



The Chain

Wokingham Borough's Voluntary & Community Group Newsletter

Every volunteer and community group is a link, in an ever growing chain and working together makes us all stronger

Hi All,

Welcome to the latest edition of the CHAIN. Who can believe we are nearly 6 months through 2015 already!

I want to start by saying thanks to all that attended our recent Voluntary Sector meeting. We had a great turn out of nearly 50 people in the very grand Town Hall in Wokingham. Our thanks go to Wokingham Borough Chief Executive; Andy Couldrick, who spoke about the council, the future, sustainability and made a great point of saying that if you or your organisation have an idea of something you want to do, or something that can be done differently then tell them. Contact who you know at WBC and arrange to meet them. Now is the time for innovation and smart thinking and working.

A big thanks also to Debra Allcock Tyler from the Directory of Social Change. Debra gave a very inspiring talk about the future, volunteers, seeking grants and collaborations and partnerships. Debra also mentioned the Small Charities Coalition (www.smallcharities.org.uk) there is loads of great information and support available on this website, I recommend it!

Both Debra and Andy are on Twitter and LinkedIn so look them up, follow them and keep in touch with what they are doing.

There is lots of information and events in this copy of the CHAIN, for further info on events visit involve's website here: www.involve.community, if you want your events listed then just let us know, we are happy to help promote what you are doing. We also keep a list of national events on the events tab on involve's website so you can keep up to date with/get involved with bigger campaigns too, for example you have Volunteers Week and Carers week and most importantly – take your dog to work day on 24th June!

Thanks for reading and hope to catch up with you all soon.

Phil

Philip Cook, General Manager – involve - Philip.cook@involve.community

Come and join us for the

Voluntary Sector Network Meetings

Tuesday 7th July 12-3pm

Special extended meeting

Earley Crescent Resource Centre

Trustees – are you asking the right questions to take your organisation forwards through challenging times?

From 12 – 1pm for VS and Community groups

The Care Act – find out all about the changes

From 1.15 pm to 3pm All are welcome, including Carers and those receiving care and support

Wednesday 9th Sept 9.30-11.30am

Earley Crescent Resource Centre

Monday 2nd November 12-2pm

Venue tbc

Further details to follow

To book a place please contact
clare.rebeck@involve.community

Tel: 07809 563714

Place & Community Partnership meeting

A partnership working collectively to support initiatives for the well-being of all residents of Wokingham Borough within the community

Thursday 23rd July:

09:30 – 11:00: LGF4, Shute End, WBC

To attend please reply to Lorraine Meylan

<Lorraine.Meylan@wokingham.gov.uk>



Assistant Youth Support Worker

JNC points 3-6 - Fridays – 6.45pm-9.45pm, Pavilion Youth Club, Spencer's Wood

Responsible to: Senior Youth Support Worker

Do you have the passion and commitment to work with young people? Are you flexible, adaptable to change and open to a variety ways of working? We currently have an exciting opportunity to work at Pavilion Youth Club and the Community Flat. The aim of this work is to encourage, inspire and support the personal development of young people through programmes of activities. You will need to have a sense of adventure and willingness to try new things linked with the ability to relate to and engage with young people aged 11 to 19 years old.

To access an application form for this post please visit our website www.shinfieldparish.gov.uk or contact Sue Roberts on 0118 988 8220.

To find out more about the role, please contact Charlie Griffiths at the Pavilion Youth Club 07533610309

These positions are subject to enhanced DBS checks.

healthwatch

Wokingham Borough

Healthwatch Wokingham Borough is the established consumer champion for health and social care in Wokingham Borough. The Healthwatch board sub contract work to 2 organisations: Help & Care and Citizens Advice Bureau.

At a local level, we work to help local people get the best out of their health and social care services, whether it's improving them today or helping to shape them for tomorrow. Healthwatch Wokingham Borough is all about local voices being able to influence the delivery and design of services.

Help and Care are recruiting to the following position:

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

8 hours per week – flexible working

£22,281 to £24,712 per annum dependent for full time

Or pro rata £4,535 to £5,009 per annum for part time one day a week

The **Volunteer Coordinator** will support Healthwatch volunteers in the community which will require the post holder to take a lead role in developing a range of local Healthwatch volunteering opportunities and roles, involving the recruiting, training, managing and supporting local Healthwatch volunteers. Applicants will need experience of supporting volunteers and community groups and practical knowledge and understanding of community involvement methods and values as well as proven experience in Health and Social Care projects.

If you have the skills, experience for the above vacancy and the passion for improving health and social care we would like to hear from you.

To request more information and an application pack please telephone 0300 111 3303, email hrrsupport@helpandcare.org.uk or download the pack from our website: www.helpandcare.org.uk

For more information about Healthwatch Wokingham Borough please visit website: www.healthwatchwokingham.co.uk

Applicants will need a driving licence and use of their own vehicle, travel expenses will be reimbursed.

The closing date for completed application forms to be received is on 26th June 2015 by 12 noon the latest and Interviews will be held week commencing 26th July 2015



CROSS ROADS CARE

Wokingham
0118 9795324

Treasurer required

Are you looking for a rewarding volunteer role within the charity sector?
Have you got accounting or managing finance experience?

If so.....

We would like to invite you to be our treasurer.

The Board meets 6 times a year and you will be supporting the CEO to oversee the financial matters of the charity.

Crossroads Care Wokingham is a small local charity (No: 1128216) providing respite breaks to support family carers in their own homes.

For more information please contact Catherina Tam on 0118 979 5324
or catherina.tam@wokinghamcrossroads.org

website : www.wokinghamcrossroads.org



We have exciting news and we have just launched our

This Girl Can – Get Active Bursary, with the hope to support local ladies into activity.

We have had a great response so far (went live on Friday and have had 24 responses so far), but we would really appreciate your help to spread the message further, if you could put this link out on your websites, social media and anything else you can, that would be brilliant.

Sam Parker, Sports Development Officer, Get Berkshire Active

<http://www.getberkshireactive.org/5878/news/article/this-girl-can---get-active-bursary/>



Community kindness in a coffee!!

Kindness can come in many forms, including the purchase of a suspended coffee.

A suspended coffee is the advance purchase of a cup of coffee/beverage for someone who needs it, no matter why. It is a way of supporting others in the community to enjoy community spaces.

The Suspended Coffee movement can be found in coffee bars and cafes across Europe and was introduced as an idea by HELP in Bracknell Forest & surrounding areas who are aiming to start the scheme in Bracknell; if you would like to take part then you can purchase an extra beverage at the Wokingham Community Cafes across the Borough listed below who are sponsoring the scheme. The scheme will be introduced initially from **1st July to 14th August** as a trial period and if successful may be available longer term.

If you wish to enjoy the use of a community café then this scheme is for you. Community cafes are there for all to use and this scheme is to encourage people to come and meet friends, enjoy family time or have a place to relax despite the cost.

This project is funded by The Windsor Forest Unicorn Club (Wokingham).

More details of the scheme will be available at the cafes;

The Earley Crescent Resource Centre, Warbler Dr, Earley. RG6 4HD. 0118 921 0555

9am-5pm; Monday to Friday

The Acorn Centre, Fernlea Drive, Woosehill, Wokingham. RG41 3DR. 07787 724953

9am – 5pm; Monday to Saturday

The Bradbury Centre, Rose Street, Wokingham RG40 1XS. 0118 977 6898

10am – 12pm; Tuesday – Saturday

If you are a café owner and would like to take part in any future schemes then please contact Clare Rebbeck on clare.rebbeck@involve.community or

Phone: 07809 563714

Activities through June & July



BOOK & BAKE SALE



WEDNESDAY 10TH JUNE 2015

WOKINGHAM TOWN CENTRE, MARKET PLACE 10am – 2pm

Come & support your local Volunteer Centre to make a difference! Scrumptious home baking & a huge variety of books will be on offer, with all proceeds supporting our work, finding volunteers for 100 local charities & running transport, mobility scooter and gardening services for elderly & disabled residents of Wokingham Borough.

Registered charity no. 275933

Pranic Healing Wokingham

- Care for Carers programme -

would like to invite you to a presentation to launch the programme on;

Friday 12th June 2015 at 12.15pm

The Bradbury Centre, Wokingham RG40 1XS

The event will comprise of a brief introduction to an energy system called Pranic Healing® which will give you an opportunity to understand what it can offer to Carers in the Wokingham area. We feel that the Carers who are caring for others on a daily basis (some 24/7) also need some help themselves.

The content of the presentation will provide you with more of an understanding of what is included in the “Care for Carer’s” programme and because of your involvement within the community we would like to give you an opportunity to join us.

Below is an overview of the presentation:

- The Physical and Psychological hardship Carer’s are facing & how this affects their work, relationships & family life
- How the Carer’s Sessions promotes Health & Wellbeing
- What treatments will take place at the sessions
- Who can partake in the treatments

The cost of attending a session is on donation basis and the Carer may donate whatever they feel comfortable. We do however, recommend a minimum donation of £10 to help cover the cost of the Venue hire, etc.

For this amazing programme to be brought to those Carers who are caring for others and make it open and reachable for them, we appreciate your help in being part of this.

To book contact info@pranichealingwokingham.co.uk and hope sincerely that you will be able to attend.

Care for Carers Programme Co-ordinators for Wokingham
The Institute of Pranic Healing UK & Ireland

Info from the last **Development Workers Network** meeting at Rainbow Community Centre held on Tuesday 7th April 2015. 12.30pm to 2.30pm

This meeting is for front line staff from across the borough.

Marlena O'Donnell made a presentation about the Care Act 2014. Explaining the social care reforms, why they are needed, the main principles of the Act; how it brings together elements of about 30 other existing Acts; the fact that the national eligibility criteria are broader than the 'critical only' that Wokingham work on; what has been brought in this year and what will be brought in in 2016.

Andrew Price then made his presentation about the Integration of health and social care in Wokingham Borough. He spoke about the Better Care Fund and the 9 projects contained within it.

Date of next meeting:

Tuesday 14th July, 12noon to 2pm at Rainbow Community Centre, Rainbow Park, Winnersh

If you would like to attend contact Rose Green; rose.green@wokingham.gov.uk

Berkshire Carers Service facilitate the new Carers Forum aimed at ensuring local Wokingham carers have their say on helping to shape future services.

All (unpaid, informal) carers are welcome to attend the meeting on **Thursday 6th August**, Venue tbc. From **10am to 12.00pm**.

Professionals and organisations with interests in carers are also welcome.

Please advise if you are able to attend to;
Steve Hammond - Outreach & Development Officer, Tel: 0118 960 7042 Email: steve@berkshirecarers.org

Carers Week – A reminder that Carers week is **8th to 14th June**. These events are courtesy of many organisations working together;

- **Wednesday 10th June** – Activities and lunch at Wokingham Waterside Centre
- **Friday 12th June** – Information, pampering, other activities and lunch at Cantley House Hotel, Wokingham
- **Saturday 13th June** – Sno-tubing at John Nike Centre for young carers

For more information ring:

0800 988 5462 or email:

helpline@berkshirecarers.org

Age Concern Twyford & District - Carer's Coffee Mornings

Come along and join in with some of the informal and informative conversations we have with other carers. If you are caring for somebody, and don't want to leave them alone, bring them along – we will take care of them. The next Carer's Coffee mornings will be on the 11th and 25th June and 9th and 23rd July. We are currently involved in a survey being conducted by Wokingham Healthwatch about the new Care Act – the findings should be rather interesting. Please join us, it is informal and relaxed – you don't need to be formally introduced.

Gordon Holmes – Day Centre Manager – 0118 934 4040

Cinnamon Faith Action Audit

The purpose of the faith audit in Wokingham and nationally is to provide evidence for both the social impact and the economic value of all that faith groups do in communities across the UK.

In Wokingham Borough we counted 330 projects, 87,047 beneficiaries in 2014, 3,042 volunteers and almost £2.8 million of financial value being provided by faith groups in the area. This shows that at a time when budget cuts, changes to benefits and rising housing costs are affecting many communities across the country, there are groups of committed and faith-driven individuals who are stepping into the gap. The Cinnamon Faith Action Audit has found that across the UK they give over £3 billion worth of time and resources annually to support those most in need through social action projects.

Faith in the Community who is the local sponsor and carried out the audit in Wokingham Borough are planning to hold an event in the autumn to highlight the results and explore key areas of learning that may come out of these.

Watch this space!

**From Brian Grady, Head of
Commissioning, WBC**

We are embarking on an exciting time of change in Wokingham and we are keen to share that with you, as one of our local Voluntary and Community sector colleagues, some of our thinking and ask for your ideas as to how we can work more collectively with children and families.

As such I would like to invite you to what we hope will be a series of meetings to share our plans and discuss how we can work in partnership.

I do hope you can make it on 9th July, 11.30 – 12.30pm, venue tbc and would ask that you confirm your attendance if you can. If you know of an organisation that you think would benefit from attending and that we would benefit from hearing from please do ask them to contact me.

Brian.grady@wokingham.gov.uk

**Carers Services consultation
meetings**

Carers Services across Berkshire are being reviewed - If you provide support to unpaid, informal Carers (funded or not) then you need to be aware of the commissioning consultation meeting to be held on 30th June.

To register to attend please follow this link;

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/shaping-carers-services-in-berkshire-tickets-17242060467>

If your organisation is interested in attending or would like to (with no obligation) be considered as a partner or lead for any future Carers Service then you need to fill in an initial expression of interest form by 12th June.

Follow this link -

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JNZBFBV>

For more info and details please contact Clare Rebbeck

Clare.rebbeck@involve.community

07809 563714

Southlake Crescent Summer Fete

**Sunday 14th June
2pm - 4pm**

FREE ENTRY

Including:

Arts and Crafts
Tombola Bouncy Castle
Bric-a-Brac
Puppet show
Facepainting and Hairbraiding
Home-Made Cakes
Delicious Food
Bookstall, BBQ
And much more...

Southlake Crescent, Woodley, off Crockhamwell Road RG5 3QW

In association with:

Emanuel Church, South East Woodley Community
Association (SEWCA) and Alexandra Place

To get involved or for more info contact:

sewca@hotmail.co.uk 0118 375 3718

Or

Ashwani Gupta: 07825195503 or

Alexandra Place: 01189691544

WEEK 1 27TH July to 31st July 2015					
VENUE	DATE	NUMBER OF DAYS	AGE	TIME	PRICE
ACADEMY TRAINING CENTRE (DOME) Madejski Stadium, Reading RG2 0FL	MONDAY 27TH AND TUESDAY 28TH JULY	2 DAYS	6-14 yrs	9AM TO 3PM	£42.00 FOR 2 DAYS (NO INDIVIDUAL DAYS)
HENWICK PLAYING FIELDS, Henwick Lane, Thatcham RG18 3BN	MONDAY 27TH TO FRIDAY 31ST JULY 2015	5 DAYS	6-14 yrs	10AM TO 3PM	£60 for 5 days / £18 per individual days
ZEBON COPSE COMMUNITY CENTRE, Danvers Drive, Church Crookham, GU52 0ZE	THURSDAY 30TH & FRIDAY 31ST JULY	2 DAYS	6-14 yrs	10AM TO 3PM	£32 for 2 days - £18 per individual day
*****PALMER PARK***** Palmer Park Stadium, Wokingham Road, Reading RG6 1LF	THURSDAY 30TH & FRIDAY 31ST JULY	2 DAYS	5-12 yrs	5 YRS TO 7 YRS - 10AM TO 12PM 7YRS TO 12 YRS - 10AM TO 3PM	£6 per day 5-7 yrs £12 per day 8-12 yrs
*****PALMER PARK - all Bookings for Palmer Park to be made with Reading Borough Council - Contact Number 0118937 5080 - 5 year olds may only participate on Morning sessions					



COMMUNITY TRUST
Care • Develop • Educate

Reading FC Community Trust,

Children's Soccer School - Madejski Stadium, Reading RG2 0FL
Please book at least 3 working days before start of soccer school
TO BOOK Ring 0118 968 1460/0118 968 1480

OR visit www.community.readingfc.co.uk 'Sport Participation' to book online www.readingfc.co.uk

'Soccer Schools' to download a booking form
We do not send out confirmations of bookings

We do not give refunds unless the course is cancelled by us but credit notes may be issued upon receipt of a written letter should they be ill and unable to attend

Volunteering Opportunity

Arthritis Care – Contact - Debbie Holden

Volunteer role - Champions Project Coordinator

Full training and ongoing support is provided and your role would usually cover:

- providing support at drop ins: sharing information and signposting to local services
 - providing self-management tips
- there are further opportunities to provide telephone support and attend workshops - all with full training and support - should you wish to be involved in these
Travel expenses are also reimbursed.

Phone - 07834 418450 or Email - debbieh@arthritiscare.org.uk

For a few hours each week - or less regularly if required in the West Berkshire area: currently Central Reading, Pangbourne, Wokingham, Caversham and Newbury. You can choose your local area and we will be adding new areas, so please do get in touch.

Berkshire motor show

Sunday 5 July 2015

Our show this year will be held at Prospect Park in Reading on Sunday the 5th of July 2015. All our usual attractions will be there including the Fun Fair, vehicle display, crafts, food and stalls. We are now open to classic cars, custom, rod, 4x4 clubs, Bikes, tractors and even steam, food and bar wrestling.

We are raising funds for Child Lung Foundation.

The event is for the whole family and disabled people to enjoy.

Car parking is a donation of £2.

Entrance to the event by walkers is a donation to the charity, Marshall's shall be holding buckets

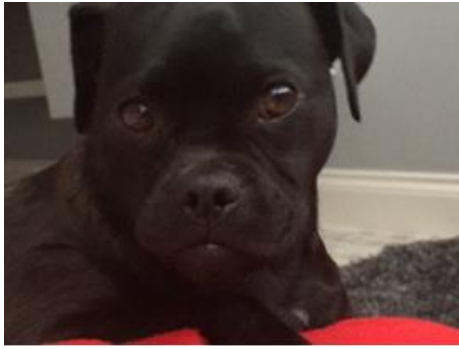
Disabled parking, please ask a member of the team.

Start time 10:45 End time 19:00

Email steph@sawbery.freeserve.co.uk Mobile 079 9066 7503

Website www.berkshiremotorshow.co.uk

Prospect Park, Liebenrod Road, Reading, Berkshire. RG30 2ND



Share your canine friends!

26th June is

Take your do to work day!!

Here are Clare's doggies - Kesha and Reggie

<https://bringyourdogtoworkday.co.uk/>

The Berkshire West CCGs are assisting Oxfordshire's Townland's Hospital consultation,

You can participate in the **Townlands Hospital, Henley-on-Thames** consultation by the consultation manager, Julia Stackhouse. This consultation is open from 13 May 2015 at 09:00 to 15 Jun 2015 at 23:59.

As part of our consultation with the public, we will be available to answer questions from the public at the following events:

- Tuesday 9 June, 7pm, Meeting of the Townlands Steering Group to be held in public, Henley Town Hall
- Thursday 11 June, 7pm at Peppard Common sports pavilion

In addition to this we will also be holding drop-in sessions at the Christchurch centre where the consultation documents will be available on the following dates:

- Wednesday 10 June – 10am – 12pm, Thursday 11 June – 10am – 12pm
- Friday 12 June – 3pm – 5pm, Monday 15 June – 12pm – 2pm

Follow this link to take part;

<https://consult.oxfordshireccg.nhs.uk/consult.ti/Townlands/joinGroup?userEmail=s%2Erayner%2Dosbon%40nhs%2Eenet&showReg=N>



Connecting Wokingham – Thursday, 16 July 2015

Dementia Support Forum

This evening community event is aimed at helping to support relatives, friends and those directly involved in the care of patients suffering with dementia as well as those patients with an early diagnosis of the syndrome.

This forum aims to bring together a range of experts, counsellors, carers and specialist support groups, some of whom will briefly present on the different support services that are available to those who care for or are affected by patients suffering with dementia. There will be a number of counselling and support groups on-hand to discuss what services and support are available locally. As with all Connecting Wokingham events, the evening will be informal allowing those attending to ask questions and talk to the experts after the presentations.

Those participating:

- Alzheimers Society: national charity that is leading the fight against dementia
- Berkshire Carers: local charity that provides a support network for carers
- Crossroads Care Wokingham: helping carers make a life outside of caring
- T&S Support Services: 30 years of experience in helping people to live independently
- Andy Knight (Alzheimers Café Wokingham): runs dementia friends courses
- Home Instead Senior Care: understanding the management and behaviour of dementia patients
- Age UK: advice on managing finances, home adaptations, organisation of care and support, accessing local authorities and more

Where:

**First Floor Waiting Room, Wokingham Medical Centre, 23 Rose Street,
Wokingham RG40 1XS**

When:

6:30pm – 8:00pm

This free event is open to all who live in the Wokingham area.



WJSC is dedicated to offering FREE support and guidance to unemployed people living in the Wokingham Borough.

WJSC prides itself on providing friendly, professional support in an atmosphere where you can spend time in a motivational, open environment which can help remove the feeling of isolation that job searching can sometimes bring. You can also interact with staff who are on hand to answer your questions and give dedicated support to you. So come along and see how we can help.

1 to 1 Advisor Support, CV writing, Interview techniques/skills/mock, Career Matching programme, Microsoft office / Internet access/free wifi
Printing/telephone, Newspapers

Workshops have also become an integral part of the services that WJSC offer for **CV Writing, Interview Skills and and Over 50's**. They are run every 3 – 4 weeks from 10:30 – 12:30pm at The Cornerstone. Contact us to book yourself a place.

The Cornerstone, Norreys Avenue, Wokingham. RG40 1UE

Tel: 01189 770517

Email: Jobsearch@wjsc.org.uk. Website: www.wjsc.org.uk



Talking Therapies:

Talking Therapies are a free, confidential NHS service that supports those who suffer with low mood, worry, stress or phobias. We offer a variety of different therapeutic interventions, from face-to-face, over the phone and online. SilverCloud is a new online intervention that offers a broad range of programmes, with the flexibility to use anywhere and at any time. We also hold regular Stress Control workshops. These are 4-weekly courses, held in the evening, at a variety of locations across Berkshire. The courses teach you techniques and skills to help you manage and control your stress.

For more information, other dates across Berkshire or to refer into the service, please call 0300 365 2000, or visit www.talkingtherapies.berkshire.nhs.uk. Or follow us on twitter: @TTBerkshire.



Wokingham Town Council is pleased to inform you that Councillor Philip Mirfin was officially inaugurated as Wokingham Town Mayor for 2015/2016 on Tuesday 19 May. He will be supported in his Mayoral year by his Mayoress Kathy Mirfin.

Cllr Mrs Gwynneth Hewetson is now Deputy Town Mayor and her husband Tony Hewetson is Deputy Town Consort.

Building for the Future

Please take a moment to watch our amazing music video, starring some of the members of Building for the Future, Wokingham's largest charity for disabled children.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bBySbB-nhus>

We have been lucky enough to have had this song specially recorded for us by Reading hip hop group OSP.

It really is something very special. The children are trying to get 10,000 youtube views, in order to raise awareness, so if you could help us spread the word by sharing our video, we would be most grateful.

Thank you so much!

Shinfield Rise Community Flat



Do you live in Shinfield?

Join us for a very special Cooking Session with Isabella on Tuesday 16th from 10am to 12pm. We will be making delicious sharing dishes for the big lunch which will follow after!

As ever the session is free and you will be able to take away great recipes and ideas to try at home.

From 12pm onwards we have invited the Social Club, Community Wardens and the involved Tenant team to join us at the Community Flat as we celebrate this nation-wide event! The Big Lunch is a very simple idea from the Eden Project. The aim is to get as many people as possible across the UK to have lunch with their neighbours, in a simple act of community, friendship and fun.

Please let Cherish know if you would like to help out and visit the website if you would like more information about the project: www.thebiglunch.com

Or contact;

Cherish Risi-Elford, Community Development Worker, The Shinfield Rise Community Flat, 36 Frensham Green, RG2 8EH
Cherish.risi-elford@wokingham.gov.uk / 07885 983 396

Baby News!

Jodie Reichelt, LDPB, delivered beautiful twin boys on Friday 22nd May called Rudy and Vinnie, weighing 5lb 7oz and 6lb 3oz respectively.

Philip Cook, involve General Manager's daughter was finally born on 2nd June at 6.11pm. Mother and baby are both doing really well. They have decided to call her Xanthe Hazel and she weighed in at 8lb 2.

Our warmest congratulations go to Jodie, Phil and their families.

CLASP's AGM

CLASP is a self-advocacy organisation for people with learning disabilities in the Wokingham borough. Their AGM will be on **Tuesday 7th July** from 10am to 1pm at Wokingham Town Hall (entrance opposite WHSmiths). Refreshments will be available from 9.30am. As well as looking at what they've done in the last year and making plans for the year ahead, they will also be celebrating their 10th birthday and will be looking at their achievements over the last 10 years. CLASP is looking for new directors to join their Board so please get in touch with Sarah or Ali at CLASP for more information – tel: 0118 979 6364, email: admin@claspwokingham.gov.uk . Please let them know if you would like to attend.

Go! Events – These events are for children and families with special educational needs. There's Archery on **29th July** at Oakwood Youth Challenge. For more information ring Angela Fry on tel: 0118 907 6397 or email: angela11fry@gmail.com or go to their website: www.greatopportunities.org.uk

Successful organisations of all sizes communicate effectively by;

- Thinking strategically and planning what and how you communicate means the time and effort you put in gets a better result.
- Using the right words to talk about your work and the difference you make can mean that people understand you better and want to connect with you more – as a funder, service user, supporter, volunteer or advocate.
- Understanding who you're talking to makes a difference too.

If you need help or support getting your ducks in a row, communications-wise, I can help you. From a quick session helping organisations start their plan, to writing copy about them and their work, I have worked with not-for-profit organisations of varying sizes and shapes for well over 10 years. Get in touch for a no obligation chat about the challenges you face and how I might be able to help:

sarah@browningyork.com

07740 861293

www.browningyork.com

South Berkshire Singers

Charity No. 10841109

Invite you to our Summer Concert



Music from Handel to Bernstein in
celebration of



INDEPENDENCE DAY

at
St. Paul's Church, Wokingham
Saturday 4th July at 7.30 pm

Interval Refreshments

All Proceeds to

Me2 Club

(Helping children and young people with
additional needs to take part & join in)



Tickets £10 (Concessions £8)

From

Wokingham Library, Denmark Street
Wokingham Town Hall Information Centre
Bookends, Peach Street
WADE, Reading Road
May, call 0118 978 5635

Or

On the Door

www.southberkshiresingers.com

Training

Bracknell & Wokingham College

currently have spaces on the following courses due to start week commencing 15th June:

Level 1 ITQ Award in Word 2013 & File Management – Every Monday for 4 weeks from 15th June – 6th July

09.30-15.00 at Woodley Hill House, Earley.

Level 1 Dementia Awareness – Every Friday for 4 weeks from 19th June – 10th July 09.30-14.30 at Woodley Hill House, Earley.

These are FREE courses for job seekers and proof of benefit will be required.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any queries.

Sandra Lockyer
Asst. Co-ordinator: Community Learning Projects
0118 9847613
sandra.lockyer@bracknell.ac.uk



Training Provided by MHFA

Mental Health First Aid Training

What is Mental Health First Aid? The 12 hour Mental Health First Aid course will teach you how to:

- Spot the early signs of a mental health problem
- Feel confident helping someone experiencing a problem
- Provide help on a first aid basis
- Help prevent someone from hurting themselves or others
- Help stop a mental illness from getting worse
- Help someone recover faster
- Guide someone towards the right support
- Reduce the stigma of mental health problems

Mental Health First Aid training increases the support for those suffering with poor mental health and ensures they are given the best help as quickly as possible. Early intervention can slow down or even stop mental health problems, reducing the distress of the individual, and also gives professional treatments the best chance of leading to full recovery.

All instructors approved to deliver the MHFA course have undergone a seven day training programme (accredited by the Royal Society for Public Health).

Course dates:

13th & 14th June 2015	Standard MHFA
20th & 21st June 2015	Youth MHFA Wokingham
27th & 28st June 2015	Standard MHFA
4th & 5th July 2015	Youth MHFA Farnborough

Course Cost: £150 per participants which include Course manual, certificate and venue cost.

THERE IS A £50 FEE FOR LATE CANCELLATION, SO BOOKING IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.

For more information on courses please contact: Mobile: 07512376617 Email:

info@emotionalwellbeinguk.com or smhfa8@gmail.com

Visit our Website: www.mhfaengland.org or www.emotionalwellbeinguk.com

Training Provided by the Earley Crescent Resource Centre

For further information and/or to book a place, please contact Kate Long or Clare Arnaboldi, Neighbourhood Learning Centre, Earley Crescent Resource Centre, Warbler Drive, Earley, Reading, Berkshire RG6 4HB Tel: 0118 921 0555/email: earleycrescent@btconnect.com

Emergency First Aid at Work

Earley Crescent Resource Centre - Wednesday 1st July 2015, 9.30am – 4.30pm.
(9.15am Registration – Course starts promptly at 9.30am). Course Administration Fee £25.
Intended outcomes: Knowledge of appropriate procedures, practical experience and certificate of achievement. Lunches are available for purchase on the day.

Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering

Earley Crescent Resource Centre - Wednesday 15th July 2015, 9:30am - 5:00pm.
(9.15am Registration – Course starts promptly at 9.30am).
Course Fee £40 (includes certificate fee of £18).
Lunches available for purchase on the day.

This qualification will benefit anyone working in a situation where food is prepared, cooked and served; it is relevant to all catering operations. There is an examination at the end of the course and certificates will be issued to all who pass within 6 weeks of the course date.

Extended Skills in Word 2007

Earley Crescent Resource Centre - Wednesday, 24 June – 22 July 2015 10.00am – 12.00pm
(Classes on 1st and 5th week finish at 12.15pm) Course Fee: £45.00
A 5-week course which is a follow-on to Further Skills in Word or for those learners who already have a good understanding of Word and wish to extend their knowledge.

Get More Out of Your Tablet

Earley Crescent Resource Centre – Wednesday, 24 June – 8 July 2015 1pm – 3.15pm
A 3-week Course follow-on course from Get To Grips With A Tablet, or for those who are already familiar with a Tablet but would like to make more use of it. Fee £30

Next Steps in Excel

Earley Crescent Resource Centre - Thursday 25 June – 23 July 2015 10.00am – 12.00pm
(Classes on 1st & 5th week finish at 12.15pm) Course Fee £45.00
A 5-week follow-on course to Make Excel Work for You

Next Steps in Computing

Earley Crescent Resource Centre - Thursday 25 June – 23 July 2015 1.00pm – 3.00pm
(Classes on 1st & 5th week finish at 3.15pm) Course Fee £45.00
A 5-week follow-on course to highlight more features in Word and to explore other programmes such as: MS Excel, Powerpoint, Publisher and to carry out simple file management.

For further information and course dates please contact, Kate Long or Clare Arnaboldi Tel: 0118 921 0555. www.earleycrescent.org

Training Provided by Me2club

If you are a mainstream activity leader you may be interested in the following workshops run by Me2club. For booking or further information please contact Zoë Galani, Me2 Club Projects Manager, 0118 969 6369 or info@me2club.org.uk

Supporting Behaviour Needs

Thursday, 18th June 2015 6.00 - 9.00pm, Reading

At some point everyone has behaviour difficulties within a group setting. We can help you to examine the theory behind children's behaviour, focusing on effective methods to pre-empt and de-escalate challenging behaviour allowing all children to enjoy and benefit from the group.

Communication and the Non Verbal Child

Please contact the Me2 Club via info@me2club.org.uk for the training dates for these sessions

Imagine a world where you are unable to communicate what you want and need. Now imagine being part of a world that gives you a voice. This workshop will help you to recognise the range of communication methods used by non-verbal children and young people on a daily basis. We offer suggestions on a range of tools that can be used to effectively engage a child and give you the opportunity to put this into practice.

Gypsy Roma Traveller Cultural Awareness Course

Date	Wednesday 24 th June
Time	9am – 12noon
Venue	CResCent Community Resource Centre, Warbler Drive, Lower Earley, RG6 4HB
Cost	Free

‘This course has been developed to be common sense, informative and up to date, and delivered in a relaxed and friendly environment.’ (Richard O’Neill)

Richard O’Neill is an experienced Gypsy Traveller trainer having delivered awareness sessions for Police Forces, Housing Associations, Local Authorities and National Charities. Many sessions have been to Multi-Agency Groups.

He is also the Gypsy Traveller Awareness Trainer for North West Employers.

Below is an outline of the programme he is offering.

Aims and objectives

- To provide an awareness of current practice and legislation around Gypsy, Roma and Travelling communities
- To introduce Gypsy Traveller history and culture
- To provide a context for the legal aspects of Gypsies and Travellers
- To provide case studies and models of good practice
- To provide items for discussion

The Gypsy Traveller awareness will help you to:

- Understand Gypsy Traveller culture
- Engage with NGO’s, support and community groups
- Be more aware of the laws surrounding Gypsies and Travellers, including equalities and human rights, as well as police and local authority powers.
- Identify and understand the different Travelling groups
- Understand the benefit of a multi-agency approach to working with Gypsies and Travellers

Refreshments Tea and Coffee will be provided

To book your place: rose.green@wokingham.gov.uk or **0118 908 8193** or **07769 931 738**

Training Provided by Wokingham Borough Council

If you are having difficulty, require assistance with making a booking (including on someone else's behalf) or have an enquiry about any of the above or other training, then please contact our L&D Team at: hrenquiries@wokingham.gov.uk or telephone: 0118 974 6116, opening times - Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5.00pm.

For password and access issues, technical problems, running or accessing any of the content on MyLearningPlace, please contact the Learning Pool IT Support Desk: support@learningpool.com or telephone: 0845 543 6033, opening times - Monday to Friday 8am to 8pm, Saturday and Sunday 9am to 5.30pm, Bank holidays 9am to 5.30pm.

Adult Safeguarding Level 1

This training session is now a 1 day course (9:30am – 4:30pm) in order to ensure that it meets the changes brought in by the Care Act 2014.

- All courses until and including July 2015 are fully booked. Please regularly check MyLearning for new dates.

You now have the option to apply to go on a waiting list for this course. Your name will replace a cancellation or be booked onto the next available course on a first come first served basis. Details are on the My Learning web page.

NB: Priority will be given to those applying for Support with Confidence and as identified by our Care Governance.

Level 2 – 1 day

It is a requirement for all delegates to have completed the Level 1 Safeguarding training within Berkshire in the past 12 months **BEFORE** booking a place on this course. You will be asked to confirm this when booking.

- 3rd June 2015, 8th July 2015, 12th August 2015

Level 3

The recommended target audience for this event is those who manage staff and make decisions in adult safeguarding investigations in local authorities, health trusts and provider services.

- It is a requirement for all delegates to have completed Level 2 Safeguarding training within Berkshire in the past 12 months **BEFORE** booking a place on this course. You will be asked to confirm this when booking. Currently there is not date yet set for this training. Please apply to be on the waiting list.

Further information and joining/booking details for all training are at MyLearning:
<http://wokingham.learningpool.com/>

Training Provided by Wokingham Job Support Centre

For further information or to book a place please contact Wokingham Job Support Centre on 01189 770517 or email jobsearch@wjsc.org.uk www.wjsc.org.uk

CV Workshop

A free, practical workshop giving you the knowledge and confidence to create a winning CV.

Current Workshop dates:

June	8th
July	6th
July	6th
August	3rd
September	7th
September	28th
October	19th

Interview Workshop

A free, professional, comprehensive workshop covering all aspects of interviews including: planning and preparation, tackling difficult questions, confidence and attire plus much more.

Current Workshop dates:

June	1st
June	29th
July	27th
August	24th
September	21st
October	26th

50+ Workshop

A free workshop appropriately targeted towards more senior clients. Designed to help you explore the potential of your transferrable skills and celebrate your wealth of knowledge and capabilities.

Current Workshop dates:

June	16th
July	7th
August	4th
September	8th
October	6th

These are all aimed at helping people back into the workplace.

Ali Coe – Training Coordinator @ involve shares a monthly training bulletin – to receive this email Ali on ali.coe@training.community

Funding news and support

Bruce Wright, Funding Advisor, involve

Free funding advice!

Provides weekly funding alerts direct to your email address

If you are thinking of writing some funding bids, but have not found anything suitable in the email funding alerts, then please let me know and I will do a search for you.

The recent searches have been compiled into a series of “Funding and XXX” documents which have been uploaded to the website:

<http://www.wbvsf.info/funding.asp>

The most recent search results cover:

- Children’s Projects
- Volunteers
- Autism
- Arts
- Minibuses
- Sport
- Children’s Nurseries and Childcare
- Training
- Community Events
- Holidays Trips and Activities

If any of these might be relevant to you, then you can either download them from the website or email me for a copy of the documents that you wish to receive.

To sign up to any of these services you can contact Bruce on 01626 867 604 or email him at bruce.wright@involve.community.

Big Lottery

Awards for All gives groups an easy way to get small Lottery grants of between £300 and £10,000.

They want to fund projects which address the issues, needs and aspirations of local communities and people. They will fund a wide range of community projects aimed at developing skills, improving health, revitalising the local environment and enabling people to become more active citizens.

You can apply to Awards for All England if you are a community group, not for profit group, parish or town council, health body, or school.

You do not need to be a registered charity to apply.

You must have a bank account that requires at least two people to sign each cheque or withdrawal.

They will pay for activities that will benefit the community, including:

- putting on an event, activity or performance
- buying new equipment or materials
- running training courses
- setting up a pilot project or starting up a new group
- carrying out special repairs or conservation work
- paying expenses for volunteers, costs for sessional workers or professional fees
- transport costs.

<https://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/global-content/programmes/england/awards-for-all-england>

The Tudor Trust

The Tudor Trust makes grants, and provides other types of support, to voluntary and community groups working in any part of the UK. They particularly want to help smaller, community-led organisations which work directly with people who are at the margins of society: organisations which support positive changes in people's lives and in their communities.

Many of their grants take the form of core funding: funding which goes towards the core costs of running an organisation, including salaries, overheads and day-to-day running costs. Sometimes they may look at offering unrestricted funding, through a grant which can be used entirely freely to further an organisation's charitable objectives.

They can also provide project grants, capital grants for buildings or equipment and grants to help strengthen your organisation. There is no maximum or minimum grant.

Tudor doesn't have specific funding programmes. Their focus is on smaller forward-looking groups, led by capable and committed people. Some of the other characteristics we are looking for include:

- Organisations working directly with people who are at the margins of society
- A focus on building stronger communities by overcoming isolation and fragmentation and encouraging inclusion, connection and integration
- Organisations which are embedded in their community and which can identify and channel the potential within that community – whether the local area or a 'community of interest'
- Organisations which can demonstrate that they listen to and are responsive to their users
- Organisations which are thoughtful in their use of resources and which foster community resilience in the face of environmental, economic or social change

There are some things that we don't fund at all so to save yourself time and effort please check their exclusions list before starting work on your proposal:

<http://tudortrust.org.uk/what-we-do/what-we-dont-fund-exclusions/>

The figures of awards in the last quarter of 2014 range from a few thousand to £150k. Most are in the mid tens of thousands.

You can apply at any time – Tudor Trust makes grants on a rolling programme and there are no deadlines.

If you're not sure whether you can apply please call the Information Team on 020 7727 8522 for advice.

<http://tudortrust.org.uk/what-we-do/>

Childcare Investment Readiness Fund

Of interest to Organisations dealing with:

Childcare,

Businesses looking to expand their presence in the early years market will be boosted by a £500,000 Department for Education grant to help usher in the new culture through the childcare investment readiness fund.

The grant management of the fund will be delivered by Social Investment Business (SIB) who, over the last 3 years, have supported a range of charities and social enterprises to raise new social investment for the first time.

Eligibility

Childcare providers, VCS organisations and social enterprises.

What For?

Applications for the investment readiness fund will be assessed by an 'investment panel' made up of experts who will decide which bids would make future social investment most attractive to social investors.

The childcare investment readiness fund is modelled on the Cabinet Office's investment and contract readiness fund. It will support childcare providers with a proven track record to become more appealing to investors.

The Fund will provide grants to early years and childcare social enterprises for the purchase of specific capacity building support to help facilitate their growth and become more appealing to investors. Applicants must have a proven track record and the potential to expand their services into new locations.

They will be looking to make around 15 grants, with funded activities to be carried out over a period of 6 to 9 months and be completed before 31st March 2016.

How Much?

The Fund will offer grants of between £25,000 and £50,000 to purchase specialised investment readiness support to cover the costs of putting an investment readiness plan into action. The fund will offer specialised support from an approved investment readiness provider with a track record in supporting social ventures to secure investment.

Deadline - Deadline for submitting an application is noon on Friday July 17th.

More Information

Childcare providers, VCS organisations and social enterprises can now register their interest in the fund on the Social Investment Business:

<http://www.sibgroup.org.uk/index.php?id=1682>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/childcare-investment-readiness-fund-update>

