



local mencap Newsletter

in Kirklees

September 2017

Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter.

I do hope you have all had a good summer despite the weather being unsure of the season! In our last newsletter Carol wrote of the conversion of 5 Pennine Crescent, I am pleased to say that the flats are looking great and the tenants have settled very well into their new homes.

Please note times, dates and venues of the carers' meetings. Look forward to meeting you there.

Linda Wrigley

Charity Ball



Dress:
Black Tie or
Lounge Suit



Tickets
£30 per person
£25 per child age
10 and over

3 Course dinner, DJ, entertainment and
auction

6pm for 6:30pm

Casa Brighthouse, 281 Elland Road, Brighthouse

Contact Samantha Jones

01484 340811 or samantha.jones@mencapinkirklees.org.uk

Parents/Carers' Meeting Dates

You are invited to join us on the following dates.

- **Wednesday 18th October 2017, 2:00pm** Waverley Café, Waverley Road, Huddersfield, HD1 5NA
- **Thursday 8th February 2018, 6:30pm** 2 Church Street, Dewsbury, WF13 1LB
- **Tuesday 15th May 2018, 7:00pm** Waverley Café, Waverley Road, Huddersfield, HD1 5NA

An opportunity to raise any questions and share your ideas about the services we provide.

Refreshments will be available.

Maintenance Training Scheme

Michael Saxon has been the co-ordinator for Mencap Oddjobs Service for some time. There has recently been a rebranding of the service, now officially known as 'The Maintenance Training Scheme' offering both in-house and a public labour team.

The scheme enables people to move forward into voluntary work or employment by building confidence in their tasks. Trainees work towards the ASDAN work skills qualification.

Contact Details:
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Safe Places Update

There has been some exciting developments for our Safe Places scheme over the last few months.

The scheme was awarded £2610 through People's Postcode Trust. The money is to lower the age limit for joining the scheme to 14 years. People's Postcode Trust is a grant giving charity funded by player's of People's Postcode Lottery, thank you to them and their players for their support.

Safe Places has also received financial support from the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner to enable them to join the Safe Places app. The app helps members to find their nearest open Safe Place. The app can be downloaded on to a smartphone from the App Store and Google Play.

Waverley Hall Closure Date

Please note, Waverley Hall will be closed on Monday 9th October due to Staff Training.

The evening club will be open as normal.

Blood Tests

Amanda Mckie has set up a new service for people with a learning disability needing blood tests. She has recognised this can be a major problem and sometimes stops people from getting a proper diagnosis. She and a phlebotomist will be available in a quiet room at Acre Mills on a Thursday afternoon between 1.00 and 4.00 pm.

She asks that you ring her first to book so that she can give everyone as much time as they need. Her number is 07827 084120.

Unfortunately this service is only available to patients in the Huddersfield area at the moment but if it proves a success we may be able to persuade Dewsbury hospital to adopt a similar practice.

Fundraising Events

Across the service we have hosted several events over the summer months.

Castle Hall Residential Home held a Garden Party in which they raised £185.

Branches day service had a Summer Fete where they raised a total of £500.

Waverley Day Centre went on a sponsored walk round Pugneys Country Park, raising them a whopping £816.42.

We would like to thank everyone for their efforts in developing the events, helping to co-ordinate them, and also to everyone who made donations.

New Minibus for Mencap in Kirklees

In May we were fortunate enough to be invited to a prestigious ceremony organised by The Freemasons of Yorkshire, West Riding. The ceremony was to present a number of local charities with grants from the West Riding Provincial Grand Master's Fund. We were recipients of the largest grant which totalled £26,000. We have used this to purchase a new minibus which will be shared across services but based at Castle Hall. We are so grateful to the Masons for their support in replacing our bus and we honoured to be the largest beneficiary in Kirklees.



Celebration Evening

Our Celebration Evening is fast approaching. Please come and join us, on Thursday 28th of September at Waverley Hall, Waverley Road, Huddersfield, HD1 5NA.

- ASDAN Awards at **6:30pm**
 - Short Business Meeting (AGM) at **7:30pm**
- followed by -
- Presentation of Long Service Awards to Staff
 - Spotlight on our Services

Refreshments and light buffet available from 5:45pm.

Vacancies

For more information on current vacancies visit www.mencapinkirklees.org.uk

SERVICE UPDATES

Castle Hall has since the last newsletter received several residents on respite care which has been good for all involved. The service is now also full and applying to further its capacity in terms of residents.

Victoria Road's residents have been on the annual holiday supported by staff, and had a great time. The annual quality assurance questionnaires have been sent out and feedback is being returned from service users, family, friends and other professionals. All vacancies are also now filled.

100 Pennine Crescent's staff have been supporting residents to prepare for their chosen holiday to Blackpool, staff have discussed with the residents what they would like to do on holiday, residents have decided they are looking forward to the amusements, going to an ice show and Madame Tussauds Wax Museum.

Community Support preparation is under way to improve on the previous CQC inspection. Several new staff have joined Community in the previous months, including the new Service Co-ordinator helping to benefit the service.

Branches have been on their annual camping holiday and various other day trips, a great time was had by all. The number of attendees is growing. The service is continuing to receive performances from a group of entertainers with more booked for later this year.

Waverley Hall enjoyed a successful sponsored walk where many of the service users were involved. It has also been noted by several staff at the service that morale is at an all time high.

Arena's service has grown specifically on Fridays to have more members and is constantly going on interesting expeditions to places like The Deep and Scarborough for some top days out.

Waverley & Poppies Cafés continue to provide their services and help individuals with their training towards ASDAN. Celina Alison, Senior Support Worker, will be leaving the team for new ventures.

MTS has rebranded. Currently has 4 trainees on the program. Some of the recently completed jobs include, petition walling at the Waverley Day Service to create a quiet room for the Service Users, further work has been completed at number 5 Pennine for the residents personal areas.