

News from Jersey Employment Trust

A new partnership aimed at raising awareness of Acorn's mission

ACORN has entered a new partnership with property management and estate agency Gaudin & Co.

The partnership will help raise awareness of Acorn's mission as well as promote reuse initiatives to an even wider audience.

Fundraising manager Caroline Spencer explained why they were keen to work more closely with a property company.

"When people move, they either need to get rid of items they no longer require, or they need to buy new furniture or household items.

"If they are downsizing, they may be able to donate furniture and other unwanted goods to Acorn Reuse. So many items have life left in them and we should always be asking ourselves what can be reused before we resort to throwing it away.

"People who are moving into their first home may want to save money by buying second-hand furniture and household goods from us.

"Acorn can be like a one-stop shop when you move, because we can also make house signs from reclaimed timber and you can buy plants from the nursery for the garden.

"With Gaudin & Co spreading the word amongst their clients and network, we hope to reach more people, which in turn will generate an income for our social enterprise, and promote environmentally responsible practices.

We are delighted to partner with Gaudin & Co, who have been serving the Island for over 90 years."

Nick Jewell is the Gaudin & Co company director and said: "We are extremely pleased to announce a partnership between Gaudin & Co and Acorn Enterprises, which will provide significant benefits to the charity, including increased revenue, wider community exposure and support from members of our team.

"We are extremely fortunate to live in a caring and generous community that looks after the best interests of those less fortunate. In the case of Acorn, this means providing opportunities for belonging, employment, and training for Islanders who have a disability or long-term health condition.

"We feel that this is the perfect charity with which to align our business. The Gaudin team are very excited to work with the Acorn family."



■ Gaudin & Co company director Nick Jewell with Acorn fundraising team Georgia Hodgson and Caroline Spencer Picture: DANNY RICHARDSON

JET Jaunt triumph

The second JET Jaunt, which saw 26 teams racing from St Malo to Prague in September, has raised £25,890.

The challenge, sponsored by CSC, raises funds to support Islanders who have a disability or long-term health condition in the workplace.

At a breakfast reunion this month, awards were given out as follows:

■ Overall winners: Lucy Gomes and Sarah Parker, in a time of 1d 13h 35m.

■ Judges' Choice: Jeremy Johnson and Mary Surcouf, for not using their phones to navigate or book their transport and yet still finishing in second place.

■ Top Fundraisers: Andy and Jane Burns, for raising £2,312, smashing the target by 360%.

■ Best Social Storytelling: Kiley Henley and Alex Henley-Good, who were at times dressed as an inflatable squirrel and a tree respectively, sharing their journey with great humour.

Representatives from main sponsors CSC, All Island Media and Ports of Jersey, were thanked for their continuing support.

■ To register your interest in the 2026 JET Jaunt as a sponsor or participant, please email jaunt@jet.co.je.

■ Winners all: (left to right) Kiley Henley, Andy and Jane Burns, Mary Surcouf, and winners Sarah Parker and Lucy Gomes



Christmas wishes in store

Our Christmas Wishlist has gone local! The list, which will work much like a wedding list, will be available in Normans and Rachel's Textiles during the month of December.

Customers can go to either store – Normans at Five Oaks or Rachel's Textiles in Colomberie – pay for an item they wish to donate, and at the end of the month all items will be delivered to Acorn.

Fundraising relationship lead Georgia Hodgson said: "For a few years now, Acorn Enterprises has promoted its Amazon Wishlist through an Advent Calendar format in the month of December. While this has been very successful, and we do still have a Wishlist on Amazon for those who prefer it, we thought it would be more in keeping with our ethos to support local businesses and reduce our carbon footprint.

"Every purchase, from tools to textiles, directly supports client sessions and creative initiatives at Acorn, making a real difference in people's lives."

■ More details will be posted on Acorn Enterprises on Facebook and Instagram.

IoT award for JCG student

Elizabeth Bayman, who spent a week shadowing leaders at JET and Acorn Enterprises, won the IoT Jersey's Future Leaders' Shadowing Scheme 2025.

Elizabeth (18), who goes to Jersey College for Girls, won the award at a presentation ceremony at the Royal Yacht Hotel.

JET executive officer Penny Shurmer said: "Elizabeth was an outstanding IoT shadow student.

"She embraced the challenge of shadowing several managers and myself during her time, both within JET and Acorn, understanding how a large charity and social enterprise work. Elizabeth was curious and asked excellent questions, reflecting on her experiences and demonstrating all the values of JET.

"We're so proud that she received first place. It was truly deserved. Elizabeth is a great role model for a future leader, and we wish her every success."

The Future Leaders' Shadowing Scheme gives Year 12 students the chance to get a first-hand insight into the role of a leader in an organisation and is a recognised scheme that can be used towards UCAS applications.



■ Elizabeth Bayman was presented with the award by Deputy Inna Gardiner

Save your chocolate tubs this Christmas!

We are appealing to the public to save their chocolate tubs after Christmas. Acorn can reuse the round plastic containers, such as Quality Street, Roses, Celebrations and Heroes, for a new plastics project.

Thanks to grant funding from Butterfield Charitable Trust, Acorn has invested in three new machines and several moulds, which can transform DVD covers, bottle tops and chocolate tubs into plant pots, bowls, pens and sunglasses, all of which will provide a variety of opportunities for clients who have a disability or long-term health condition.

The Coop will have collection points for chocolate tubs at their Grand Marché stores in St Helier and St Peter. The Coop Community Fund has also supported the project by funding a 3D printer and filament maker.

Tubs can also be dropped off at the donations building at Acorn and its café, as well as Butterfield at IFC6. If any schools or community groups would like to get involved in collecting tubs, please email fundraising@jet.co.je.



The Jersey Employment Trust and Acorn have officially signed up to be part of the Rainbow Mark Scheme with Liberate Jersey.

Staff have completed "diversity", "equity and inclusion" and "unconscious bias" training, and feel confident in raising and addressing issues. This means our teams are equipped to support each other and our community with empathy, awareness and action.

Acorn training and development team leader Sarah Anderton said: "We are proud to be representatives of the Liberate Rainbow Mark. JET and Acorn will always continue to strive for inclusivity and equality within the workplace. We're excited to be part of this movement and look forward to working with Liberate Jersey to keep pushing boundaries and building a better, more inclusive future."

The Rainbow Mark helps organisations demonstrate a visible commitment to inclusion, create safer and more welcoming environments for LGBTQ+ individuals, and encourage open conversations and learning.



■ Acorn training and development team leader Sarah Anderton with Kaye Nicholson from Liberate