



Learning Disability Community Support Service Newsletter

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Design a Christmas Card

Over 150 designs were entered for the 2012 competition. Cards were painted, coloured and sprinkled with glitter. An amazing variety of materials were used to decorate the pictures including newspaper, photographs, tinsel and tissue paper. All this effort gave the judges (a panel of customers and staff) a difficult task when they came to choose their favourite design. The artists who submitted the short-listed pictures were invited to a celebration event where prizes were handed out and the overall winner was named as Shelley Winship from Delph View. Her picture will be used on our service Christmas card.



Gail Keating
1st - ENE



Shelley Winship
1st - WNW



Steven Ellener
1st - SSE



All the short-listed entrants
with their pictures

Going Digital

Did you know the newsletter is issued in March, June, September and December? It is published as a paper copy, as a pdf and in video format. You can find the pdf and video formats on the Council website from this address:

www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/Pages/LDCSS-newsletters.aspx

We like to be at the cutting edge of technology and, from Spring, you will also be able to view the video by using a Quick Response Code (QR) reader on your smart phone. Details to follow in the next issue.



All of us on the newsletter team would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Carol Benson (editor)



Calendar

December:

- 9-16th Hanukah (Judaism)
- 25th Christmas Day (Christianity)

January:

- 1st New Year's Day/Hogmanay
- 14th Makar Sankranti (Hinduism)
- 25th Burns Night (Scotland)

February:

- 8th Parinirvana (Buddhism)
- 10th Chinese New Year
- 13th Lent (Christianity)
- 14th St. Valentine's Day
- 25th Magha Puja (Buddhism)

March:

- 1st St. David's Day (Wales)
- 17th St. Patrick's Day (Ireland)
- 31st Easter Day (Christianity)

Healthy Fun

Shelley Winship has been taking a course with the Ministry of Food to learn how to cook healthy meals. She said she likes going to the course because she has made new friends and has learned to make soup, pizza, kebabs and pasta bake.



Picnic in the Park At Last!!

With only a few days of good weather this summer it looked as though the Picnic in the Park might never happen. However, we managed to slip it in between days of torrential rain when, despite a less than promising start to the day, the rain finally held off long enough.

The Off By Heart choir provided fabulous renditions of popular songs in the courtyard which had everyone singing along. Parachute games were organised by Yorkshire Dance in the amphitheatre which got people warmed up by running around.

Over 150 people turned up for the picnic. The hardy souls ate in the courtyard whilst others opted to eat in the café or the conference suite.

Ed from Potternewton did a great job with the ever popular spinning art whilst Carers Leeds and Chapeltown Citizens Advice Bureau were on hand to answer questions.



Fun at the Seaside

Customers from Rossefield Lawn went on a day trip to Scarborough. The weather was



Bus driver Andy takes to the train with Paul Musgrave and Andrew Woolley

fantastic and they packed a lot into the day. They went boating at Peasholme Park, fed the fish at

the Sea Life Centre and went to the amusement arcades on the sea front. It sounds like they had a great day.

Meanwhile customers at Delph View had fun planning the holiday of their dreams.



Linda Johnson's dream holiday

They collected pictures of different things to do with holidays such as the weather, transport, time of the year, accommodation, location, food and entertainment. Then they made posters of what would be their perfect holiday whilst eating snacks and listening to holiday music.

Getting in a Festive Mood

Stephen Carry from Potternewton Fulfilling Lives YAMSEN art competition. His artwork will be Mayor's brochure for this year's Christmas Carol awarded his prize by the Lord Mayor so

Delph View and Craven Road have been pretty grabbed some pens, paints and paper and, spent an evening designing cards which they competition. That was not enough for some Dorothy and Wanda, supported by Laura, carried decorations for their Christmas tree.

Pink Events

Potternewton held a *Pink Day* to raise money for breast cancer awareness. Customers, carers and staff from services across Leeds attended ... and everyone got into the spirit of the occasion by wearing something pink. There was coffee, cakes, tombola, a raffle and lucky wheel plus stalls selling bric-a-brac and craft work made by customers. The event raised over £350.



Kirsty Owens & Hazel Cannon are in the pink

Whilst Church Lane held a *Spooky Pink Friday* in aid of Breast Cancer Care.

Raffles and quizzes were held, including guessing the name of the spiders! A prize was awarded for the Best Pink Person

and staff, carers and local businesses donated goodies to help make the event a success. All this plus the sale of over 250 cupcakes made the day a great success and helped raise over £250.



Mega-tea-makers Lynn Simpson & Ella Jordinson

Green News

Despite the terrible weather Meho Kevric has managed to grow a crop of tomatoes. In fact he has a whole row of them ripening on the window sills in his flat. Not surprisingly, Meho is very proud of his tomatoes.



Customers from Tech North and Potternewton have been working on a recycling project. They are producing artwork and materials which will be used in a video that is being made by the Green Matters group. The video is about recycling for customers.



Café in the Park

Middleton Park Café opened on Monday 10th December. The café will be run Monday to Friday by our service and will provide training and paid employment for some customers who will be supported by staff. Friends of Middleton Park will operate the café at weekends. During the week the café will be open from 10:15 until 2:15, so why not go along and give them your support?



Service has won an award in the printed on the back of the Lord Concert. Stephen will be congratulations and well done!!!

busy of late too. First they using pictures for inspiration, entered into our Christmas Card people though ... Pamela, on over a weekend and made



Pamela Wignall with her decorations.

In Memoriam

It is with sadness that we report the recent deaths of two much loved and respected colleagues: Paula Coultas who died following a long illness and Mandy Knight who died very suddenly. Our thoughts are with their families and friends at this sad time and with the customers and colleagues of South Parkway where both Paula and Mandy worked. Mandy's family would like to thank everyone who contributed to the collection which raised £900 for the British Heart Foundation and LGI's Neurology Ward.

Congratulations to

.... Leon Cary who was nominated by a customer for his hard work in the Right Choices awards of excellence. Leon received a certificate and £50 which he donated to charity.

.... Helen Chapman, customers and staff based at our community base at Pudsey Leisure Centre 'swam the channel' recently. Everyone swam 23 lengths of Pudsey baths each week for 10 weeks which, added together, made 21 miles in distance! The swimmers hope to raise over £300 for people with mental health issues or who are homeless.



.... Linda Tait and Teresa Jardine (who both worked at Horsforth Fulfilling Lives) won the Adult Social Care Staff Awards for Excellence in the category of Working as a Team for Leeds and Sandra Wilson, a carer who works at the Changing Place shop based in Bramley Fulfilling Lives Service, who won in the Personal Achiever category.



Quick News

West Yorkshire Fire Service visited Woodnook Drive recently. They gave fire safety training to all the tenants who were shown a DVD and had a quiz.

Day Services Modernisation

The new community bases at Blackgates Community Centre in Tingley and Strawberry Lane Community Centre in Armley have opened. Customers and staff continue to report how delighted they are with the facilities and, more importantly, how quickly they have settled into the new buildings.

Customers and staff at Strawberry Lane teamed up with Armley Helping Hands and a youth group for a joint fun day. Everyone who took part had a great time and wore their medals with pride.



A Christmas Craft Fair was held by Rothwell Sports Centre community base. Santa was there in his frosty grotto wonderland and visitors could decorate their own gingerbread man. Over £450 was raised from the event.

breaking news

New Building gets Approval

Everyone from Rothwell Fulfilling Lives Service has now moved to their new community bases or West Ardsley. This enabled detailed surveys to be undertaken which showed the full extent of work that would be necessary to bring the old building up to the standard we require. It was decided that designing a new, purpose-built, facility would achieve better outcomes for customers and staff.

Design proposals have been shared with customers, carers, staff and other stakeholders and their feedback has been passed to the architects.



We are delighted to confirm that funding has been secured and the Council's Executive Board has given its backing to the project. It is now full steam ahead to obtain planning permission to enable construction work to begin in summer 2013. The work is scheduled to be completed in early 2014.