

News

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Morgan Sindall gives plant nurseries new lease of life

Chestnut Nursery in Poole and Mayfield Nurseries in Southampton provide sheltered work placements for people with mental health issues and learning disabilities, allowing them to develop work skills and improve their well-being and confidence.

Employees from Morgan Sindall's Fareham and Poole offices dedicated their time to assist both nurseries with painting, gardening and general works to spruce up the grounds and interiors, as part of Business in the Community's annual event Give & Gain .

At Mayfield Nurseries, 15 volunteers from the Fareham office assisted with some new fencing and refurbishing their plant sales stand. At the Chestnut Nursery, 13 volunteers from the Poole office painted a meeting room and metal fences outside. Jewsons, Speedy and Brewers Decorating Centres donated materials to complete the works and also in attendance were volunteers from sister company Morgan Sindall Property Services.

Chestnut Nursery is a project of the charity SWOP (Sheltered Work Opportunities Project) and Mayfield Nurseries is a social enterprise and subsidiary charity of Solent Mind, the leading mental health charity across Hampshire. By working in the nurseries, people can learn new skills, build confidence and self-esteem, gain horticultural qualifications, improve their mental health and physical well-being and increase opportunities for volunteering and paid employment.

Based in the centre of Poole, Chestnut Nursery currently provides over 50 work placements for people with mental health problems. Jennie Gardner, Assistant Manager at Chestnut Nursery said: "We're so pleased that Morgan Sindall has chosen to support us as part of Give & Gain.

"As a small charity with only three members of staff, there are so many jobs we wish we could do, but rarely get the time. The Morgan Sindall volunteers have helped to get many of these jobs done."

Rachel Hampton, Manager at Solent Mind, said: "Mayfield nurseries gives people with learning disabilities and mental health problems the opportunity to learn and relearn basic work skills and volunteers work in all aspects of the nursery including seed sowing, potting plants, serving customers in the shop, carpentry and construction work as well as office and computer work.

"The Morgan Sindall team has been extremely generous, hardworking and proactive in giving Mayfield nurseries some much needed TLC and we're very grateful."

Andy Duff, Managing Director of Morgan Sindall's business in the South, said: "Give & Gain has been a huge success across the region allowing us to help out with some really important community causes. Both Chestnut Nursery and Mayfield Nurseries provide a vital service to vulnerable people across the South West and we welcome the opportunity to have been able to support such worthwhile projects.

"For us, giving something back to the local community in which we work every day is important and we're enormously proud to have helped deliver these projects."

For more information about this news release please contact Niamh Conway at Influential on 0151 239 5000 or email conway@thisisinfluential.com