

AWARE News May 2009

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Issue 109

www.homestead.com/awareuk/

www.awareuk.org



Contact details: AWARE phone line: 01943 466543 Mobile: 077644 32933
email: jo.galasso@tesco.net Mrs. Jo Galasso, 52 Chippendale Rise, Otley LS21 2BJ

May Dates	Time	Activity & Location	Cohort/Age Group	Cost
Mon 11 & 18 NB no club on 4 th & 25 th	7 – 9pm	Monday Youth Club Addingham Youth Centre *Ring Sarah Jamieson to attend	HFA/AS 12+ and siblings age 8 - 17 (Parents don't stay)	£1/ person
Fridays 1, 8, 15 & 22 NB no Youth Club on 29 th	7 – 9pm	Friday Youth Club Addingham Youth Centre Just turn up	Children 7 – 16 yrs, inc siblings (Parents stay)	£2 /family + £1/friend
Saturday 9 with trampoline Saturday 16 with bouncy castle	1.30 – 3.30pm NB. New time.	Junior Youth Club Addingham Youth Centre Please ring, text, email to let us know you are coming as equipment will be left out from the Friday club, some help will be needed by those who attend to put it away again.	Families with young children up to about 11 years, inc siblings	£2 /family + £1/friend
Sunday 10 Magadascar 2 	11am Doors open 10.50am	Cinema Leeds/Bradford Odeon Gallagher Leisure Park Thornbury, Bradford *Tickets can be pre-booked to avoid queuing, at www.odeon.co.uk Film info line 08712244007	All family Just turn up	£2.50/child adults free
Tuesday 12	7.30pm	Parents' meeting The CDC, Airedale Hospital Just turn up	Parents, Carers, Professionals, anyone interested	Free
Wednesday 13	10am – 12pm	Coffee Morning Addingham Youth Centre Just turn up	Parents/carers - babies & toddlers welcome.	Free
Weds 27 & Thurs 28		Family Play scheme Just turn up Supported places pre-booking essential.	Any age up to 16 years – parents stay. Children 8 – 16 years with an ASC	£2 /family + £1/friend £8/child

N.B. For further details of all our activities contact Jo 07764432933; for the Monday club contact *Sarah Jamieson on 01274 734018 or email sarah.jamison@bradford.gov.uk

Please remember to send us your used stamps; mobile phones and ink cartridges!
AWARE Library will be available on 22 May, 7 – 9pm at Friday Youth Club

Spring Bank Holiday playscheme Wed 27th & Thurs 28th May

Wed 27th and Thurs 28th May: supported places available at £8 per child per day - ring Jo to book these; otherwise just turn up on the day (10am – 3pm – bring a packed a lunch!).

Fundraise by using our webshop and by giving AWARE your old mobile phones, used stamps & empty ink cartridges

Don't forget to use our webshop, www.buy.at/aware 'gateway' to many internet shops and if you go shopping via this gateway we receive a percentage of your spend or an amount agreed by the company *at no additional cost to yourself*. A few of the most well used shops are M & S, Amazon, Waterstones, Iceland plus many, many more. Please support us by doing your shopping via the above address: make it your home page so you'll never forget to use it!

Please bring along old mobile phones, used stamps and empty ink cartridges to any of our sessions, or ring Jo to arrange collection

Cinema: Sunday 10 May, autism-friendly screening of 'Madagascar 2'

Being stuck in the wilderness shouldn't be a problem for these animals in this comedy sequel to the smash hit 'Madagascar'. Whilst trying to return back to New York and their beloved zoo, Marty, Alex and the rest of the animals become stranded in the wilderness of the African plains, meeting their wild cousins for the very first time. Will they enjoy their new found home or will they want to return back to their own special Central Park zoo?

Parents' meeting, Tuesday 12 May: Ann Roli from 'Aiming High'

In January 2008, 21 'pathfinders' for Aiming High for Disabled Children were announced by the Government. Bradford was awarded £5,174,500 to be spent over three years on improving the range and number of short breaks for disabled children and their parents and carers.

In April 2008, Ann Roli was initially appointed as the Aiming High Project Manager and then as Commissioner for Disabled Children in August 2008. Ann's role is to take a lead on the development of a project plan and commissioning strategy to meet the requirements of Aiming High for Disabled Children.

As we approach the end of year one, Ann can report on the many initiatives already undertaken to increase the range of short breaks available to disabled children and young people such as a new sitting service; building a new accessible lodge at Nell Bank; increase direct payments; grants to voluntary groups to provide school holiday activities and much, much more. Ann will also give an overview of the plans for year twos and three of the project and looks forward to hearing from parents about what they would like to see change in their local area.

Last month, instead of our usual parents' meeting at Airedale CDC, fifteen members enjoyed a meal at The Cow & Calf, Ilkley. Our next meeting there will be the AGM in July.

Coffee Morning, Addingham, Wednesday 13 May

Come along, have a cuppa and a chat, gain support from others and share your experiences. If there any particular topics you would like to discuss, please let Jo know in advance as we may be able to arrange a speaker for a future date.

Free travel for Children with Statement of Special Needs

One of our members (thank you!) has contacted us to share some information about FREE travel for children with a statement. The leaflet "Concessions for Disabled and Blind People" doesn't mention Statemented children but she explained that they are in fact entitled to the Pass. Parents/Carers of Statemented children in West Yorkshire need to:-

- 1) Pick up the "Concessions for Disabled and Blind People" leaflet from a bus station
- 2) Contact the appropriate area office to request an application form for a Concessionary bus pass for their particular age-group
- 3) Get a letter from the child's School on headed paper saying he/she is statemented
- 4) Get a Doctor's letter stating the child needs accompanied when travelling
- 5) And get a passport photo (as stated on application form)

The card received has a symbol on the RH corner entitling the child plus companion to free off-peak bus travel throughout England, Mon-Fri; all day at weekends and Public Holidays and they're also entitled to concessionary train fare in West Yorkshire (if that's where you live) off-peak Mon-Fri; all day at weekends and Public Holidays.

Booklet to make travelling by plane for children with an ASC easier

Please find attached an e-copy of a booklet, recommended by another of our members (thanks again!) and produced by Manchester Airport for children on the spectrum to help prepare them for the journey. Great idea for everyone new to flying! Hard copies can be requested free of charge from Manchester Press office on: 0161 489 2700.

Nell Nank Fun Day Saturday, 6 June

Please find enclosed/attached a leaflet about the next Fun day at Nell Bank. AWARE are also planning a group visit there in the summer – watch this space for further details!

NAS news: help! courses in Wetherby

Thursday 4th June 2009 – (10.15am – 2.30pm): Meeting your Child's Sensory Needs

Friday 5th June 2009 – (10.15am – 2.30pm): Supporting the Siblings of your child with an ASD

For any queries relating to help! 2 seminars please contact: Jan Fuller on 0191 5680732

Train Walk???? Still awaiting info

Intensive Interaction Conference, Leeds, Monday 22 June 2009

This year's conference, chaired by Dave Hewett, will present a rich range of learning opportunities that will help promote a broader view of Intensive Interaction, whilst also addressing specific practical issues and competencies. The conference includes a range of presentations and workshops designed for those who currently practice, support or promote the use of Intensive Interaction for people with learning disabilities and/or autism.

For further information: www.andrewsimscentre.nhs.uk Email: ASC@leedspft.nhs.uk Tel: 0113 305 5638
Leeds Metropolitan University, Headingley Campus, Leeds

Visual Support Strategies for Adults with Autism

Two Day Workshop, Cardiff, Thursday 21st and Friday 22nd May. This course, created and run by Opportunity Housing Trust, focuses specifically on the needs of the adult population who have autism and live within supported accommodation. For more details or to book on to this course please contact Vicki Williams at OHT on **02920 236216** or email vickiw@oht.org.uk

Research participants required

The Autism Research Centre (ARC) is looking for participants in a new study being conducted as part of a PhD project by Jillian Sullivan, looking at the relationship between head circumference measurements and behavioural and cognitive characteristics in children with ASCs between the ages of 2 and 6 years, and comparing these to both typically developing children and to typically developing siblings of children with autism. Essentially, they are looking for: looking parents of two groups of children :

- (1) Children with an ASC diagnosis currently between 2 and 6 years
- (2) Children who are currently between 2 and 6 years old who have an older or younger sibling who has been diagnosed with an ASC.

If you are the parent or caregiver of either (or both) of these groups of children, contact jcs69@medschl.cam.ac.uk with your name, your child's name and birth date, and an address for ARC to send the questionnaires to. Alternatively, you can enter these details on the website below: <http://www.tinyurl.com/camcsstudy>

Useful websites:

<http://www.treehouse.org.uk>/TreeHouse is the national charity for autism education. TreeHouse was founded in 1997 by parents of children with autism and today campaigns for better autism education nationally and runs a school for children and young people with autism. TreeHouse undertakes policy and parliamentary work and research to ensure autism is a national priority, supports parents to campaign locally and offers training and consultancy on autism education

Gingerbread/One Parent Families website is helpful re benefits advice etc.

<http://www.oneparentfamilies.org.uk/disabledchild>

<http://www.changing-places.org/> Changing Places, disabled friendly changing facilities

<http://www.barnardos.org.uk/parentpartnershipservice> a service for all parents/carers of children & young people who have or may have Special Educational Needs (SEN). The Parent Partnership Service (PPS) offers independent advice, support and information to help parents/carers to get the best education for their child

www.yourable.com Includes help with DLA information

Free Symbols: www.do2learn.com www.pdictionary.com www.usevisualstrategies.com

www.photosymbols.com www.enchantedlearning.com/dictionary.html

<http://www.moneysavingexpert.com/> Martin Lewis, money saving expert, sign up for weekly emails.

www.icare4autism.org The International Center for Autism Research and Education offers the latest in autism information and provides all those with autism spectrum condition an invaluable place to find resources.

www.mind-the-gap.org.uk Mind the Gap is an experienced touring theatre company based in Bradford, Yorkshire, which performs around the UK and internationally. A professional theatre company that helps people with learning disabilities become professional actors, and helps actors with learning disabilities achieve their potential. Take a look at their website if you are keen to performance.

Useful information/links

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

Carers UK log on to www.carersuk.or to find out how you can show your support

Bradford Young Carers Older children often help their parents to look after disabled siblings. For advice and information contact 01274 481183

Bradford Toy Library, St Luke's Call Emma or Michelle on 01274 365463 for opening times

www.entitledto.co.uk This website provides free online calculators to help you work out your entitlement to benefits and tax credits.

Help Lines: Need help or support?

The National Autistic Society www.nas.org.uk Parents' Help line: 0845 070 4004 (Mon-Fri 10-4)

autismhelpline@nas.org.uk www.autism.org.uk/pubs/gifts for NAS publications

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 Lines: Bradford 0127 4 481183 Leeds 0113 3951200
Craven & Harrogate 01609 534983

Social Services 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 Leeds www.carers.org 0113 246 8338

Benefits Advice Services - DIAL (Disablement Information and Advice Line)

Bradford 01274589162, Leeds 0113214 3630, Benefits Agency, Skipton 01535 617400

Looking for childcare The Family Hub Leeds www.thefamilyhubleeds.org/

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

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

AWARE thanks the following for their support this year:

Bradford Carers Grant

Cow & Calf, Ilkley

