

AWARE News July 2012

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www.homestead.com/awareuk/

www.awareuk.org



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July	Time	Activity & Location	Cohort/Age Group	Cost
Fridays 6, 13 & end-of-year party on 20th	7 – 9pm N.B. No club on 27th	Friday Youth Club Addingham Youth Centre	Children 7 – 16 years, inc. siblings (Parents stay)	£3.50/family + £1/friend.
Friday 6	9.30 – 11.30am	New Diagnosis Group Strong Close Nursery Book with Margaret	Parents/carers of newly diagnosed children; babies & toddlers welcome	Donations welcome
Saturday 7	1.30 – 3.30pm	Junior Youth Club Addingham Youth Centre Book with Rachel	Families with younger children up to about 11years, inc siblings	£3.50/family + £1/friend
Please ring, text, email Rachel rachelmiller71@hotmail.co.uk 07826926150 to let her know you are coming as equipment will be left out from the Friday club, and some help will be needed by those who attend to put it away again.				
Tuesday 10	8pm	AWARE AGM Cow & Calf Inn, Ilkley – see page 2 for details	Parents, Carers, Professionals, anyone interested	Free
Saturday 14	10am – 1pm	Cookery Club Addingham Youth Centre Register interest with Jo	Age 12+. Parents don't stay - young people will have AWARE support	£12/person
Sunday 15 Ice Age 4 (U, 2D)	11.30am	Leeds/Bradford Odeon Leisure Park Thornbury See page 2 Just turn up	All family	See page 2 Carer free
Wednesday 18	10am – 2pm	Coffee Morning – Addingham Youth Centre see page 2 Book with Jo/Margaret	Parents/carers, babies & toddlers welcome.	Donations welcome
Thursday 18 ⁹	10 am – 12.30pm	Walking Group – see page 2 for details Book with Margaret	Parents/carers	Free but bring money for coffee-stop!
Saturday 21/22	T.B.C.	Trip Club: residential at Nell Bank	Age 12+. Parents don't stay - young people will have AWARE support	£30/person
For further information contact Rachel Miller on 07826 92615				
Sunday 22 July	3.15 – 4.15 pm	Swimming with inflatables & slide Keighley Leisure Centre Book places with Jo – Do please let us know if you've booked and CAN'T make it so we can offer the places to another family	All family (max. 20 children/ session)	£2.50/swimmer
Thurs 26 & Tues 31 July	10am-3pm	Play Scheme Just turn up Stay and Play Sessions Addingham Youth Centre N.B. No Supported places available in July	Families with children 0 – 16 years, including siblings /friend	£3/half day £6/full day/Family +£1/friend
Friday 27	11am-2.30pm	Nell Bank Day Book with Jo/Rachel	Families with children approx.. 5-13yrs	£9/child, adults free

See our Summer Program for further play schemes and trips during the holidays

For further details of all our activities contact Jo 07764432933.

AWARE Library will be available at Youth Club on 20 July. Please contact our librarian, Alison, on 07932258170, if you are unable to access these dates and wish to borrow any particular resources (a full list is available in the members' section of our website).

Friday 6 July: New Diagnosis Group

If you would like to get together informally with a small group of parents whose children/young people have been (relatively!) recently diagnosed to chat and discuss issues such as play skills, diet, sleep, toileting, benefits, please contact Margaret. We are meeting at Strong Close Nursery in Keighley on Friday 6 July 9.30 – 11.30am. Please book in advance for the NDG with me (so I can buy enough chocolate biscuits!): 07854 740071 or margaretnash@thomasnash.orangehome.co.uk

AWARE Annual General Meeting, 8pm on 10 July at The Cow & Calf Inn, near Ilkley (N.B. no meetings at The CDC, Airedale Hospital until September)

10 July is our 2012 AGM so make sure you come along to find out more about what AWARE has been doing and what we are planning – our annual report will be available on the night, as well as a report on all those questionnaires many of you kindly completed! Any new nominations to join the committee should be made to Chris Moor, AWARE Chair, (moormeister@gmail.com) at least one week before the AGM, i.e. by 3 July at the latest.

Last month's speaker was Cheryl Paul from The Bradford Parent Partnership Service which is for all parents/carers of children who have, or may have, special educational needs. If you missed this informative meeting, please have a look at: www.barnardos.org.uk/parentpartnershipservice.htm

Cinema: Sunday 15 July: autism-friendly screening of Ice Age 4 (U, 2D)

Animated adventure sequel Ice Age Continental Drift is the next Autism Friendly Film Screening at over 80 ODEONs across the UK and Ireland on **Sunday 15th July, 11:30am**. For details of the national autism friendly screenings, including a trailer, see <http://www.dimensions-uk.org/what-we-do/autism/autism-friendly-films> [Autism Friendly Film Screenings Homepage](#)

[Your questions answered](#) about booking, pricing and CEA Cards (free entry to Carers).

Walking Groups: mid-week for parents/carers and weekends for families: 1 & 19 July

Weekend Walks with the Thomas family, message from Diane: *Next walk on 1st July: we will meet at 11.00 at Leathley Village Hall nr Otley, post code LS21 2LD, opposite the church. There is a small car park at the Hall but you can also park on the grass verge lower down the road if full. We will do a 5 mile circular route which is mostly flat. Please book with Diane 01943 863519/Mob 07563 733576/ diane.thomas1964@gmail.com*

Mid-week ramble with Ronda: for parents/carers only – Thursday 19 July, meet at The Stocks, Bingley Market Place at 10am prompt. Email/text Margaret (07854 740071) to book and for further information.

N.B. For both groups, it is advisable to wear walking boots/walking shoes and take waterproofs – please also print off and sign the disclaimer.

End of Year Youth Club Party, Friday 20 July

Come along to our summer celebrations and maybe try out the giant bouncy slide! Please bring a contribution of food to share. Everyone welcome!

Summer Holiday Play scheme 26, 27 (Nell Bank) & 31 July and see attached programme for August dates

Stay & Play £6/family/day – just turn up; Family/Child. Take a look at our videoette to see what it's like before attending: <http://sites.createvideomarketing.com/sites/185/AboutAware>

Summer Programme, including trips to Nell Bank, Chester, Lightwater Valley and Blackpool

See attached summer flyer for dates/prices and book with Jo asap.

Disability Rocks: were you there?

Trip Club and several other AWARE members enjoyed an amazing celebration at Nell Bank on a hot (really!), sunny Saturday at the end of May – see www.nellbank.com/Events Organiser, Richard Sutton, Chair of the PFBA, has already booked a date for next year and is also organising another event to be held in Pudsey just before Christmas - well done, Richard, watch this space!

Pamper Day

As part of Carers Week, 19 carers were treated to relaxing therapies and a delicious lunch on Wednesday 20 June. Thanks to Lois and Louise, our lovely therapists, to Amanda and Imogen of Carers' Resource who came along to advise and support our members and a special thanks to volunteer Rosie who worked

hard all day: helping set up everything, making drinks and washing up and entertaining children – all when she could have been revising for her GCSEs! We missed volunteer Jenny Jeffels, of course, and wish her well in her recovery and hope she will be there for the next Pamper Day.

Thank you for all your fundraising efforts!

We've recently signed up to **justtextgiving** – an easy way for anyone to donate money to us simply text AWAR12 £10 (amount you want to donate) to 70070. **Nothing yet so will you be the first!?**

Easy fundraising: please register to receive updates and for just a few clicks you can make £'s for AWARE - visit <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/aware> **Total for Easy fundraising is £11.35**

Sign up to everyclick – where each search you do generates a very small amount but the more people who do it the more we'll raise: <http://www.everyclick.com/awareuk> **Total for Everyclick is £30.25**

Thank you to those people who've signed up but you need to keep using everyclick to do your searches to create funds, make it your default search engine, or homepage.

Don't forget to keep **recycle ink cartridges** for us (the HP one's are the most lucrative e.g. HP336, HP 338 give £3.25, HP 343 give £3.15) so PLEASE do recycle your cartridges via The Recycling Factory envelopes – to get one, please ring 08000910696, or visit www.therecyclingfactory.com or pick up one next time you are at an AWARE event (only Canon, HP, Lexmark and Dell cartridges now accepted).

Please, please do continue with your donations and fundraising efforts such as car boot sales, sponsored events, selling things on eBay. Use our web shop: <http://www.spendandraise.com/aware/> a 'gateway' to many internet shops and when you shop we receive a percentage of your spend or an amount agreed by the company **at no additional cost to yourself**. Amazon, M&S, Play.com and lots of major stores and

Yellow Moon www.yellowmoon.org.uk (which sells art, craft, toys and gifts at very reasonable prices) now give 20% cash back to AWARE. Just quote our source code WAW01693 when you buy!

News from the NAS

Have a look at the NAS' 50th birthday report, *The way we are: autism in 2012*, following one of the largest ever surveys into autism. The report is available at www.autism.org.uk/50report Some sombre statistics and some very interesting real stories.

From and NAS press release: An influential group of MPs and peers have published the findings of their investigation into changes to the SEN system.

The [All Party Parliamentary Group on Autism](#), chaired by Robert Buckland MP, held its SEN Commission to examine the Government's proposals to reform the SEN system. The Commission had nearly 1,000 responses to its survey and took evidence from experts in autism and SEN, teachers and school staff, parents and young people on the autism spectrum, as well as Sarah Teather MP, minister for SEN, and shadow minister, Sharon Hodgson MP. You can [read the report here](#).

N.B. NAS members: don't forget to ask for your NAS membership fee to be donated to one of our neighbouring groups; Keighley or Harrogate – just give the NAS a ring, see page 4 for numbers!

A few hints from AWARE members, other parents of children on the spectrum & our supporters:

Have you joined AWARE's new Facebook group? Lots of sharing here – please join in!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/317649321643365/>

Parents' Forum on Facebook link (*thanks, Louise*):

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Parent-Forum-for-Bradford-Airedale/199766446771136>

Keighley & Worth Valley NAS on Facebook (*thanks, Amanda*):

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/174507902569043/>

Personal Independence Payment (PIP) This is the new benefit to replace Disability Living Allowance (DLA) from April 2013 for people aged 16-64. DWP have produced a useful guide to the new benefit published in January 2012. <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/docs/personal-independence-payment-faqs.pdf> (*Thank you, Carers' Resource! Click on this button to access the latest version of [Choices](#), the Carers' Resource newsletter.*)

Research Autism Latest information PDF version at <http://www.researchautism.net/newsletterpdf>

I know I've mentioned this website before BUT it REALLY is worth visiting: www.netbuddy.org.uk is full of handy [tips](#) and bright ideas from parents, carers, teachers and therapists with experience of learning disability and autism. It is a 'by you, for you' special needs resource, offering practical solutions to everyday issues – from brushing [teeth](#) to challenging [behaviour](#).

For more information on iPads and apps recommended by other parents and carers of children with special needs, you really can't do better than visit the Netbuddy website at www.netbuddy.org.uk/info-packs/aaps/ipad The site also has an assistive technology specialist who provides free advice on its forum – see: www.netbuddy.org.uk/forums/thread/88/

News from The Autism Education Trust: the [AET Training Programme](#) has been successfully launched, with over 1,500 school staff having already received Level 1 training. This term we are piloting Levels 2 and 3 training, which will be available in full from September. There has been a hugely positive response to the training sessions so far and schools can still sign up. Find out more [here](#). N.B. New inclusion Development Resource is available on their website.

The latest e-bulletin from Bradford LINK is ready to download now from

www.bradfordlink.org.uk/connectupdate

www.totallyyours.co.uk is an online directory which aims to provide information on events, support groups, products, holidays etc for disabled people and their families.

The Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities has today launched a new guide providing information for family carers of people with learning disabilities about the NHS Continuing Healthcare (NHS CHC). <http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk/our-news/181563/>

Help Lines: Need help or support?

The National Autistic Society www.nas.org.uk autismhelpline@nas.org.uk

Education Rights Service: 0808 800 4102 **Autism Helpline:** 0808 800 4104

Parent-to-Parent Service: 0808 800 4106 Calls are free from landlines & most mobiles.

The Autism Services Directory <http://www.nas.org.uk/nas/jsp/polopoly.jsp?d=113&a=5704>

Parentline Plus 0800 80 2222 Parentline is a free, confidential service for any parent, any time.

Parent Partnership Bradford 01274 481183 Leeds 0113 395 1200 Craven & Harrogate 01609 534983

Social Care Children's Services Bradford 01274 437500 Leeds 0113 3984702 Craven 01756 793700

Support for Carers Carers Connection Bradford www.carers-in-bradford.nhs.uk 01274 363440

Carers Resource, Skipton http://carersresource.smartchange.org/mw_bran2.phtml 01756 700888

Carers Resource, Shipley Tel: 01274 449660 **Carers Leeds** www.carers.org 0113 246 8338

Disability Advice Bradford 01274 594173, Leeds 0113 214 3630, Skipton 01535 617400

Contact a Family advice on benefits & finance for families with a child with a disability

www.cafamily.org.uk/cashcounts 0808 808 3555 **General helpline** email helpline@cafamily.org.uk

Looking for childcare www.thefamilyhubleeds.org www.bradford.gov.uk/childcare

Transitions service <http://www.dimensions-uk.org/index.php>

Bradford Family Information Service (FIS) for information about childcare, nursery education, children's activities and family support services. Tel: 01274 437503 or <http://fis.bradford.gov.uk/fis/home>

Bradford Toy Library, St Luke's Call Emma or Michelle on 01274 365463.

Play Partners can help children with a disability access play or holiday schemes 01274 431571

Disclaimer: Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this newsletter or material AWARE produces, AWARE Management Committee (Trustees) and any staff (paid or unpaid) cannot accept liability for any matters connected with or arising from this information. AWARE does not recommend any particular approach to autism: we merely seek to inform so families can make their own decisions, tailored to the individual concerned.

AWARE thanks the following for their support this year:

