

Gardening leave: National Grid volunteers take time out to improve Deal facility

Green fingered volunteers from National Grid's External Affairs team spruce up sensory garden at Martha House, Deal.

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- National Grid Volunteers spend a day at Martha House, Deal
- Group revamp sensory garden used by people with profound disabilities and their families
- Volunteers day job involves providing community relations support to power projects which help keep the lights on

Volunteers from National Grid's External Affairs team have spent a day volunteering at Martha House in Deal.

Eight volunteers from the team who are based across England and Wales volunteered to spend a day enhancing the sensory garden at charity Martha Trust's head office in Deal. The garden is used by people with profound physical and multiple learning disabilities and their families during their stays at the residential and respite care centre.

The volunteers built two large wooden pergolas, filled wooden planters with soil and compost ready for planting and also spruced up a special commemorative bench which was cleaned and re-sanded.

National Grid External Affairs Manager Chris Isaac, said: "It was really great to get stuck in and make a difference for the Martha Trust.

"Our team work all over England and Wales so it was a brilliant opportunity for us to come together and get to know each other better while helping out such a great cause.

"I'm especially pleased we completed all the tasks we had to do to help finish off the garden and make it special for the residents and their families."

Judy Heath from Martha Trust said: "We're really pleased with the work the National Grid volunteers did. We're sure the new and improved sensory garden will be very much appreciated by our residents and families."

John Philpott from Volunteering Matters, the organisation that linked National Grid with Martha Trust, said: "It is wonderful to see an organisation as big as National Grid use its time for the benefit of others. The work carried out by the team was greatly appreciated by all at Martha House, staff, residents and families alike."

For more information on Martha Trust go to <http://www.marthatrust.org.uk/>

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Notes for editors

About Martha

Martha Trust offers residential, respite and day care for people with profound disabilities at three homes, two in Deal and one in Hastings. They provide the very highest standards of round-the-clock nursing care, state of the art facilities and a warm and loving home for life.

Everything done at Martha, from sailing and horse riding to relaxing in the sensory room, is designed to improve the physical health and emotional wellbeing of the people they support.

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Notes to Editors:

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- We own and operate the gas National Transmission System in Great Britain, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. Our network comprises approximately 7,660 kilometres (4,760 miles) of high-pressure pipe and 618 above-ground installations.
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- > [Biographies](#)

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- > [Our business](#)
- > [Operating responsibly](#)
- > [Investor factsheets](#)
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