

On Friday February 29th, teams of employees from, Maitlands Estate Agents, Bailey Partnership, the Wrigley Company, BBC, Brittany Ferries, Mansbridge and Balment Estate Agents, College of St Mark and St John, Plymouth City Council and staff from CHICKS spent the day together, away from their offices to work on transforming the CHICKS farmhouse and gardens ready for the start of the holiday season. 85 litres of paint was needed for the challenge and all was generously donated by C Brewer & Son, Plympton. Maitlands Estate Agents employees, Zoe Duke and Kelly Hewings volunteered their time to spend the day in the CHICKS kitchen cooking early morning bacon sandwiches for the volunteers and lunch which was all donated by Appleby Westward, Saltash, West of England Bakery and Wiseman Dairy.

The action day is also part of a national campaign, Dare to Care: a campaign that is encouraging people to make time to help end child poverty. The campaign is led by CSV and the Campaign to End Child Poverty with the aim to encourage thousands of people across the UK to volunteer their time to help children, young people and families living with the effects of poverty in this country.

“CHICKS” country holidays for inner city kids, aims to provide as many disadvantaged children as possible with the life enhancing experience of a free respite break away in the countryside at one of their centres in Devon or Cornwall. CHICKS helps children from a variety of different backgrounds, just a few examples are children growing up in poverty, children of prisoners, and children who have been abused, either physically, emotionally or sexually. CHICKS also provides breaks for young carers.

Holly Nuttall, Regional Cares Manager said “This challenge has provided a great opportunity for the local community’s businesses to work together to build relationships with each other whilst benefiting CHICKS.

She continues, “Its also great for companies to work together to make new contacts and learn new skills as well as being able to go home at the end of the day knowing that they’ve really achieved something worthwhile”.

