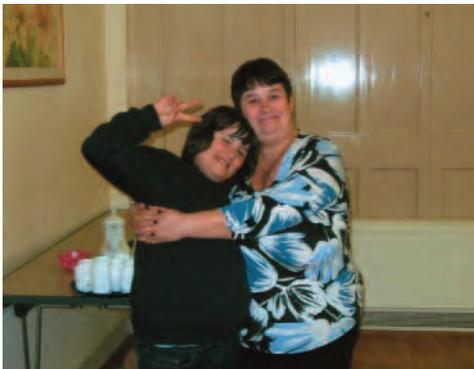


Grassmoor Community Centre, Grassmoor, Chesterfield, Derbyshire

This resident-run community centre is a pivotal point of community engagement and empowerment in this former mining town. The colliery employed 90% of the town's men until it closed in 1970 and the site is now a Country Park. The Community Centre has various rooms and facilities available for hire for activities including training events, conferences, adult education classes, community activities and also private parties and wedding receptions.



Julia Walker and her daughter Rosie.



Girls in Grassmoor

Community activities at Grassmoor include the luncheon club; over-55s friendship club; New Street Tots; Pilates classes; the Bridge club; martial arts classes, as well as projects like 'Girls in Grassmoor'.

Designed to bring Mums and their Daughters closer together Girls in Grassmoor encourages them to spend time with each other learning new skills or taking part in creative and arts-based activities.

Julia Walker has taken part in the project with her daughter Rosie and says: 'We've done all sorts of new things together like baking pizzas, nail art, yoga, graffiti art, jewellery making and because it's been such fun it hasn't really felt like we were 'learning'.

"I hadn't really done anything like this before but Rosie brought a leaflet about the scheme home from school and we decided that we'd take part.

“Our relationship has certainly improved, I think we've both got a much better understanding of each other and we're both a lot more patient and tolerant than we were before. On a practical level it's a big help too, I've learnt jewellery making, which I've found really interesting, and Rosie helps me bake now, which she never did before!

“I'm really happy with it and I try and encourage other parents to get involved now. I've even enjoyed some of the exercise classes, which isn't really my thing but Rosie and I can now play table tennis together. The other mums I've spoken to also think it's a brilliant success - it's not just me and Rosie.”

Rosie agrees: “My school had the idea for ‘Girls in Grassmoor’ and the Community Centre was able to set up all the activities. I've discovered that my Mum is fun to be with, we spend more time together now but it was more difficult before because she works.

“We've got to do all sorts of different things and I've really liked the pampering and the yoga. I'd like to do gardening with my Mum as well because not many Mums and daughters do gardening together.”



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