

AWARE News October 2008

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Issue 102

www.homestead.com/awareuk/



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October Dates	Time	Activity & Location	Cohort/Age Group	Cost
Mondays 6, 13 & 20	7 – 9pm	Monday Youth Club Addingham Youth Centre <i>*Ring Sarah Jamieson to attend</i>	HFA/AS 12+ (Parents don't stay)	£1/ person
Fridays 3, 10, 17 & 24	7 – 9pm	Friday Youth Club Addingham Youth Centre <i>Just turn up</i>	Children 7 – 16 yrs, inc siblings (Parents stay)	£2 /family + £1/friend
Saturday 11 with bouncy castle	10am – 12pm	Junior Youth Club Addingham Youth Centre <i>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.</i>	Families with younger children up to about 10 yrs, inc siblings	£2 /family + £1/friend
Sunday 12  Journey to the center of the earth	11am	Cinema Leeds/Bradford Odeon Gallagher Leisure Park Thornbury, Bradford Doors open 10.50am <i>*Tickets can be pre-booked to avoid queuing, at www.odeon.co.uk Film info line 08712244007</i>	All family <i>Just turn up</i>	£2.50/child, adults free
Tuesday 14	7.30pm	Parents' meeting, CDC, Airedale Hospital	Parents, Carers, Professionals, anyone interested	Free
Wednesday 15	10am – 12pm	*Coffee Morning Addingham Youth Centre <i>Just turn up</i>	Parents/carers, babies & toddlers welcome.	Free
Mon 27 & Tue 28	10am- 3pm	Family Playscheme days Addingham Youth Centre	All family <i>Just turn up</i>	£2 /family + £1/friend

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!

***Phoenix Cards on sale at coffee mornings in Oct and November, 10% of sales goes to AWARE, please come along and give us your support.**

Monthly meeting: Child Development Centre, Airedale Hospital, Tuesday 14 September at 7.30pm

This month's speaker will be Tracey Jones, Clinical Psychologist from Hillbrook, who will talk about post-diagnosis support. Over the last year Hillbrook has evaluated the service they provide

to families following their child receiving a diagnosis of an Autistic Spectrum Condition. This has involved contacting parents whose child received a diagnosis in the last year. They are interested in knowing if the findings of the project make sense to a wider group of parents and agree with their experiences and would like to know if parents have any further ideas. Tracey hopes to meet as many parents as possible on 14th October to informally discuss the findings of the project and get some feedback / ideas from parents.

Last month's speaker was Robert Cooper from BSRAPD – Bradford Sport and Recreation Association for People with Disabilities, who gave us full information about the wide range of activities they offer. Please find attached a full schedule. As you will see, there is a wide range catering for various interest and ages, but please do not hesitate to contact Rob if you are unsure of anything: he is very keen to involve more of our members in the activities.

Monthly Raffle – Cow and Calf meal for two

Tickets are £1 each; pick one up next time you attend an event!

Library books

Have you borrowed a book, video or DVD from AWARE and now finished with it? Please check and return any items you are no longer using as soon as possible. We do not charge any fines – we just want our books back so other members can use these valuable resources too!

Library Books at Youth Club, Addingham

Committee member, Karen Mitchell, will be bringing AWARE's library books and DVDs etc to the youth club on the following evenings: 31st October, 28th November, no library in December. The library is a valuable resource for parents, children and young people with an ASD, siblings and any teachers/support staff working with people with an ASD: please use it ... and don't forget to return any books with which you have finished!

Cinema: 12 October - Journey to the Center of the Earth

This film stars Brendan Fraser (The Mummy films, Looney Tunes: Back in Action) as a science professor whose untraditional hypotheses have made him the laughing stock of the academic community. But on an expedition in Iceland, he and his nephew stumble upon a major discovery that launches them on a thrilling journey deep beneath the Earth's surface, where they travel through never-before-seen worlds and encounter a variety of unusual creatures.

Lineham Farm Residential Weekend, 17 – 19 October

Places have now been allocated, 15 children and young people will be attending the weekend and will take part in animal care, art, climbing wall and adapted bikes sessions, as well as socialising, learning self care skills and developing their own independence.

October half term play scheme

The play scheme days will run on Mon 27 & Tues 28 October; sorry there are no supported places this holiday period, families with children all ages up to 16 years welcome, just turn up.

Parent/Carer training Programmes

Please find attached a file containing information about the various parent training programmes available in Bradford for families with a child/young person with an ASC/D: Early Bird, Early Bird Plus and Cygnet, and details of whom to contact to enrol on one of the courses.

NAS News, Local Seminars

The NAS will be holding three FREE seminars for parents/carers of school aged children and young people who have a diagnosis of ASD.

Leeds:

Thursday 16 October (9.30am to 3pm) Goals Soccer Centre, Redcote Lane, off Kirkstall Road, Leeds LS4 2AW. This free one-day programme is specifically for parents/carers whose child is between 3 and 12 years old and has recently received a diagnosis of an ASC (within last 18 months). The programme sessions cover: an overview of ASCs, tips for communication, education and your rights, services and your rights and benefits and your rights. Attendees receive a help! pack containing programme materials. Lunch is provided and there is no cost to

parents. Up to 25 families, two places per family may attend (or one family member and a friend). Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Keighley:

Wednesday 12th November 2008 - (10am – 2.15pm): Supporting Siblings

A seminar focusing on the needs of the siblings of your child with an ASD and strategies to teach the siblings about their brother/sister and ASD's. This seminar is aimed at parents/carers who have a child with an ASD and additional siblings (aged up to 18).

Seminar delivered by: Wendy I'Anson – help! Family Programme Support Officer (North East)

Wednesday 19th November 2008 – (10am – 2.15pm): Introduction to Social Stories

A practical seminar looking at the theory behind Social Stories, 20 tips for writing Social Stories and an opportunity to write Social Stories for different occasions. This seminar is aimed at parents/carers of children aged 3 – 16 years of age with a diagnosis of Asperger Syndrome or Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

Seminar delivered by: Wendy I'Anson – help! Family Programme Support Officer (North East)

Venue: Temple Row Centre, 23 Temple Row, Keighley BD21 2AH

Contact for all three seminars: Jan Fuller, NAS, Room 10, North Sands Business Centre, Liberty Way, Sunderland SR6 0QA Tel: 0191 568 0732 Email: jan.fuller@nas.org.uk nb Application forms are attached.

The NAS are also running a one day programme (see details for Leeds) in Sheffield on 7 October; an Antibullying seminar in Rotherham on 21 October and an Anger Management Seminar in Barnsley on the 25th November.

2008/2009 PECS Basic 2-Day Workshop from The Pyramid Organisation

This workshop is the basic accredited training in PECS. It is the recommended training for all people interested in the programme and all who wish to teach PECS to children or adults with communication difficulties. The Pyramid organisation advise that parents as well as professionals are trained in PECS if students are to effectively generalise their use of PECS into home, school and community settings. In addition to the theoretical background and the review of visual strategies useful for communication, delegates will learn how to implement the six phases of PECS, with presenters demonstrating key strategies, showing lots of video examples and allowing opportunity for group practice. Completion of this workshop should enable you to begin constructively using PECS

with your student. Training includes:

- Theoretical background
- Details of the six phases of PECS
- Demonstrations, video illustrations and opportunities to practice
- Review of other visual strategies that promote independence

The workshops begin at 9am and finish at 4.30pm and cost £270 for the professional and £140 for the parent:

2nd & 3rd October 2008 – Holiday Inn, York

20th & 21st November 2008 – Parkinson Building, University of Leeds

5th & 6th March 2009 – Holiday Inn, Sheffield

To book online, go to www.pecs.org.uk or for an application form ring 01273 609555

Investigating the Gender Profile of Autism

Please find attached a questionnaire from Victoria Miller, a fourth year student doing a clinical doctorate of psychology, at Deakin University in Melbourne, Australia. Victoria is investigating the gender profile of Asperger's Syndrome and Autism - namely, what is it about some groups of females and males that can sometimes be so very difficult to recognise and diagnose and is looking for parents of either children or adolescent females or males with High Functioning Autism or Asperger's Syndrome in Australia, the United States and the United Kingdom to complete a brief questionnaire. She aims to raise the profile of this highly unrecognised group of people around the world so that they too can receive the support they so deserve.

Victoria is also seeking parents of children without High Functioning Autism and Asperger's Syndrome for the control group of our study and as such parents may be interested in completing a second questionnaire if they have another child or children without any difficulties.

Fundraise for AWARE by giving us your old mobile phones, used stamps and cartridges.

Please bring them along to any of our sessions, or ring Jo to arrange collection.

Visit our webshop: make internet purchases via our webshop at <http://www.buy.at/aware>. It doesn't cost you any extra, but we get a percentage of the profits, so please buy here! Shops include - Amazon, John Lewis, M & S, Adams kids, ELC.

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.org 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

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 01274 481183 Leeds 0113 3951200
North Yorkshire 01756 792427

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>

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:

Bradford Carers Grant

Cow & Calf, Ilkley

