch their confidence grow as they experiment with new skills; suggest dishes they'd like to try and bring their own ideas to the table.

Not every recipe has been a hit, but every session has been full of learning and laughter as we cook and eat together, exploring new flavours, ingredients and cultures.

Now that spring is here, nature's larder is opening up even more opportunities for us to create. The highlight for me is seeing full stomachs, happy faces and a team that continues to flourish. I'm truly grateful to be getting to know such amazing people at NEET." - Chris



Community and events



Walking Wednesday

The Wednesday Walking Group has been out in all weathers enjoying some great routes, from exploring the grounds and willow statues of Skipton Castle Woods to taking in the views at the Salt and Pepper Pots in Cowling. We have also been to Burnsall, Grassington, and to Golden Acre Park, where we feed the ducks and wander the sculpture trail.



Juno turns 5!

Juno, the heart, soul, and muddy paws of the site, turned 5 in February! She even 'worked' on her birthday, though the team made sure she was showered with plenty of love and attention.

Community

In March, we hosted a mental health and wellbeing group in our outdoor kitchen. They chose our space for a full nature day retreat with reflection, gentle practices and moments of calm. Led by eco-therapists, the group created "a day to breathe, ground, and rediscover connection to the natural world."



Donated winter bedding

We recently donated winter bedding plants to the Kirkgate Centre in Shipley and Bowling Community Orchard.

NEET on Look North

March brought an exciting highlight for everyone at NEET as we welcomed both Look North and BBC Radio Leeds on the same day. Following the success of the BD25 year, Look North visited our site to explore the story behind the Arts Trail. It was a pleasure showing the team around our site and sharing the special work we do here.

Meanwhile, Leo was live on air with BBC Radio Leeds, joining Dan from BD25 City of Culture to talk about the impact of the Arts Trail and the wider programme.

NEET on Look North!

SCAN TO
SEE NEET ON
LOOK NORTH



Final word

We would love to see you at our

SPRING FAIR

22nd May | 12pm - 3pm

HANGING BASKETS | PLANTS | CRAFTS |
WOODWORK | REFRESHMENTS | MUCH MORE

Northcliffe Nurseries, Northcliffe Park
(Top Allotment Site), Off Cliffewood Avenue, Shipley

Placements and volunteering

At NEET we welcome placements and volunteering opportunities for those interested in working in health and social care settings, please get in touch for details.

Collette is one of the new volunteers at NEET, here are a few words about her experience so far:

"Hi, I'm Collette and I volunteer at NEET on Fridays. I usually work with the Kitchen Team, helping Chef Richard prepare food, keeping the kitchen clean and chatting about healthy recipes. The team creates amazing, creative and nutritious meals, and we always have a good laugh while we work. Volunteering at NEET is the highlight of my week because everyone is so welcoming."

Get in touch

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NEETPEOPLE CIC Ltd

Company Number 16772643 - Registered in England and Wales Operational Address; Northcliffe Nurseries, Northcliffe Park (Top Allotment Site), Off Cliffewood Avenue, Shipley, BD18 3DD Registered Address; The Orchard Airedale Enterprise, Sunderland Street, Keighley, BD21 5LE

BARNEY THE LITTER FREE HERO



Barney has been recognised with a Litter Free Hero Award from Litter Free Ilkley for his hard work in the community. He's collected several hundred bags of rubbish over the past year. We're really proud of him!

EVIE'S ACHIEVEMENTS



Evie recently competed in a swimming gala and came home with four medals: three golds and a fantastic 4th place. An amazing achievement.

