



Learning Disability Community Support Service Newsletter

In this issue

- Learning Disability Week
- Safe Places
- Beautiful Octopus Club
- News Round Up
- Service Plan 2012/13
- Day services update

Beautiful Octopus Club

The Octopus Club is a twice yearly night club run by people with learning disabilities, for people with learning disabilities, with support from staff at West Yorkshire Playhouse.



Everyone is encouraged to join the workshops beforehand to develop skills in art, playing instruments and DJ-ing.

It is always a great night out and well recommended for people who have not been before. The next one will be in September.

Safe Places in Leeds

A Safe Places scheme helps you if you get into difficulty whilst out and about in the community on your own. For example, because of harassment, bullying or maybe the person you are meeting fails to turn up.

The idea is simple. People with a learning disability join the scheme and carry a card with them when they go out which has their emergency contact details on. Organisations that



have signed up to be a Safe Place will display stickers in their window. The staff in the safe place venue will be able to assist anyone who goes to them for help.

We are leading the development of a Safe Places Scheme for Leeds. Our first Safe Place will be launched at the Bus Station on Wednesday, 22nd June as part of Learning Disability Week. More Safe Places will follow so watch this space!

Sugar Hill

Customers from the Potternewton Fulfilling Lives Service gardening group joined in a community event with other services and schools. They cleared the grounds and planted bulbs at Sugarwell Hill.



Calendar

June:

- 4th Spring Bank
- 6 - 29 Imagine 2012 Art Exhibition
- 18 - 24 Learning Disability Week

July:

- 13th Dharma Day (Buddhism)
- 20th Ramadan (Islam)

August:

- 10th Janmashtami (Hinduism)
- 19th Eid-UI-Fitr (Islam)

September:

- 17th Rosh Hashanah (Judaism)
- 26th Yom Kippur (Judaism)

Events

Monday 18th ● 10:00 - 12:30
Great Council Chamber Takeover - TAKE2

The week will be launched with an awareness raising event in the Council Chamber. This is an opportunity for people with learning disabilities to find out more about how decisions are made by Councillors in Leeds and to provide a platform to discuss the things that matter to us like feeling safe and having a good life.

Monday 18th ● 9:30 - 4:00
Include Me In Research Conference

Presentation of the Big Lottery funded research findings following an evaluation of the Leeds Independent Living Project. The event will see the launch of a social inclusion DVD, which has been developed based on the research findings, as a tool to support people moving home.

Wednesday 20th ● 10:00 - 2:00
Safe Places Scheme Launch

The first Safe Place in Leeds will be launched, so come along to find out more about the Safe Places Scheme and our plans for rolling this out across the City.

All welcome.

Friday 22nd
Picnic in the Park

Come and join us in the Park - we have Music, art and dance. It will be running, so remember to bring your own food and have a picnic with your friends.

Friday 22nd ● 6:30 - 9:00
A Night at the Races

An event being held in aid of the Friday Club at Leeds Mencap. With fun for all the family. Under 16s will be able to make bets with sweets provided by Mencap.

Adult Social Care
Leeds Learning Disability
Community Support Service



An exhibition of artwork by
adults with learning disabilities



6th to 29th
June

IMAGINE
2012

The Art Space, 1st Floor
Leeds City Library

All welcome - free entry during Library opening times
Weekday Art Workshops:
10:00 to 12:00 (pre-book only)
1:00 to 3:00 (drop in)

For more information and to make a group booking for the morning workshops contact:
Carolynne or Rebecca on 0113 214 3446



Leeds
Learning Disability Week
18th - 24th June

Wednesday 19th ● 10:00 - 12:00
Learning Disability Partnership Board

The Annual General Meeting is an open meeting though places are limited and booking is required.

Wednesday 20th ● 6:00 - 10:00
Summer Magic Party

Come along and join in the fun:

BBQ
Magic
Disco
fancy dress (if you dare)

pre-purchased ticket

● 11:00 - 2:00
East End Park

for a summer Picnic
weather permitting.
Workshops will
remember to bring your
fun with
!!!

Saturday 23rd ● 10:00 - 11:30
Leeds Rhinos Rugby Skills Workshop

We shall be teaming up with the Leeds Rhinos once again. Led by the Reserve Grade Academy, players will host a rugby skills workshop for people of all ages and abilities who use our service. There will also be a tour of the training facilities afterwards.

Thursday 21st ● 9:30 - 11:30
Progress 4 Providers Launch

A launch event to encourage providers in Leeds to use the Progress for Providers Managers tool. The session will give you the chance to find out more about the tool, how to use it and why it is useful. The session would be useful for both strategic and first line managers.

Sunday 24th ● 3:00 - 7:00
Olympic Torch Party

The official Olympic Torch will be making its way through East End Park, so why not get front row seats? Come along to join in the fun with Leeds Mencap at their open day. There will be fun workshops, craft sessions, performances, games and a family BBQ!

For more details about all the events taking place during Leeds Learning Disability Week, and booking information, please go to:

www.through-the-maze.org

Service Plan 2012/13

The Learning Disability Community Support Service 2012/13 Service Plan is out now. The booklet gives a good overview of the work that is undertaken within the service, what has been achieved in the past twelve months, and what our priorities are for the year ahead.



Day Services Modernisation

A further three new community bases have been opened (at Morley, Rothwell and Aireborough) which, between them, provide 60 places each day. The bases have been completely refurbished, redecorated and kitted out with new kitchen facilities and furniture.

Customers and staff from Horsforth Fulfilling Lives Service who have been visiting Calverlands day centre for taster sessions have now made the move 'next door', and a further 10 places each day are provided through this new partnership with Older Peoples Services. Taster sessions have also



been offered by all the organisations commissioned to provide new day opportunities. The programmes of activity are now getting into full swing with customers attending in line with their personal timetables.

The focus of the work over the next couple of months is on supporting the customers who have moved to settle into their new bases, and supporting the customers who remain at Rothwell and Horsforth Fulfilling Lives Services to move to West Ardsley and Bramley.

News Round-Up

A lot has been happening since the last newsletter! Here is a taster of some of the things customers have been up to:

Shelley & Chris took part in interviews held to recruit a new manager for Delph View supported living service.

Stephie went to the sailing open day held at Yeadon Tarn. She was very excited about taking part and had a great time, despite the weather being a bit grim.



After a long wait, James has moved into his new flat. James has redecorated the place to his taste (with help from dad) and is very happy.

Andrew organised his own 40th birthday party, with support from staff, and surprised family and friends by arranging for a limousine to take them all to the event.

After attending Moorend since it opened many years ago and, more recently, the new activities at Hillside and John Charles Centre, John has retired at the age of 69. To mark the occasion a party was thrown for him at Hillside. Many of his friends and staff were able to come along to wish John a long and happy retirement.

