



www.homestead.com/awareuk/

AWARE News

Issue 75 April 2006

Registered Charity
No. 1089617

AWARE NEWSLETTER

Easter Play scheme 12, 13 and 21 April

Easter play scheme for families but we do have limited supported places available - please contact Jo a.s.a.p. The scheme runs 10am to 3pm for all children up to age 16 - they are welcome to bring a friend. Cost is £2 per family plus £1 for a friend; please bring a packed lunch. The supported places are for children age 8 – 16 years and cost £8 per child per day.

Wallace & Gromitt 23 April

We are delighted to say that Jo has organised another autism-friendly screening, this time Wallace & Gromitt on Sunday 23rd April at 10.45am (doors will open 10.30am) at the Leeds/Bradford Odeon, Gallagher Leisure Park, Thornbury, Bradford. Tickets are £3.95 and one carer per child with an ASD goes free. We have asked for the sound to be lower than usual, for there to be low lights and no trailers. This is the second trial so please take advantage and we hope to make it a regular event.

Swimming Sessions

Craven (Aireville) swimming pool, Saturday 8 April, 6-7pm. Cost £1 per person - a committee member will try to be at the sessions, will make themselves known and will collect the money; please pay them not the centre staff and show your AWARE membership card.

AWARE Meetings

Tuesday 11th April 7.30 pm NB this is during the Easter school holidays Jill Wallis will talk about Brain Gym.

Last month's meeting was about the use of Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) in teaching children with ASD. The official speaker was unable to make the meeting so one of our parents talked about her family's positive experiences of running an ABA programme. We hope to have a speaker from Autism Partnership at a later date. Watch this space!

Librarian needed urgently!

Our librarian has moved home and can no longer look after our valuable resource of books so please can anyone take over her role, keeping the books in their home and bringing them to our monthly meetings at the CDC? Please contact Jo asap!

Youth Club NB No Youth Club on 14 & 21 April.

AWARE Youth Club takes place at **Addingham Youth Centre 7pm-9pm Fridays** for 7-16 yr olds, for children with ASD and/or their siblings/a friend. £2 per family + £1 a friend. A parent must stay with each family, and new members are always welcome.

More contacts are needed of people who can organise specific sessions at youth club, e.g. crafts, sport, drama, music etc. If you know anyone who could take a session, then please call Jo. We have some funds to pay people and we would like to build up a bank of people we can call on occasionally.

Monday Night Youth Club for 12-18 yr olds

This club for teenagers with Asperger's Syndrome or high functioning autism is run by Tony Parkinson from Bradford Children's Disabilities Team, with the help of a group of trained and dedicated volunteers. The club meets at Addingham Youth Centre, 7-9 pm, Monday nights, with a weekly sub of £1. If you think your son or daughter would be interested, please get in touch with Tony on 01274 734018 or mobile 07880984686.

Trampoline Sessions

The next session will be Saturday 29 April at 11am. Please book ahead with Jo.

Bowling

AWARE's next family bowling session will take place on Sunday 30 April at 11am, at AMF Bowling, Alston Retail Park, Keighley, at a reduced price of £2.50 per person per game. If you would like to join us next time, please call Jo by Friday 21 April.

First AWARE Coffee Morning 25 April

Our first coffee morning will be at Addingham youth centre, Tuesday 25 April, 10 - 12 am.

Autism and Visual Impairment

If anyone any experience of autism & visual impairment, please contact Jo as we have new family needing some advice.

Fundraise for AWARE with the Craven Community Walk

The Rotary Club of Skipton is staging its second annual sponsored Charity Walk on Sunday 7th May 2006 between 10am and 6pm. Rotary will map the course with options of 5 and 10 miles and provide registration forms, sponsor forms and walk information. The route is not suitable for buggies & wheelchairs, but dogs on a lead will be welcome. All the forms can be downloaded from the Rotary Club of Skipton website. Visit www.skipton-rotary.org.uk for more details or call Jo.

Fundraise for AWARE with old mobile phones and used stamps!

Jo has found another way of raising funds for us: by collecting old mobile phones which can be recycled, and used postage stamps. Please could you give Jo any phones you are no longer using and also all stamps cut out from envelopes (please leave a very thin paper margin around the stamp otherwise Jo will have to spend time cutting them down - which defeats the purpose of this fundraising ...!!)

[Www.buy.at/aware](http://www.buy.at/aware)

Make it your home page, or put it in your favourites, tell your friends. It doesn't cost you any extra, but we get a percentage of the profits.

Printer Cartridges

Please check to see if empties are recycled at your place of work. If not, you could offer to collect them for AWARE. You can bring them to meetings or the youth club or contact Caroline Whitaker on 01535 657402 to arrange collection. Please note that previously re-manufactured inkjet cartridges or damaged ones are no good.

Wales' 2nd International Autism Conference 8 - 10 May 2006

Speakers include: Tony, Simon Baron Cohen, Pat Howlin and Stephanie Shirley. Workshops include: Jacqui Jackson and Ros Blackburn. Cost: Professional £299, Parent of child with asd £145, Person with asd £130. To book, call 029020 463263 or email buv@autismcymru.org. PLACES ARE LIMITED - Bursary available for parents.

Donna Williams' lecture: Autism as a Fruit Salad: why there is no one thing called an Autism Spectrum Condition

Donna Williams (diagnosed with Autism, a sociologist and qualified teacher and author) will give a lecture on 27th May 2006 at 7pm at St Mary's Church and Community Centre, Bramall Lane, Sheffield S2 4QZ. For further information, please contact: christine.breakey@spectrumfirst.co.uk or 0114 266 9731. Tickets cost £15 for professionals and £10 for parents/carers and people with ASD. Cheques to: Spectrum First Ltd, 13 Spring Hill, Crookesmoor, Sheffield S10 1ET

Disabled Facilities Grant

The means test on the Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) was finally abolished in England on 27 October 2005. The DFG helps families of disabled children pay for adaptations to their homes, including downstairs bedrooms and bathrooms. The means test failed to recognise real expenditure like mortgage repayments, meaning very few families were able to receive financial support. For a free booklet about DFG, call 0870 1226 236 www.odpm.gov.uk

Help with insulation costs

Scottish Power is currently running a scheme for cavity wall insulation and loft insulation whereby if anyone in your home receives DLA at any rate you are eligible for this service at no charge. The telephone number is 0845 063 5000

Useful Contacts/Guides

A new guide for families of children with complex healthcare needs is available from www.familyfund.org.uk or telephone 0845 1304542.

makingcontact.org is an online service from Contact a Family, which gives parent/carers an opportunity to get in touch safely and easily with other parents whose children are affected by the same or similar disabilities or medical condition.

Are you a single parent? Visit the single-parent Action Network (SPAN) website www.singleparents.org.uk to find information, advice & details of local groups and first-hand experiences to help you manage and enjoy life as a single parent. Call: 0854500399

Drop in Sessions for Carers

Wed 5/4	10.30 – 12.00	Bingley Drop in Bunters café, Myrtle Park, Bingley
Tue 11	10.00 – 12.00	Walk (at 10am) and Coffee morning (at 11am) at Utopia Broughton Park, Skipton.
Fri 7	10.30 – 12.00	Keighley drop in, Wetherspoons, North Street, Keighley.
Fri 21	10.30 – 12.00	Ilkley drop in, Oasis café, Church Street, Ilkley

Carers Resource. 01756700888

Email Newsletter If you have an e-mail address and would like to receive correspondence and / or the newsletter electronically, send an e-mail to jo.galasso@tesco.net . NB Please confirm who you are if your email address doesn't have your name in it.

Help Lines: Need help or support?

The National Autistic Society Parents' Help line: 0845 070 4004 (Mon-Fri 10-4)

email Help Line: autismhelpline@nas.org.uk

PARIS (Public Autism Resource and Information Service): www.info.autism.org.uk

Health Care Professionals Information: 0171 903 3599

Bradford Parent Partnership Line: 01274 481183

North Yorkshire Parent Partnership 01756 792427

Bradford MDC Children's Services: 01274437500

Leeds Social Services: 01133984702.

Carers' Resource, The Wheel House, The Water Mill Park, Broughton Hall Business Park, Broughton, Skipton, BD23 3AG: 01756 700888

Children's Information Link www.bradford.gov.uk/childcare

Barton Hill Advice Service (guides to claiming disability living allowance, attendance allowance and incapacity benefit) www.bhas.org.uk

Project Manager Contact Details

AWARE phone line : 01943 466543, **mob.** 07764432933, **email** jo.galasso@tesco.net

Address: 52 Chippendale Rise, Otley, LS21 2BJ

Committee Members

Chairperson - Kathy Altringham Tel. 01943 609103 email: altringham@lineone.net

Secretary- Margaret Nash Tel. 01274 564156 email: margaretnash1@btinternet.com

Website - Julie Finlayson Tel. 01535 636735 email: JulieF4321@aol.com

Treasurer - Gary Owen

Librarian -

Membership Sec.- Nina Prosser Tel. 01943 601370 email: nprosser@hotmail.co.uk

Publicity Officer - Lynne Fryer Tel. 01535 640841

Assistant Secretary - Karen Robertson email: karenrobertson31@hotmail.com

Committee Member - Kath Pickard

Committee Member - Lewis Mackenzie

AWARE thanks the following for their support this year:

Bradford Carers' Grant



BBC Children in Need Appeal