

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

Welcome to the Autumn edition of involves e-bulletin!

We hope 2015 is working out for you all! Here at **involve**, we have started our Community Navigator project in Wokingham. We were delighted to welcome Steve McSweeney into the post of Community Navigator Coordinator on the 1st September

Steve's role is to coordinate the Community Navigator project, including the recruitment of volunteers to act as Community Navigators. The Community Navigators will work with people referred from healthcare agencies and signpost them to local community and voluntary organisations and groups who may offer appropriate sources of social support and other non-medical services within the individuals neighbourhood and beyond. The aim of the scheme is to encourage and connect people more with their communities to improve the well being of the individual. Contact Steve on 01344 383515 or email Steve.mcSweeney@involve.community to find out more information.

Other big notices we have are that our AGM invites have officially gone out. We are inviting all members to attend, as well as any interested parties. This year it is being held at Jennett's Park Community Centre, Tawny Owl Square, Jennett's Park, Bracknell. RG12 8EB on **Thursday 29th October 2015**. Tea and coffee will be available from 6:00pm with the meeting commencing at 6.15pm.

We are delighted then to be joined by Helene Dyson at 7pm who will be our guest speaker. Helene is a medal winning Paralympian who will be talking about her experiences and achievements! More information is available here: http://www.involve.community/involve_events.php and you can book your attendance here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/involve-agm-tickets-18933961990>

Also, we have a Community Awareness event taking place on 2nd November – these are an updated version of our Voluntary Sector Network meetings. This event will be focusing on the regeneration project and volunteering opportunities and community engagement. See further on in the CHAIN for more information... contact Clare Rebbeck for more information. Community Awareness events will focus on important subjects/topics such as the regeneration project, CSE, domestic abuse, safeguarding, hate crime, the environment and more – we will invite experts/professionals to speak and all awareness events will be kept to 2 hours and held across the borough. There will also be updates from involve and attendees followed by time for networking. This first event will be at the Wokingham Town Hall, teas and coffees will be available and the event is free to attend. It is open to all; charities, communities, business', volunteers and individuals – so why not come along and find out more about these important subjects!

Obviously there is tons of other stuff going on across the borough, we have some local events listed on our events page, we have a news page on our website too. If you want to post up your local events and news then just send it over! Take a look around our website in the meantime: www.involve.community

That's all for now!

Phil

Community Awareness Event

**Community Awareness Event – An Update on Your
Community and ‘How to get involved’**

**Monday 2nd November @ Wokingham Town Hall, Market
Place 10am – 12pm**

**Open to all, this event will include an update on the
regeneration plans, new community development sites and
how you can get involved in the local voluntary
community.**

Speakers;

Bernie Pich, Head of Town Centre Regeneration

Rebecca Bird, Strategic Engagement Officer

Christine Knox, Manager, Wokingham Volunteer Centre

To attend please book with

Clare.rebbeck@involve.community or Tel: 07809563714

ANTONY PARKE –

A GUIDE TO DBS CHECKS

Antony Parke is the Head of Business Services for Voluntary Norfolk which includes the national brands, Charity BackRoom and Blue Tree Fundraising. Antony has overseen the growth of Charity BackRoom, which offers a range of back-office services designed specifically for not-for-profit organisations, from a handful of clients to over 1200.

Some organisations will have volunteers and staff in roles that require DBS checks. These kinds of roles are usually those that involve close and unsupervised contact with vulnerable adults and children. For an organisation to request a DBS check, they must be sure that the role is eligible for a check and that it is necessary as part of a wider approach to safeguarding volunteers and the people they encounter in their role. The system can be tricky to navigate. Here, I answer some of the common questions around DBS checks.

Should I do standard or enhanced checks?

The ability for an employer, voluntary organisation or licensing organisation to ask an individual to apply for a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check, at either Standard or Enhanced level, is set out in legislation. Eligibility is based upon the nature of the duties for the specific position. To be eligible for a DBS check, a position must be:

- Listed in the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act (ROA) 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 this entitles the position to a Standard level check only.
- Prescribed in The Police Act 1997 (Criminal Records) Regulations – this entitles the position to an Enhanced level check. These are for posts that involve a far greater degree of contact with children or vulnerable adults. In general the type of work will involve regularly caring for, supervising, training or being in sole charge of such people. Examples include a Teacher, Scout or Guide leader. Enhanced checks are also issued for certain statutory purposes such as gaming and lottery licences.

If you are in any doubt you can email customerservices@dbs.gsi.gov.uk or call 03000 200190. NCVO also has [extensive guidance on DBS checks](#) which includes help on how to identify what level of check is appropriate.

My organisation has an 'Enhanced Check Policy' where all volunteers and staff are enhanced checked.

It is important that your organisation only completes the level of check the role is eligible for and that the check is necessary. If an individual knowingly asks for a DBS check for a post which is not included in the Exceptions Order 1975 to the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (ROA), they would be in breach of Part V, section 123 of the Police Act, in that they are committing an offence by knowingly making a false statement for the purpose of obtaining or enabling another person to obtain a certificate under this.

I've never been asked to justify a check before, why should I be worried?

As providers of DBS checks, we are seeing rises in the number of applications which are being stopped and subjected to additional justification requirements. Not only does this represent an unnecessary delay to the check which you require, but there are potentially criminal (see above) and employment law related consequences (failure to lawfully request a DBS check of an individual could lead to a number of HR related complaints and grievances against the organisation).

How can I demonstrate that a certain check is required?

With electronic DBS checks there is a need to enter the job role that will be undertaken by the staff member or volunteer applying for the check, and this may well be different to the job title that would have been asked for on the paper DBS form. The job role should reflect the qualifying criteria which makes the role eligible for a check.

A good example is 'trustee'. Such applications are often questioned because it is not clear what actual role they will be completing. Are they 'hands-on' or do they never get closer than the boardroom? Are they even entitled to a check? If a 'trustee' qualifies for a check because of a particular aspect of their role, then their job role is the task they are performing which qualifies them, such as Overnight Carer.

Can I use the job role 'volunteer?'

No, elsewhere on the form you are requested to identify whether the person being checked is a volunteer. This is only relevant to DBS is for charging reasons as checks for volunteers are free of charge, although an admin fee is still charged by the umbrella body. In terms of a job role then 'volunteer' does not describe the activities or the requirement for the check and cannot be used

How long do DBS checks take?

There is a common misconception that some companies can obtain DBS checks quicker than each other. There is no real merit to the argument; once applications are transmitted to DBS then all providers are powerless.

The average turnaround time for electronic checks is five days (standard) and nine days (enhanced). This is approximately twice as quick as paper checks. However, under service agreements between the Police and the DBS, the Police have up to 60 days to complete their checks at each of their two stages: PNC (police national computer) and LPF (Local Police Force – Enhanced checks only).

It is worth noting that if the Police have a query relating to anything on the application then the 60 day countdown starts again. As more and more local police forces are now challenging reasons for a particular enhanced check, then there is an inevitable risk that the application will take longer than it would otherwise have done. This is one of the reasons why an accurate job role can make a real difference in the time your application may take.

If your organisation needs to complete DBS checks then why not visit our trusted suppliers

- [Atlantic Data](#) – for over 150 checks
- [Charity BackRoom](#) – for under 150 checks



Meningitis B Vaccine

A new vaccine to prevent meningitis will be offered to babies as part of the routine NHS childhood vaccination programme from September 1 2015.

The Men B vaccine (brand name Bexsero) will be offered to babies aged 2 months, followed by a second dose at 4 months, and a booster at 12 months.

There will also be a temporary catch-up programme for babies who are due their 3- and 4-month vaccinations in September 2015, to protect them when they are most at risk from infection.

Why do babies need this vaccine?

The Men B vaccine protects against infection by meningococcal group B bacteria, which can cause meningitis and septicaemia (blood poisoning), which are serious and potentially fatal illnesses that can affect people of any age but are most common in babies and young children.

How will my baby get the vaccine?

The MenB vaccine is given as a single injection into the baby's thigh and can be given at the same time as other routine baby vaccinations at 2 and 4 months. Parents will automatically be sent an appointment to bring babies for their Men B vaccination alongside their other routine vaccinations;

Is it safe?

Like all vaccines, the Men B vaccine can cause side effects, but studies suggest they are generally mild and don't last long. There is an increased risk of fever when the vaccine is given alongside other immunisations, parents are advised to purchase infant liquid paracetamol for the 2 and 4 month appointment visits. The fever peaks around six hours after vaccination but is nearly always mild and gone within two days. The fever shows the baby's body is responding to the vaccine, although the level of fever depends on the individual child and does not indicate how well the vaccine has worked – some infants may not develop a fever at all. Since the vaccine was licensed, almost a million doses have been given, with no safety concerns identified.

For further information see the NHS Choices website

<http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/vaccinations/Pages/meningitis-B-vaccine.aspx>



MenACWY Vaccine

Teenagers and university students are to be offered a vaccination to prevent meningitis W disease. The Men ACWY vaccine is given by a single injection into the upper arm. There are two Men ACWY vaccines that will be used in the vaccination programme, called Nimenrix and Menveo. They are very similar and both work equally well

Why do young people need this vaccine?

Cases of meningitis and septicaemia (blood poisoning) caused by Men W bacteria are rising, due to a particularly deadly strain. Older teenagers and university students are at high risk of infection because they tend to live in close contact in shared accommodation, such as university halls of residence.

Who will be offered the vaccine?

Teenagers - From August 2015, all 17- and 18-year-olds in school year 13 as part of the NHS vaccination programme. The Men ACWY vaccine protects against four different causes of meningitis and septicaemia – meningococcal (Men) A, C, W and Y diseases.

GP practices will automatically send letters inviting teenagers in school year 13 to have the Men ACWY vaccine.

There will also be a school-based catch-up vaccination programme for current school year 10 students from January 2016.

The Men ACWY vaccine will also be added to the routine adolescent schools programme (school year 9 or 10) in the Autumn, alongside the routine 3-in-1 tetanus, diphtheria and tetanus booster as a direct replacement for the Men C vaccination.

University Students - First-time university students up to the age of 25 will also be offered the Men ACWY vaccine, first-time students can take up the offer of the vaccination when offered by their GP from August 2015, before starting university.

If they are unable to take up the offer before starting University, first time students who have moved away from their previous area of residence can register with a new GP at the beginning of the new academic term and request the MenACWY.

For further information see the NHS Choices website

<http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/vaccinations/Pages/3-in-1-teenage-booster.aspx>

The next **BME Forum Meeting** will be held at the **Council Chambers, Shute End** on 2nd Dec at **6.30pm**. All relevant information will be circulated when ready.

For more information or to attend please contact;

Ashwani Gupta - Social Inclusion Officer

Ashwani.Gupta@wokingham.gov.uk

Tel 01189746790 - Mobile: 07825195503

City & Guilds Community Development Qualifications

Are you interested in gaining a nationally recognised qualification in Community Development? We are offering people the opportunity to gain this qualification locally.

The dates are:

November 15th & 22nd; January 10th & 17th 9.30 – 3.00pm

At:

Whitley Social Club and Cafe, South Reading Community Centre,
252, Northumberland Avenue, Reading RG2 7QA

All 6 sessions need to be completed to gain the full award.

Cost:

£300 to include registration, accreditation and certificate. There is a £20 discount for members of WCDA.

Early booking offer: £20 discount if booked and paid by 11th September

For further information or to book a place contact: trisha@tacct.co.uk or telephone 07799146615 Please also see attached document for further information (City and Guilds Award in Community Development 02.15)

Looking for Funding?

Sign up to involve's funding alerts and Support from Bruce Wright by contacting Bruce on bruce.wright@involve.community or have an informal chat on 01626 867 604

Next Place & Community Partnership meeting on

22nd October

**Lower Ground Floor 4;
Shute End; Wokingham Borough Council. – For info or to feed into the partnership please contact the Chair**

Kevin Ward

kevin.ward@rocketmail.com

Thames Valley **Police Domestic Abuse Scrutiny Panel** in partnership with the Police and Crime Commissioner are organising a multi-agency conference entitled Mental Health in the Context of Domestic Abuse on the 15th October at the Kassam Stadium in Oxford.

Please use the link below to book your tickets – there are a limited number available per agency.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mental-health-in-the-context-of-domestic-abuse-conference-tickets-18035870775>

Community Development Team Activities

Ladies Swimming at the Academy Sports from 3.30pm to 4.30pm on Saturdays

Ladies Aqua at the Bulmershe Leisure Centre from 5.30pm to 6.30pm on Sundays

Zumba at the Crescent Resource Centre from 6pm to 7pm at Crescent Resource Centre on Tuesdays

Zumba at 2 Norris Road from 6.15pm to 7.15pm at 2 Norris Road, Reading on Fridays

People who are unable to attend Tuesday & Friday evening Zumba sessions they are welcome to attend Zumba class on Tuesday at 11.30am at the following address:

The Alexandra Place, Southlake Crescent, Woodley opposite Emmanuel Church.

Please contact Ashwani Gupta for more information:

07825195503 or
Ashwani.gupta@wokingham.gov.uk

The next Development Workers Network meeting will be

From 12.30pm to 2.30pm on Wednesday
21st Oct at Rainbow Park

Community Centre, Winnersh,
Wokingham. RG41 5SG.

Bring along your lunch!

This is for all front line project delivery
staff and volunteers from all

Wokingham community groups, charities,
churches and public sector

Who want to find out about local plans and
projects and network

Wokingham Have your say

Tuesday 20th October 2015

Time: 10am to 12 noon

Location: Sindlesham Court, RG41 5EA

**The Wokingham Clinical Commissioning Group
invites you to hear about our future plans to
improve patient care for people in Wokingham.**

**Join us and share your views on our plans to
develop GP services in Wokingham to meet
future needs.**

**Discuss our plans with local doctors and help
to tackle the challenges facing us all.**



Transform Housing & Support Drop In services

**Tuesday Drop In Service at The Earley Crescent Community Centre
from 2pm to 4pm**

**Thursday Drop In Service at Red Kite Children's Centre in Shinfield
10am to 12pm**

Daily drop in service at Anvil Court in Wokingham

This service is open to all vulnerable adults with housing related issues. Everyone is welcome to drop in, no referrals or appointments needed. We will see people on first come first served basis.

We continue to accept referrals from all partnership agencies as well as self-referrals in order to provide housing related service on a one to one basis via an allocated key-worker.

Our drop in service is an additional service for anyone who would like to access one off pieces of advice around housing related issues, benefits, debts etc. or in order to find out more about our service.

Telephone: 0118 978 7750 - www.transformhousing.org.uk



What do you think about your local care services?

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) is the independent regulator of all health and care services in England. We register, monitor and inspect services to make sure they provide safe, effective, compassionate, high quality care, and we encourage them to improve.

We are inspecting Wexham Park Hospital (Part of Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust)



We will shortly be inspecting services provided by Wexham Park Hospital starting on the 13th October, your experiences of services help us to understand what is good and bad at these hospitals, so please get in touch and help improve your local services.

Contact us using the details below.

www.cqc.org.uk/sye

tellus@cqc.org.uk

03000 616161



Berkshire Charity Symposium

Promoting Your Charity and Your Work

**FRIDAY 16th OCTOBER 2015
9:30 AM TO 3PM**

**At Green Park Conference Centre
100 Longwater Avenue, Reading, Berkshire RG2
6GP**

Keynote Speaker

Ben Walshaw CEO Fusion242

Lunch Provided

Grow Your Tenner 2015

Any group wishing to take part must have a paid up subscription to Local Giving.



This Year's rules:

- Start date: 13th October 2015 at 10am
- End date: When the fund runs out or Wednesday the 18th November at 5pm
- Amount matched: Up to £10 for one-time donations* and up to £10 per month for Direct Debit donations for 3 months (£30 Max)*
- Match funding limit per group for Direct Debit donations: £9,000
- Match funding limit per group for one-time donations: £1,000
- Match funding limit per donor for one-time donations: 5 donations per group

Groups needing help can contact Dave Soper at Berkshire Community Foundation on 01189 303 021 or dave.soper@berkshirecf.org

Groups will be most successful with any online fundraising by making best use of social media and their website to tell people what they do and how to donate. If you don't tell people how to donate to you they won't.

Three Frogs Club

Social group for adults with Asperger Syndrome or Autism. Meets every month for a meal and a chat at the Three Frogs Pub in Wokingham 7-10.30pm.
Thursday 15th October Thursday 19th November
Contact 07554 303328 or 3frogs@asdfamilyhelp.org

Wokingham Learning Disability Partnership Board Big Campaign 'Behaviour that Challenges'

Coffee Morning Friday 9th October from 10am to 1pm drop in to the Mark Room, Bradbury Centre, Wokingham
Contact 0118 3246484 or email Karen.thackray@partnershipboard.org.uk for more info.

Music Club for Children with Special Educational Needs

Wednesday 5.30-6.15pm
at All Saints School, Wokingham
For children in years 4 to 8
For more info please contact directorofmusic@allsaintswokingham.org.uk

A message on Fundraising from Sir Stuart Etherington, Chair of the Review of Fundraising Self-Regulation, NCVO Chief Executive

Negative media coverage has been to the detriment of us all. The stories picked up on failings in a relatively small number of charities, but tapped into a much wider, much stronger, public concern about how charities ask for money. Criticism has rained in from all sides and I think many would agree that this cannot and should not continue.

This summer, I chaired a cross party review of fundraising regulation for the Minister for Civil Society. I believe that we have been given clear signals as to the future direction of fundraising and the checks and balances that should remain in place around it.

Trustees are key: First, and most importantly, we have heard that trustees must know what fundraising activities are taking place in their name. The crisis of trust we face is not simply a fundraising issue, it is a governance issue. Our review has therefore concluded that trustees need a clearer view and a stronger hand on the fundraising tiller.

A new regulator: Secondly, charities and other fundraising organisations need a new, more visible and effective fundraising regulator. The public have to know where to report their concerns. We are appreciative of the work that the Fundraising Standards Board has done, but we believe that the confidence of the public requires a new approach. We have concluded that a new regulator with stronger powers to sanction, universal coverage and better resources is a necessity. This includes the establishment of a new Fundraising Preference Service so that the public can easily stop unwanted fundraising communication from charities.

Clear roles and responsibilities: We have also concluded that the Institute of Fundraising should hand over responsibility for setting the rules which govern fundraising – the Code of Practice – to the new regulator. One of the most important issues to emerge from our review is that the public interest overrides any professional interest. Nothing less than handing over responsibility to the new regulator for setting the rules will do.

Fundraising regulation at present is unnecessarily complex – too many bodies with competing interests. We have recommended that the Public Fundraising Regulatory Association should merge with the Institute of Fundraising, but that its regulatory responsibilities should move to the new fundraising regulator. Better regulation requires a clear separation of roles and interests.

If we are to maintain the trust of the public we must be able to show that we can regulate ourselves. Nevertheless, some breaches of the rules on fundraising may raise concerns that there has been a breach of trustee duties. In such cases, the Charity Commission can and should investigate. And we believe that reporting to parliament – not the government - provides for both accountability and independence.

I am cautious of statements that this review, and other activities in the fundraising world, represent a turning point or the crossing of a Rubicon. They do, I hope, represent the start of a long hard journey to rebuild public confidence in fundraising regulation and trust in charities.

Read the full report here:

https://www.ncvo.org.uk/images/documents/policy_and_research/giving_and_philanthropy/fundraising-review-report-2015.pdf?cldee=aW5mb0B3YnZzZi5pbmZv&utm_source=ClickDimensions&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Fundraising%20Review%20report%20-%20Sept%202015&urlid=3

Free Care Certificate Workshop



Improving lives through learning

The Grey Matter Group – Share practical information and answer your questions about the Care Certificate and the latest CQC Legislation

Why Should I attend? You'll learn more about the Care Certificate and how it can support new and existing staff in their career development; your role in identifying knowledge gaps, setting learning objectives and robustly assessing competence through supervision; and the tools and free resources available to support you.

Who will benefit from this workshop? Care providers; managers and supervisors of new staff who need the introductory skills, knowledge and behaviours to provide compassionate, safe and high quality care and support; managers and supervisors of existing staff who wish to improve or refresh their knowledge.

Contact us

And book a place at

Support@TGMGroup.net

0345 873 0373



20.10.15 9.30am- Midday

Council Chamber, Shute End, Wokingham, RG40 1BN

The Grey Matter Group

We provide an online assessment and competence recording system that will enable you to evidence workers' knowledge and competence against national standards. Our Care Certificate assessments identify knowledge gaps and provide short bite-sized eLearning modules. Our system quickly measures knowledge enabling you to recruit the right people and tailor workers' learning to meet identified gaps rather than sheep dipping people through training.

Our methods have repeatedly proven to save time, money, resources, backfill and gives providers' evidence that their training is delivering results through a transfer of learning to the workplace.

We have various contracts with organisations contact us to find out if you are eligible for free resources.

Invitation to the Parenting Special Children AGM 2015



Parenting Special Children AGM 2015

Thursday 22nd October 2015 - I'd like to take this opportunity to invite you to join us for the Parenting Special Children AGM 2015. Alongside lots of exciting news to bring you about the expanding work of Parenting Special Children over the last year, we're delighted to be sharing the plans for our 10th Anniversary year, and a special presentation from Zobia Kalim about how we will be helping to meet the needs of Looked After and Adopted children with Special Needs. The evening will run from **7:00pm - 8:30pm**, and will be held at **Wokingham Waterside Centre**, Thames Valley Park Drive, Thames Valley Park, Reading. RG6 1PQ.

Agenda

- **Welcome, Introductions and Apologies**
- **Minutes of the last meeting**
- **Launch of 10 year Anniversary Celebrations**
- **Presentation of the Annual Accounts**
- **Election of Trustees**
- **Meeting the needs of Looked After and Adopted children with Special Needs - A new service from Parenting Special Children - Zobia Kalim**
- **Questions**
- **AOB**
- **Close**

Zobia Kalim is a specialist parenting practitioner with extensive experience of developing, delivering and managing parenting programmes and projects to families of children with special needs across the country since 2005. More recently, Zobia has been trained to support families of looked after and adopted children through attachment focused parenting and understanding the impact of trauma.

Zobia is also a mother of two children, a son with complex medical needs and an adopted daughter.

We hope that you can join us for our AGM this year. To help us plan the evening and for catering purposes, please register online using the button below:

Click here to register online 

<http://bit.ly/PSCAGM2015>



Wokingham, Bracknell & Districts Mencap
 Suite 2, Oakmede Place
 Terrace Road South
 Binfield
 Berkshire
 RG41 4JF

Wokingham, Bracknell & Districts Mencap is a local charity working with people with a learning disability and those with an autism spectrum condition, their carers and families. We have the following opportunities:

SMILES FOR SIBS SENIOR PLAYWORKER

Wokingham

Average 3-5 hours per week - £10.50 per hour

The Smiles for Sib club is a social group for children, aged 8-13 years, who are the siblings of the children with learning disabilities. The club is run by local charity Wokingham, Bracknell & Districts Mencap. The club takes place on Mondays (term time only) between 4.15pm and 6.00pm at Woodley Airfield Community Centre. We have a vacancy for a senior playworker to supervise and lead in providing activities at the club, playing games, and occasionally organising trips off-site, eg: to the cinema, bowling or lazerquest. To attend training, meetings, outings and special activities as required.

**Closing date for applications for this vacancy is Friday 16th
 October 2015**

We are looking for an enthusiastic and self-motivated person to join our team.

Experience of working in similar positions desirable, but training will be given for the successful applicant.

For further details, application form and job specification please contact us on 0300 7778539

References and an enhanced DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check will be carried out on the successful candidate.

Supporting Warm-Hearted People and Projects



We are looking to help small, local community projects and community people through our **GALAXY Hot Chocolate Fund**.

From November 2nd 2015 for 17 weeks, we are seeking to award 85 **£300 donations** to help volunteer groups and people just like you. In the weeks running up to the fund, if you or your organisation could benefit from a FREE jar of GALAXY Hot Chocolate then please send a message to galaxyfreejars@escapadepr.com

We only have a limited amount of stock which will be sent out on a first come, first served basis before October 31 2014. So drop us a note today with a quick line about you, along with your delivery address and contact number.

To celebrate the fifth Birthday of the **GALAXY Hot Chocolate Fund** we are throwing five **GALAXY Hot Chocolate Tea Parties!**

Do you know a charity that deserves a party with GALAXY Hot Chocolate, GALAXY Chocolate and GALAXY Cake then send us a message to Galaxyteaparty@escapadepr.com. be sure to include a quick line about the chosen charity, along with your contact details.

For more information: galaxyhotchocolate.com

Twitter @Galaxyhotchoc

Facebook @Galaxy Hot Chocolate

Development Workers Forum

Development worker's network meeting
Wednesday 21st October at 12.30pm to 2.30pm.

Held at Rainbow Park Community Centre, Winnersh, Wokingham, RG41 5SG

Contact Rose Green for more information or to book attendance.
01189 088 193 or 07769931738

Email: Rose.green@wokingham.gov.uk

Rose Buddies Activities this Autumn

28 October 6.30pm – To Winnersh Showcase Cinema to see the new James Bond film – ‘Spectre’

25th November 5.00pm – To the Molly Millar Pub for a pool competition

Christmas Cooking Course

£25 for 5 sessions: workshops on 11, 18 & 25 November and 2 & 9 December.

To find out more please contact Denise Dixon on 0118 9799106 or email denise.dixon@creativesupport.org.uk



Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres

Supporting children with additional needs and their families across Berkshire

Patron: Lady Stevenson DL

JOB TITLE: Fundraising & Communications Manager

RESPONSIBLE TO: CEO

HOURS: 37.5 hours per week, 52 weeks per year

BASE: Administrative Centre in Reading

RATE OF PAY: 25,000-28,000 per annum

DBS required: Enhanced

JOB PURPOSE

To achieve fundraising targets to enable Dingley to provide quality services and support for as many children and families as we can, while also raising the profile of the organisation.

For more information visit www.dingley.org.uk

Send a CV, plus a covering letter to

catherine.mcleod@dingley.org.uk by the deadline of midday on Friday 16th October.

First stage interviews to be held from 19th – 21st October, 2015.



Dear All,

Berkshire West health and social care commissioners are currently in the process of developing a funding opportunities prospectus in relation to Carers Information Advice and Support services. The draft prospectus reflects the feedback gathered at recent provider events which you may have attended in Bracknell, and also local carer views.

To support us in finalising the prospectus, we are inviting interested providers to a further event on Wednesday 21st October from 13:30 to 15:30 at Meeting Room 3 at RISC, Reading International Solidarity Centre, 35-39 London Street, Reading RG1 4PS where the draft document will be presented for comments. The aim is to enable us to make any final adjustments needed before we invite in bids to provide carer services from April 2016.

If you would like to take part in this event, please register with Soon Heshe: soon.heshe@reading.gov.uk - 01189 373 801, to reserve a place.



The Wokingham Safeguarding Children Board Quality & Performance Sub Group are looking for representation from the Voluntary Sector as Vice-Chair – if this role is of interest please contact Louise Connelly Louise.Connelly@wokingham.gov.uk to discuss.

Sight Tests for Children with Learning Disabilities –

See Ability has just launched a petition asking the government and NHS to make sight tests available for children in special schools in England, as children with learning disabilities are 28 times more likely to have serious sight problems. You can read more about their campaign and sign the petition here

www.seeability.org/petition

Shinfield Rise Community Flat

Get Creative this Half-Term!

Come and join the Jelly Team artists in a four day arts project over the October Half-Term, learning new skills and working towards an art award. There will be chances to learn new drawing and printmaking skills, play with colour and collage and end up with your own sketchbook. The sessions are daily and free but all participants must sign up and commit to all four. Spaces are very limited, so please contact Cherish:

Email– cherish.risi-elford@wokingham.gov.uk / Phone– 07885983396

Facebook– The Shinfield Rise Community Flat or drop in and see me at the Flat, 36, Frensham Green The activities will run from the Community Flat on the Monday through to Thursday in the Half-Term (26th-29th) The morning sessions are from 10.30am to 12.30pm for children aged up to 8 years The afternoon sessions are from 1.30-3.30pm for 8-13 year olds

(However we can be flexible for families with children in different age brackets who would like to attend the same session– just let Cherish know)

Looking forward to seeing you all!

Frensham Green Park Update

As everyone may be aware, the new slide is now in place as promised.

It has been lovely to see everyone enjoying our new park, however it has been noticed that there are a couple of children and young people using the equipment inappropriately which has caused some damage. We do not have the funding to keep replacing items damaged through vandalism so can I please encourage everyone to love their park and help ensure we can enjoy it as a community for many years to come.

Thank you.

Councillor Surgery at the Flat

On Wednesday 28th from 5-6pm at the Community Flat we will be joined by the Wokingham Borough Councillor for our Ward, Parry Bath who is also Wokingham Borough Mayor. He will be joined by Ian Montgomery, the Shinfield Parish Councillor for Shinfield North.

They will be here to listen to any issues, queries or concerns you may have regarding your area, and will be able to support you.

Please use this opportunity to come along and meet your local representatives and have a say on what matters to you and your family.

Refreshments provided.

An Evening with Jamila Gavin

Come and hear the author of *Coram Boy* talk about her work and how multiculturalism has influenced her. At Woodley Library on Thurs 15th October, 6.30-8pm

Places must be booked by calling the library on 0118 969 0304

This is a free event, refreshments provided. Books will be available to buy and have signed by Jamila, courtesy of Chapter One Bookshop, Woodley.

This event is part of Wokingham Borough Council's Black History Month 2015 Celebrations

Free Bicycle Marking

Bring your bike for free security marking on Saturday 10th October, 11am to 2pm, Davies Room, Swallow field Parish Hall. Refreshments also provided with PCSO Suzie Carr and PC Laura Wright. Also available– Data tag UV systems for high value bikes, Bike Register information and Free Tack Marking.

Neighbourhood Policing working in partnership to make our community safer

Tenant and Leaseholder Involvement Recruitment Fair

Date: 21st October 2015

Place: Wokingham Borough Council offices, Shute End, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG40 1BN

Time: 7pm until 9pm (arrival 6.45pm)

On the evening residents can:

Meet the Involved Tenants and Tenant and Leaseholder Involvement Team

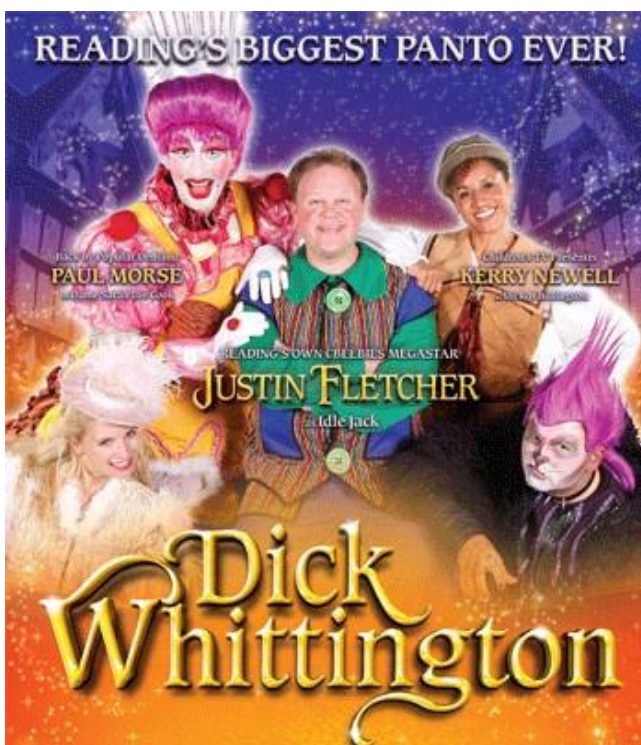
Understand the different range of involvement opportunities available to tenants and leaseholders

See how their views can make a difference to the services the tenants and leaseholders receive

See what the benefits are of becoming involved and having your say

See what free training is available.

Please contact the Tenant Involvement team on (0118) 978 2494 or email tenant.involvement@wokingham.gov.uk for more information



Panto Trip Update... Cherish has now reserved the coach and tickets at Reading Hexagon for our annual Christmas Trip. We will be going on Wednesday 23rd of December, leaving the estate around 4pm for a 5pm start time.

Tickets are now very limited, so please let Cherish know ASAP if you would like to join us. Tickets are £7 each (including children) and include transport to and from the Hexagon, ticket for the show and an ice-cream!

Come and Get Involved this October...

Housing Surgery With David Higgins: Every Thursday, 11am to 1pm.

Benefits Surgery (Confidential Advice and Support): First Thursday of every month, 11am to 1pm

Family Worker Drop In: Every Monday 10am to 12pm

Social Club for 50+: Monday 19th, 7-9pm

Community Club for 8-12s:

Mon 5th & 19th 4-5.30pm. (session on the 19th will be Halloween themed)

Girls Group for 13-16s:

Mon 5th & 19th 6-7pm.

Mice Bus: Every 1st Monday of the month 1.15-4pm



Thanks to the generosity of local people, businesses and charities, Community First Responders for Shinfield and Whitley have been able to purchase a rapid response vehicle, which will carry potentially life-saving equipment and enable volunteers to reach the scene of an emergency as quickly as possible. The Shinfield North

Community First Panel were able to support this worthwhile cause which operates in our area. Ian Montgomery, Parish Councillor for Shinfield North was able to attend the official unveiling of the vehicle on our behalf.



Congratulations to Dee Mills of Westlands Avenue who won the Shinfield Parish annual front garden competition. Councillor Ian Clarke and Angela King visited Dee to present her with her prize and the overall winners' Cup. This photograph was taken in her well stocked garden which is still a riot of colour.

CIVIC AWARDS

Do you know anyone who makes a real difference to Community Life in Wokingham?

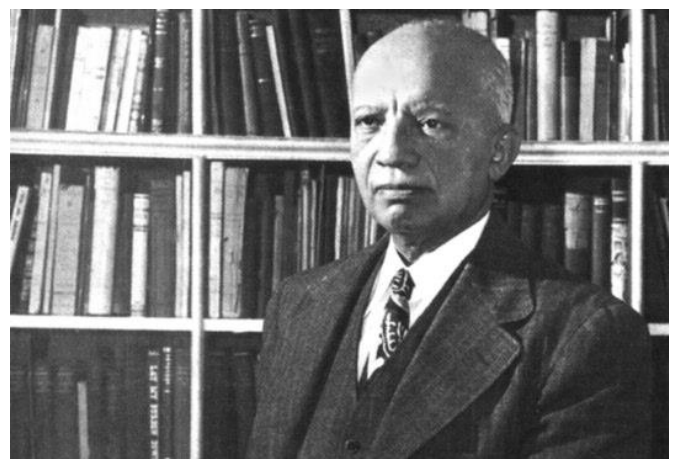
This is your opportunity to nominate them for a 2016 Civic Award.

An official ceremony will take place on Friday 29 January 2015 when the Mayor will present awards to successful nominees.

Nominations should be submitted via the on-line form below:

<http://www.wokingham-tc.gov.uk/civic/civic-awards>

The closing date is Monday 30 November 2015.



Black History month 2015

Taster and Performance evening

Celebrating- The Black Authors & Historians

Saturday, November 14 7pm to 10pm

Woodley Baptist Church, Hurricane way, Woodley RG5 4UX

World Music and Dance

Steel Band

Healthy food from around the world, including African-Caribbean and Asian

**Free to attend. For further information, please contact Ashwani Grpta
07825195503 or Pol Exeter 07954146245 or Jeff Hinds 07930907354.**

October Half Term & Christmas 2015 Soccer Schools



To book these Courses or for more information

Call 0118 968 1460 or 0118 968 1480

Or visit <http://community.readingfc.co.uk/> 'Sports Participation' to book online.

Or Visit www.readingfc.co.uk 'Soccer Schools' to download a booking form.

BIRTHDAY PARTIES

COACHING IN DOME

AND STADIUM TOUR

For more details contact Gill Jacob on 0118 968 1460

Or email gjacob@readingfc.co.uk

MASCOT PACKAGES

Lead the Royals out onto the pitch!

For more details contact Gill Jacob

On 0118 968 1460 or email gjacob@readingfc.co.uk

Go£den Gamb£e

For just £1 you can join in the half time draw with the chance to win a cash prize or a signed ball.

Look out for the Golden Gamble sellers in yellow tops in and around the stadium on match days – 50% of take after expenses goes into Cash Prize – 50% To RFC Community Trust Charity to help promote Grassroot football

Top Tips for a new school year



This month, thousands of children across the country have started a new school year. Many of them will be struggling with their reading which makes a heavy impact on their level of literacy. Local charity ABC to Read is tackling this issue by offering one-to-one support, boosting children’s enjoyment of reading and raising the standard of our local literacy.

ABC to Read have been working with volunteers for over 10 years, mentoring youngsters who are struggling with their reading. Reading is a core skill that defines future prospects and the support that ABC to Read volunteer mentors provide for the children they work with has resulted in tangible improvements in the children’s attitudes towards reading. In the charity’s annual statistics for 2013/2014, they reported a remarkable 97% improvement in reading confidence with the primary school children they work with.

As volunteer mentors begin to meet with new primary school children this term, ABC to Read Chief Operating and Development Officer, Marcia Rowlinson, offers some hints and tips to help parents encourage their children to become successful readers:

“Our work doesn’t stop at the school gates. We want to encourage parents to continue supporting their children’s reading at home. These tips are just the starting point, to show parents that their actions and encouragement carry real influence in their children’s futures!”

- Talk and listen to your child
- Sing and say nursery rhymes to your pre-school child
- Play word games and listening games
- Praise and encourage your child – avoid negative remarks
- Read to your child from an early age and make it a fun/cosy experience
- Keep reading to your child, even when they can read!
- Hear your child read when they begin to learn at school, but make it fun, not a chore
- Be a role model – read in front of your child
- Join the local library
- Point out words/letters around you
- Try not to compare your child with siblings or peers

ABC to Read is actively looking for new schools and volunteers to benefit from the scheme. For more information or to book onto the next training course, please visit www.abctoread.org.uk or email abctoread@btconnect.com



About ABC to Read

ABC to Read trains and supports volunteers in primary schools across Berkshire, helping hundreds of children each year to enjoy reading and gain an essential skill for life. The charity has maintained around 120 volunteers working with 500 children each year to improve their reading skills. The children are chosen by the schools as those in most need of reading support. The volunteers are selected by the charity and are DBS checked, trained and supported. ABC to Read are currently campaigning to increase awareness of their work in order to reach more Berkshire children. More information can be found at www.abctoread.org.uk



Coping with sleep Problems in children!

Wednesday 4th November 2015

9.30am to 1.30pm

Reading University

RUSU Building, Café Mondial

Whitenights Campus,

Reading, RG6 6UR



This session will help you to:

- Understand children's sleep cycles and sleep needs
- Understand the reasons behind night waking
- Learn how to feel less stressed when training your child to go to sleep
- Learn new strategies for settling your child to sleep

This free session is for unpaid family carers who live in Reading, West Berkshire or Wokingham Boroughs.

Booking essential.

Please call 0800 988 5462 or email helpline@berkshirecarers.org by Monday 26 October

and helping them to stay asleep

Berkshire Carers Upcoming Events



Support Groups –

Ascot: Recreation Hall, The Pavilion, Broomhall Lane, Sunningdale SL5
0QS. 10.30-12pm, November 10th

Wokingham: Bradbury Centre, Rose Street, Wokingham, RG40 1XS.
12.30-14.30pm, October 14th and November 11th

Wokingham Stroke Group: Bradbury Centre, Rose Street, Wokingham, RG40 1XS.
10-12pm (Run with the Stroke Association) November 12th

Mental Health Carers

Bracknell: Coopers Hill Community Centre, Bagshot Road, Bracknell, RG12
7QS. 2–4pm November 3rd

Wokingham: Bradbury Centre, Rose Street, Wokingham, RG40 1XS. 2-4pm November 5th

Berkshire West (Reading, Wokingham and West Berkshire) Sleep Problems in Children with Developmental Conditions

Wednesday 4th November, 9.30am-1.30pm. Reading University, RUSU Building, Café Mondial, Whiteknights Campus, RG6 6UR. Call 0800 988 5462 to book by 26th October

Berkshire West (Reading, Wokingham and West Berkshire): Moving and Handling of People Training

Tuesday 17th November, 10am-12pm. Taste of England Pub, Lower Henwick Farm, Turnpike Road, Thatcham, RG18 3AP. Call 0800 988 5462 to book

Bracknell Forest: Courses for Carers

Yoga: 30th September, 10.30-12.30pm. Takes place at the Bracknell Open Learning Centre, Rectory Lane, Bracknell, RG12 7GR. Call 0800 988 5462 to book

Wokingham: Self Harm and Suicide Workshop (Wokingham Borough Carers only)

Are you caring for someone who's at risk of Suicide or Self Harm? New workshop will give you skills and confidence to support them Monday 12th October, 5.30-8pm. Wokingham Town Hall, Market Place, RG40 1AS Call our Helpline to book on 0800 988 5462 or email

helpline@berkshirecarers.org

Wokingham: Locality Carers Forum (Wokingham Borough Carers only)

Thursday 22nd October, 10.00am - 12.00pm. Wokingham Town Hall

Wokingham: Learn how to Cook Indian

Tuesday 29th September, 1.00pm-3.00pm.

All Wokingham Carers invited to attend cookery session to learn how to cook Chicken Curry, Tarka Dahl and Rice. At Earley Crescent Community Resource Centre. Call helpline to book

What's on in Wokingham.



October 2015

Welcome to the "What's on in Wokingham" events guide for October 2015.

October is shaping up to be quite a quiet month compared the busy summer here in Wokingham. However there is plenty to look forward to in November & December from Cantley Fireworks (7th Nov), Wokingham Winter Carnival (28th Nov), plays & concerts to Wokingham Living Advent Calendar throughout December.

Music: The Police Academy

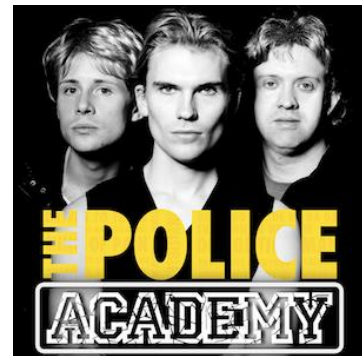
Friday 16th October

8pm

Emmbrook Sports & Social Club

£10 in advance £12.50 on the door

The Police Academy recreate and reproduce a totally authentic Police experience that allows audiences to enjoy and immerse themselves in some of the best known songs ever written by truly, one of the world's greatest ever bands.



Play: And Then There Were None By Agatha Christie

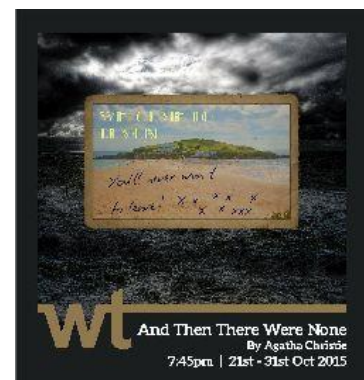
20th - 31st October

7.30pm

Wokingham Theatre

Tickets: £10

'Ten...' Ten strangers are lured to an isolated island mansion off the Devon coast. 'Nine...' At dinner, a recorded message accuses each of them in turn of having a guilty secret, and by the end of the night one of the guests is dead. 'Eight...' Stranded by a violent storm, and haunted by an old nursery rhyme, one by one they begin to die. Which amongst them is the killer, and will any of them survive?



Details on the full programme:

www.wokingham-theatre.org.uk

Music: Terrance Charlston - Harpsichord
Wednesday 28th October 2015

8pm

Tickets £12.50

All Saints Church

Over the last 20 years in the profession, Terence Charlston has built an enviably broad career as a solo and chamber musician, choral and orchestral director, and teacher and academic researcher. We are delighted to welcome him back to All Saints for a solo performance.

For details:

<http://www.wokinghamconcerts.co.uk/>



NHS
Wokingham
Clinical Commissioning Group

NHS Wokingham Clinical Commissioning Group invites you to observe its Governing Body meeting in public from 1.30 pm to 4.30pm on Tuesday, 3rd November 2015.

at The Oakwood Centre, Woodley, RG5 4JZ.

Agenda and papers will be available from Wednesday 28th October at <http://www.wokinghamccg.nhs.uk/governing-body-meeting-dates>

If you would like to attend or ask a question relating to the agenda, please email ppiteam.berkshirewest@nhs.net or call 0118 982 2709 by 12 noon on Monday 2nd November.



Wokingham Safeguarding Children Board Briefing for professionals and volunteers

Issue 01 – October 2015

Welcome to the first edition of the Wokingham Safeguarding Children Board Briefing

Wokingham Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB) meets five times a year and discusses how agencies should work together to keep children and young people safe in the Wokingham Borough.

By law, every local authority in the country has to have a safeguarding children board. Each meeting has more than 15 representatives from Wokingham Borough Council's Children's Services and Housing, schools, health organisations, the Police, probation and the community and voluntary sector. And at each meeting a variety of items are discussed. This is the first edition of WSCB's Briefing, which will be issued after every Board meeting. We will provide you with more details about what they discussed along with other key safeguarding issues.

Among the topics discussed at our September Board were the draft Safeguarding Pledge to children in the Borough; PREVENT and Radicalisation; and the outcome of Learning and Development Challenge Session. We are also pleased to announce that Simon Price, Head of Housing at Wokingham Borough Council, has been appointed as Vice Chair of the Board.

Safeguarding Pledge

The Board heard more about the young person's conference which took place in July. Attended by Board members, they met with a number of young people involved with the Borough Council's Targeted Youth Service. Young people shared their stories and experiences of the Council's services – all of which were very powerful and a great insight into how they feel about a range of topics including how safe they feel, what it's like living in the Wokingham Borough, and how they interact with different agencies. It was an open and honest discussion and we hope to continue this dialogue in the future. Young people added ideas to a pledge wall which the Board will consider at its meeting in January, along with the results of the Community Partnerships Young People's safety survey which is happening in November. Bullying also came up as an issue. We are now looking at how we can get a better understanding of the issues and the impact on our young people. We will update you in the next briefing.



Wokingham Safeguarding Children Board

involve
making a difference locally

www.involve.community



PREVENT and Channel Panel

The Board received an update on the new PREVENT duty, which is an important strand of the national counter terrorism strategy. There are four strands prevent, pursue, protect and prepare. The PREVENT duty sets out the legal requirement for a local authority to take the lead in forming a multi-agency Channel Panel and have 'due regard' to preventing people being drawn into terrorism. This panel would provide the framework within which individuals identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism are managed. As a starting point it's expected that each authority should demonstrate an awareness and understanding of the risk of radicalisation in their area. This risk will vary greatly and can change rapidly; but no area is risk free. Whilst the type and scale of activity that will address the risk will vary, all authorities will need to give due consideration to it. There are three key areas: leadership, working in partnership and capabilities. Training is already available on [the prevention of radicalisation and extremism via My Learning](#).

The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) has recommended it will lead the strategic work on this through a PREVENT sub-group. The CSP report will regularly report on progress and issues to both the children and adult safeguarding boards as appropriate.

Feedback on Challenge Session: Learning and Development

A number of colleagues working with children across the Borough were invited to join the Challenge Session to consider safeguarding learning and development opportunities for all those who work with children across the area. Attendees were asked to evidence their agency's training needs analysis and evaluate whether or not they think they have provided a good range of training opportunities for their staff. The panel also scrutinised how their organisation disseminated the learning from Serious Case Reviews and practice reviews, as well as making sure the voice of children, young people and families were being heard during training and other learning opportunities. On the whole panel members felt reassured there was extensive training opportunities for professionals in the Borough but the session also raised a number of issues which have been put into an action plan for the Learning and Development Sub Group to take forward. Actions included opening up single agency training to WSCB partners and gaining a better understanding of individual agencies training needs and impact of training.

Upcoming training sessions

The West of Berkshire Learning and Development Sub Group (which includes Wokingham, West Berkshire and Reading LSCBs) training brochure for 2015/16 can be found on the [WSCB website training page](#).

Online Safety Campaign

Children now grow up in a world where computer technology and life on the internet is the norm. With access at our fingertips, it can be even more challenging to keep children and young people safe online, especially when they have their own computers, laptops, smartphones, tablets and games consoles. However it is not always safe; electronic media can be involved in the victimisation and abuse of children. Over the summer we launched a campaign to provide parents with more information and support to help them to have conversations with their children about how to stay safe online.

Quality and Performance

The Quality and Performance Sub Group gave an update on multi-agency audits they commission and the Board's performance indicators to assess where we are at and what we need to rectify.

The Domestic Abuse Challenge session in May earlier this year highlighted the need to explore the difference between Police incident figures and referral figures to partner organisations including Children's Services and Berkshire Women's Aid. As a result the sub group will be carrying out an audit between now and November and are looking to learn whether:

- The referral rate from the Police to partner organisations is too low.
- What outcomes were considered during a period of time for each of those people who contacted the Police during that period and identify if the correct referral route was taken.
- The referral route informs the design of our multi-professional training programme; our approach to assessment and our design of services.
- New processes for identifying risk of domestic abuse at the earliest opportunity work and to support shared multi-professional understanding of how to respond to levels of need and risk, in the context of our Levels of Need and training programme.

Details of the findings will be shared later in the year. Audits will also be carried out into child sexual exploitation, bullying and children in care over the coming year.

FGM App Launched

Researchers at Coventry University have created a new app, endorsed by the National Society for the prevention of cruelty to children, to help protect young girls and women from female genital mutilation (FGM)

Funded by donations from Pamela Barlow, Eleanor Rathbone and 1970 Charitable Trusts, the free to use app called 'Petals' is the first of its kind to be developed in the UK.

Female Genital Mutilation, which is sometimes called female genital cutting, female circumcision or Sunna refers to procedures that intentionally alter or cause injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons. The practice has been illegal in the UK since 1985 but it is a growing problem across the country.

The app, can be downloaded from:

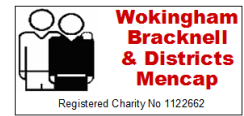
<http://ptals.coventry.ac.uk> and is available on smartphones, tablets and internet browser, and is aimed primarily at young girls living in affected communities and at risk from FGM.

But it can also be used as an educational tool to teach young people and others the facts and realities of FGM.

More information

If you have any feedback on this briefing, or suggestions for improvement, please contact WCSB Business manager Louise Connelly at:

wscb@wokingham.gov.uk or call 01189 746 231 or chair of Communications and engagement Sub Group Andrea Jenkins at: andrea.jenkins@wokingham.gov.uk or call 01189 746 010



Winter Wonderland In Hyde Park Sunday 13th December 2015



We are organising a coach trip to visit Winter Wonderland in Hyde Park in London on **Sunday 13th December 2015**. Enjoy the festive atmosphere at Angel's Christmas Market with over 200 Bavarian-style wooden chalets. In addition to the market there are many other attractions: Ski Zillertal Ice Rink, Magical Ice Kingdom, Zippos Christmas Circus, Cirque Berserk, a Giant Wheel, Bar Ice, Santa Land, over 100 fairground rides and free live music. Tickets for some of these attractions can be purchased in advance at www.hydeparkwinterwonderland.com/attractions.

This trip is open to members of Wokingham, Bracknell & Districts Mencap, their families and friends. Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis. The coach will leave Wokingham at 9.00am and will leave London at 5.00pm, returning to Wokingham at approximately 6.30pm. **Tickets are £13 per person**. We would be grateful if you could return the slip below with your cheque made payable to **Wokingham, Bracknell & Districts Mencap** to Suite 2, Oakmede Place, Terrace Road South, Binfield, RG42 4JF by **Monday 2nd November** at the latest. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the office on 0300 777 8539 or by email to admin@wokinghammencap.org (please note that if we do not have enough responses this trip will be cancelled).

✂

Winter Wonderland Trip Reply Slip

We would like to go to Winter Wonderland in Hyde Park on Sunday 13th December 2015.

We would like Tickets @ £13 each and enclose a cheque totalling £.....

Names (of those travelling):

.....
.....
.....

Mobile No: Email.....



Is offering a trip to see



On Thursday 3rd December

Wokingham Bracknell and Districts Mencap, using money from the Carers' Grant administered by Wokingham Borough Council and money from Bracknell Forest Council, has arranged a theatre trip for our members to see **Cats** at The London Palladium. We have 52 tickets that we are offering to Wokingham and Bracknell Mencap members and their **immediate family only** or a **member plus one friend**. Tickets cost £10 each for the first two and £15 each for any further tickets. Tickets will be allocated on a first come, first served basis and priority will be given to members who have not been on a previous trip. Please note tickets are for the stalls.

The coach will leave at approximately 5.00pm from Rose Street, Wokingham and will return between 11.00pm and 11.30pm. The cost of the coach is included in the price. Please return the slip below with your cheque made payable to **Wokingham, Bracknell & Districts Mencap** to Suite 2, Oakmede Place, Terrace Road South, Binfield RG42 4JF by Friday 23rd October at the **latest**. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact Mary or Vicki on 0300 7778539 or email admin@wokinghammencap.org.

We would like to see Cats on Thursday 3rd December 2015

We would like Tickets @ £10 each.

We would like Tickets @ £15 each.

Name:.....

Mobile No.:.....

Email:.....

Total cheque enclosed: £.....



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: involve Community Services

I am pleased to invite you to attend the Annual General Meeting of **involve** which will be held at Jennett's Park Community Centre, Tawny Owl Square, Jennett's Park, Bracknell. RG12 8EB on **Thursday 29th October 2015**. Tea and coffee will be available from 6:00pm with the meeting commencing at 6.15pm.

At 7pm our guest speaker, Helene Dyson, will talk about her experiences as a medal winning Paralympian.

The Agenda for the meeting, a Financial Summary 2014/2015, the Chairman's Report and the minutes of the last AGM held on Thursday 23rd October will be provided at the meeting. If you require the full Trustees' Report for 2014/2015 it will be available to download from www.involve.community shortly.

For your convenience you are able to register your attendance via Eventbrite

<http://involveagm.eventbrite.co.uk>

Or alternatively please use the reply slip below.

Yours sincerely

Peter Redford

Chair

involve Community Services

.....

REPLY SLIP –involve – AGM 2015

To: Peter Redford, **involve**, Amber House, Bracknell, RG12 1JB.

I/We will be attending the **involve** Annual General Meeting at Jennett's Park Community Centre, Tawny Owl Square, Jennett's Park Bracknell RG12 8EB on **Thursday 29th October 2015**.

Name/s:

Representing the following organisation:

Please return the reply slip to **involve**, Amber House, Market Street, Bracknell, RG12 1JB or call 01344 304404 or email reception@involve.community to let us know whether you are able to attend.

involve Community Services



PROGRAMME FOR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 29th October from 6pm to 7.30pm

Jennett's Park Community Centre, Tawny Owl Square, Jennett's Park, Bracknell, RG12 8EB

6.00pm: Tea and coffee available, 6.15pm: Business to commence as per Agenda below

7pm: Guest speaker, Helene Dyson – medal winning Paralympian

AGENDA

1. Welcome.
2. Apologies.
3. Approval of Minutes of last year's AGM 23 October 2014.
4. Matters arising from Minutes.
5. Chairman's Report.
6. General Managers Report
7. Trustees Report and Financial Statements for year ending 31 March 2015.
8. Election of Trustees:
 - a. Retiring trustees eligible for re-election – none.
 - b. Election of John Neville Dougall, John Edward Lowther and Jamie McDougall.
 - c. Vote of thanks for retiring trustees Simon Drew, Penny Lander, Reverend Nicolas Parish
9. Appointment of the Auditors of the Company.
10. Any Other Business.

GUEST SPEAKER

Helene Dyson – medal winning Paralympian

Election of Trustees

involve Community Services AGM 29th October 2015



The individuals below would like to offer their services as trustees **for involve** subject to the approval of involve membership.

Neville Dougall

Neville has worked in the leisure section of Bracknell Forest Council for almost 30 years during which time he has worked to assist many charity and voluntary organisations with their organising of events and use of the centres. He currently does IT support for four leisure centres across the borough. Neville hopes to serve with **involve** to ensure a strong future for the organisation and the societies it supports, raising awareness across a variety of platforms to hopefully increase membership and use his skills to provide IT assistance and training for **involve's** staff where possible.

John Edward Lowther B.Sc. Ph.D. FRSSaf.

Ted Lowther retired and moved to Bracknell in 2011. He has wide experience of senior academic positions, held professorships at several Universities and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of South Africa. In addition to being a director of large research structures he was research consultant to several international industries.

He considers **involve** presents a challenging and transparent platform to engage and facilitate charity ventures for the benefit of the local community.

Jamie McDougall

My name is Jamie McDougall, I'm 41 years old, from Bracknell and have lived here all my life. I'm married with two children. I am a former Associate Director of IT in the Pharmaceutical sector, but had to give up working 5 1/2 years ago due to suffering from MS. I first became aware of **involve** when I volunteered for the befriending scheme at the turn of the year and I was asked to join as a Trustee to provide full use of my experience. I agreed as I fully support the befriending scheme as I have seen the benefit to the person being supported but have also experienced the benefits to me as a volunteer.