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AWARE News

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AWARE NEWSLETTER

AWARE Meetings Tuesday 9th May 7.30 pm.

This month's topic will be choosing secondary education and will be parent-led. If you have any experience choosing secondary education, please come along and share your experiences, good or bad; many parents are wanting help and advice and who best to give it than those who have gone through it or who are living with it.

Last month Jill Wallis talked and gave a short demo of Brain Gym; she has kindly agreed to come to our June coffee morning for those who missed it or who would like to know more.

AGM

The AWARE AGM will take place at The Bridge Inn, Keighley on 11 July at 7.30pm. Some committee members who have been with AWARE for a long time will be stepping down that evening, so please come along and show your appreciation of their hard work over the years. We shall, of course, be looking for some members to take their places, preferably parents whose children are currently accessing AWARE events so that they are already involved.

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!

Half Term Play Scheme Thurs 1st & Fri 2nd June

The play scheme is 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.

The Easter play scheme on 12, 13 and 21 April was a great success. Watch this space for details of the summer scheme.

Autism friendly screenings - please ring Jo for confirmation or check our website.

Unfortunately, the cinema manager forgot to book the screening of Wallace and Gromitt, he has sent his sincere apologies to all the people who turned up and has assured us that this will NOT happen again. Jo is waiting for confirmation of the screening of The Pink Panther, on Sunday 21 May at 10.45am at the Leeds/Bradford

Odeon, Gallagher Leisure Park, Thornbury, Bradford. Tickets are £3.95 and one carer per child with an ASD goes free. Usual adjustments - sound to be lower, low lights and no trailers.

Swimming Sessions

Craven (Aireville) swimming pool, Saturday 13 May, 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.

Youth Club crafts and roller blades!

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. Crafts on 12 and 26 May; 12 May is also Roller Blade night - bring your own skates. NB No youth club on 2 June.

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 20 May at 11am (also at youth club on Friday 19 May). Please book ahead for the Saturday with Jo.

Bowling

AWARE's next family bowling session will take place on Sunday 28 May 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, please call Jo by Friday 19 May.

AWARE Coffee Morning - Tuesday 16 May

Our first coffee morning Addingham youth centre was enjoyed by all the parents who attended, so please join them at the next one at on Tuesday 16 May, 10 - 12 am.

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. Visit www.skipton-rotary.org.uk 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 old mobile phones you are no longer using and also all stamps cut out from envelopes.

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

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.

Prospects Employment in Bradford

The NAS have received funding until 2007 to run a programme for adults with ASDs who would like the opportunity to succeed in employment. For further information, call Suzanne Lees on 0114 267 6210; email: prospects-leeds@nas.org.uk or visit: www.nas.org.uk/prospects/yorkshumber

The Resource at King Egbert School Conference 1 July, 9.20 - 4.15

Speakers include Dr Patricia Howlin and Genevieve Edmonds. For info/booking form, contact Rachel Leader or Leanne Brown on 0114 2369931

BILD Courses: Telephone 01562 723025

Criminal Justice Issues & Autistic Spectrum Disorder: the need to know more

9 June 2006 West Midlands - BILD in partnership with autism.west midlands

Social stories and play skills for children with autistic spectrum disorders

London 13 June 2006 Event code SASD4

Personalised learning using supportive strategies in and out of the classroom: PLLuSS

This workshop addresses the needs of the child with complex autism and an inability to learn and stay in the classroom. Manchester 15 June 2006 Event code PLSS3

Intensive interaction

Leeds 20 June 2006 Event code ININ1

NAS Courses: Telephone 0115 911 3367

Structured teaching in the home - Professor Gary Mesibov, Director of Division TEACCH, North Carolina, USA. 13 May 2006 Glasgow

Challenging behaviour in autism

Michael McCreadie, Deputy Principal Daldorch School, Brian Smith, Music Therapist and Gillian Martin, Behaviour Specialist, The Callan Institute. 14 June 2006 Edinburgh

Autistic spectrum disorders and sexuality

Thursday. 6 July 2006 Manchester

Drop in Sessions for Carers

Wed 3 May	10.30 – 12.00	Bingley Drop in Bunters café, Myrtle Park, Bingley
Tue 9	10.00 – 12.00	Keighley drop in, Wetherspoons, North Street, Keighley.
Weds 10	10.30 – 12.00	SCAD boat trip for carers and the person they care for. Call Barbara on 01756 700888 for more info/to book
Fri 26	10.30 – 12.00	Ilkley drop in, Oasis café, Church Street, Ilkley

Carers Resource: 01756 700888

Useful Contacts/Guides/Info

Disabled Toilets: If you ever need to find public toilets urgently for your child, you may want to invest in a Radar Key to access more than 6500 toilets nationwide. The keys cost £3 - £4 and are available from www.radar.org.uk (go to bookshop); Disability Advice Bradford (call 01274 594173 for an info pack), or the Shopmobility schemes.

Breakaway 2000 runs holidays for people with special needs - call 01423 529153 for more info.

Ryedale Autism Support Group meets every second Tuesday in the month at 121 Town Street, Old Malton, from 7.30pm. Tel: 01653 69900

The Cellar Project supports people with mental health problems, offers a variety of courses and training opportunities. Call: 01274 586474

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

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Committee Members

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

Committee Members - Kath Pickard, Bev Bertwistle and Lewis Mackenzie

AWARE thanks the following for their support this year:



Bradford Carers' Grant

BBC Children in Need Appeal