

## Welcome Back, Rhys!

We're delighted to share that Rhys has returned to Crescent Cleaning Services as a full-time member of our team!

Some of you may remember his story from 2023, and we're so proud to give you an update on the incredible progress he's made.

Rhys' journey hasn't been easy but one of resilience and determination. He grew up in care from the age of six after a difficult family breakdown, and by the time he was eight, he was already using drugs as a coping mechanism. Later in life, struggles with addiction and the breakdown of his ten-year relationship left him homeless and separated from his young children.

For 3 months he was sleeping rough in Bridgwater, when someone told him about Arc. He went and met our Outreach Team at Westfield Church and moved into Lindley House the same day, an experience he says, "saved my life."

At first, he kept to himself, but gradually after 4 years at Lindley he found the strength to ask for help, he worked hard to face his past, overcome his addictions, and started looking to the future.

After leaving Lindley, Rhys moved into one of our satellite properties and eventually into his own flat in Bishops Lydeard, where he's now been happily settled for two years. Having his own home with a garden has given him space and stability to reflect on what he wants for his future.

After working with a roofing company for over a year, Rhys decided to come back to Crescent Cleaning Services when his roofing role ended. He recognised that being part of our team gives him more than just employment, it gives him focus, structure, and a positive environment that keeps him moving forward. Rhys has said that working here helps his mindset and gives him direction, keeping him from slipping back into old ways.

What makes Rhys's return so special is his sense of purpose. He wants to give back for the support he once received, and he now uses his own story to inspire others.

"Lindley staff supported me in ways I didn't even realise. They helped me to find who I am. Being at Lindley allowed me to release a lot of emotions and demons and deal with them appropriately. Without that, I wouldn't be sat here now."

As part of the Crescent Cleaning team, Rhys shows clients that positive change is possible, no matter how tough the journey has been. "CCS has brought me out of my shell, helped with my mental health issues and depression, I've learnt a problem shared is a problem halved, and I want others to see that too." Today, he's thriving in a role he loves and very proud to be a valued member of the team (even trusted to drive the company van!). Most importantly, Rhys feels a renewed sense of purpose. He's living proof that with the right support, focus, and determination, a brighter future is always within reach.

We couldn't be happier to welcome him back!



You're invited...

In recognition of World Homelessness Day

# No Place To Call Home



## Feature Film

I, Daniel Blake



## Panel Discussion

Featuring lived experience and frontline perspectives.

Sponsored by



**Date:** 6<sup>th</sup> October 2025

**Time:** Event starts 6.45pm

Scan for tickets



**Venue:** Brewhouse Theatre  
Taunton, TA1 1JL

## Our Panellists



**Paul Richards**

CEO of Arc



**Mark Brown**

Vice Chair  
of Homeless  
Reduction Board



**Sarah Wakefield**

Somerset Council's  
Lead Member for  
Housing and  
Homelessness



**James Hobbs**

Former Arc client  
& CCS Employee

## 🚗 Teamwork in Action: Our First Car Wash Fundraiser! 🚗

Back in August we held our very first Car Wash fundraising event, hosted in collaboration with Crescent Cleaning Services. While the rain tried to test our spirits, the day was nothing short of a success!

With buckets, sponges, and plenty of enthusiasm, our amazing staff, volunteers and members of the Crescent Cleaning Team rolled up their sleeves and got straight to work. By the end of the day, we had cleaned 27 cars each one shinned, thanks to the incredible teamwork and dedication on display.



But it wasn't just about the scrubbing and polishing. This event was powered by a whole community of helpers:

- 🌟 The car washers who kept smiling even after hours of hard work.
- 🍰 Those who made sure everyone was fuelled with hot drinks and cake.
- 📄 The team managing the cars, payments and collections.
- 📣 Supporters spreading the word with leaflets in town.

We also want to give special thanks to our generous supporters:

- **Cleaning Solutions UK, who kindly sponsored the event.**
- **Mademoiselle Desserts UK, who donated the most delicious cakes to keep our energy levels up**



And of course, none of this would have been possible without everyone who drove in, trusted us with their cars, and gave so generously in support of our mission.

This fundraiser wasn't just about clean cars it was about coming together as a community to support people experiencing homelessness. We're so grateful to everyone who made it possible, and we're already looking forward to running this event next year.

If you're interested in hosting or helping with a fundraiser for Arc, please get in touch. Cake sales, sponsored runs, challenge events or even your own car wash - there are plenty of ideas! Get in touch: [giving@arcinspire.co.uk](mailto:giving@arcinspire.co.uk)

## From Seeds to Smiles: A Summer in Bloom

With the wonderful weather we've enjoyed this summer, we're delighted to share some of the green-fingered activities our clients and staff have been involved in this year.

🌱 Two of our clients, Michael Taylor and James Snook, with support from CMIST – Community Men in Sheds Taunton, designed and built a fantastic bird table for one of our gardens. It's now a favourite spot for both our residents and our feathered friends!

🌱 Our Armed Forces Housing Support Worker, Samantha Jones, has been hard at work in our allotment alongside a team of dedicated volunteers. Together, they've created a calming, welcoming space for both veterans and clients to enjoy throughout the year.

🌱 A big thank you to Tools for Self-Reliance, who generously donated a set of gardening tools to our volunteer coordinator, Gill. These tools will be put to excellent use across our allotments and gardens.



🌱 Many of our properties have undergone exciting transformations this summer, with new benches, fences, and temporary greenhouses for growing vegetables. We can't wait to share more about these garden renovations soon!

This summer has truly been a season of growth and community spirit, and we're thrilled to see our gardens and our connections flourishing in 2026.



## Bags of Joy – One Small Bag, One Big Difference!

We're excited to share a festive update! This year, we're changing our Christmas Campaign. Instead of shoe boxes, we're inviting you to donate gift bags filled with goodies to spread some extra joy to our clients.

Our Bags of Joy Campaign launches late October, so keep an eye out for more details coming your way soon! If you'd like us to send you the details directly, get in touch with us: [giving@arcinspire.co.uk](mailto:giving@arcinspire.co.uk)



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