

AWARE News September 2009

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Issue 112

www.homestead.com/awareuk/

www.awareuk.org



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September Dates	Time	Activity & Location	Cohort/Age Group	Cost
Mondays 7, 14, 21 & 28	7 – 9pm	Monday Youth Club Addingham Youth Centre <i>*Ring Sarah Jamieson to attend</i>	HFA/AS 12+ and siblings age 8 - 17 (Parents don't stay)	£1/ person
Fridays 11, 18 & 25 <i>NB no club on 4 Sept</i>	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
Tuesday 8	8.00pm <i>NB change of time</i>	Parents' meeting <i>Just turn up</i> CDC, Airedale Hospital, Steeton	Parents, Carers, Professionals, anyone interested	Free
Wednesday 9	10am – 12pm	Coffee Morning Addingham Youth Centre <i>Just turn up</i>	Parents/carers, babies & toddlers welcome.	Free
Saturday 19 (trampoline)	1.30 – 3.30pm	Junior Youth Club Addingham Youth Centre <i>Please confirm you are coming</i>	Families with younger children up to about 11years, inc siblings	£2 /family + £1/friend
		<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>		
Sunday 20 The Pink Panther 	11am Doors open 10.50am	Cinema <i>Just turn up</i> Leeds/Bradford Odeon Gallagher Leisure Park Thornbury, Bradford	All family <i>*Tickets can be pre-booked to avoid queuing, at www.odeon.co.uk Film info line 08712244007</i>	£2.50/child adults free
Saturday 26	TBC	Bowling <i>Contact Linda Porter on 07949576898 for further information</i>	Age 14+ Parents don't stay - young people will have AWARE support	TBC

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

Nb The AWARE Library will be available at the Parents' meeting on 8 September and Youth Club on 25 September – please contact Karen or Margaret if you are unable to access these dates and wish to borrow any particular resources: karenrobertson31@hotmail.com margaretnash@thomasmash.orangehome.co.uk 07854 740071

Parents' meeting, CDC, Tuesday 8 September, 8pm (NB new, later time)

This month's speaker will be David Newell from Sacar, a Bradford-based charity working with adults who have received a diagnosis of either high functioning autism or Asperger syndrome. Beginning ten years ago with a social skills group, they now have centres in Leeds and Huddersfield, developing employment programmes, outreach support, education support and a variety of on-site workshops.

Please find attached an e-flyer for their Conference on 22 October at The Cedar Court in Bradford. For a paper registration form, please call 01274 778888

Coffee Morning, Addingham, Wednesday 9 September

Come along, have a cuppa and a chat, gain support from others & share your experiences.

Cinema: Sunday 20 September, autism-friendly screening of 'The Pink Panther'

Steve Martin is Inspector Clouseau, in this prequel to the Peter Sellers' original. The haphazard detective must solve a murder and find out who stole the infamous Pink Panther diamond.

Aiming High Grant: first trip will be bowling on 26 September

As you will know from last month's newsletter, Jo was successful in securing a grant from Aiming High and we are going to spend the funds on four residential weekends and a monthly trip club for young people age 14+: bowling, cinema, eating out, ice-skating etc – we want our young people to come up with their ideas for a programme of activities, so please contact Jo if interested.

NB Our first trip will be bowling on 26 September – please contact Linda for further details on **07949 576898**.

Our next residential is from Fri 2nd to Sun 4th October: please get in touch with Jo as soon as possible if you are interested in your child taking part.

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

Aiming High Capital Spending Ballot Paper – see attached

Parents can have their say in how £20,000 could be spent in their local area – see attached 'voting' paper from Barnardo's: please complete and return to the free post address on the sheet.

Sitting Service for Children

The Sitting Service for Children was started in 2007 and has grown following the launch of Aiming High for Children. As part of Shared Care, the Sitting Service helps families by providing short breaks for children who are disabled, autistic, or who have challenging behaviours. The service, for children aged 0 to 18, is always arranged as a package and can be for varying lengths of time. Care takes place in the child's home and some emergency sitting is available. Care packages for each child are determined by the Children's Complex Health & Disabilities Team. The Sitting Service is offered in line with the national minimum standards for Fostering Services 2002, whose guidelines are followed. Relevant checks are made on carers, who must go through a rigorous screening process and all must be approved by Shared Care Management. Carers all receive training support and ongoing advice. The Sitting Service programme must be accessed by a Social Worker through the Children's Initial Contact Point at 01274 437500.

Important information ref DLA (Disability Living Allowance)

The Government's Green Paper on social care reform, published last month, mentions the possibility of moving some disability [benefits](#) from being a cash benefit and incorporating it into social care funding, administered on a person's behalf by a local authority.

The NAS will be responding to the Green Paper and will produce a summary of how the Green Paper proposals **could** affect people with autism. Please see attachment.

Tell the NAS what you think about the Green Paper proposals: they want to know what you think of the possibility of [Disability Living Allowance](#) (DLA) being integrated into social care funding. This will inform their official response to the Government. To let them know your thoughts, email policy@nas.org.uk

To register your concern: <http://www.benefitsandwork.co.uk/disability-living-allowance-%28dla%29/dla-aa-cuts>

Going to college/university? Support for students with autism

The NAS offer support to students with autism (including Asperger syndrome) who are in further and higher education, as well as training for tutors and other staff. If you're receiving Disabled Students' Allowance, all the support can be funded through this. For details, contact the NAS Helpline (number on page 4) or follow this link to [Read more](#).

New Carers' Advice line up and running: Freephone 0800 8020202

The Carers' Advice telephone service was launched at the start of April 2009 and provides information and support for carers. Hours of opening are: Monday to Friday 8am to 9pm and Sat/Sun 11am to 4pm.

A language line is available and can be requested if any carers need information in another language other than English. The service is the second part of the NHS Carers Direct information service, following the launch of the online information resources in January 2009 - www.nhs.uk/carersdirect

Calling all families affected by fuel poverty - support Contact a Family's campaign

Contact a Family is working with Consumer Focus to help families with disabled children struggling to pay their fuel bills and are urging families in England who spend 10% or more of the household income on electricity and gas bills to get in touch. Your stories will help them campaign to improve the situation for many other families in the same position.

“The campaign will be calling for all families with disabled children to have access to grants to insulate their homes and help reduce bills. At present if a child is in receipt of Disability Living Allowance their household is not eligible for *Warm Front* – a government grant-giving scheme to make homes warmer, more energy efficient and help reduce bills. We believe all families with disabled children should be given access to the scheme.

We will also be calling for families with disabled children on income support to be given the cheapest fuel rates from energy suppliers. We would like to see social tariffs being opened up to all those in receipt of Cold Weather Payments including families with disabled children on income support.

If you live in England, are spending more than 10% of your income on fuel bills – electricity and gas combined - and you own your home, please do get in touch. We are looking to speak to families about their situation to provide evidence for a report which will support the campaign. We need to gather the evidence by 18th September.” E-mail: elaine.bennett@cafamily.org.uk or telephone: 020 7608 8741

Autism & Challenging Behaviour, Making a Difference

18 September 2009 9.30am – 4.00pm, The Assembly Rooms, Fenkle Street, Newcastle NE1 5XU

This full day workshop is intended for everyone who works or lives with a youngster with an autistic spectrum disorder. The presenters: Helen Joy and Philip Whitaker, have have written and co-authored a number of books and papers on the education and management of youngsters with ASD, including the NAS' best-selling *Autism and Challenging Behaviour: Making sense, making progress*.

For further information email: deborah.garland@nas.org.uk or 07884117741

Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS)

This two day workshop is the basic accredited training in PECS and recommended for family members as well as professionals. PECS can be implemented with adults, as well as children and this workshop is appropriate for people working in all settings. This workshop is a requirement for further training in PECS, such as the certification process or PECS Advanced Training. Every attendee will also receive a PECS manual.

September 17th & 18th 2009 at Best Western Pavilion York Hotel, York

November 23rd & 24th 2009 at Midland Hotel, Bradford. Professionals: £264.25 Parents: £137

Teaching Communication Skills for Independence

This one day workshop is useful for professionals and family members interested in developing important communication skills that are essential for all students, regardless of age, level of learning difficulty or current communication modality (e.g. speech, PECS, signing). Topics covered include: following visual directions and timetables, answering “Yes” and “No”, learning to wait, transition between activities and asking for help or a break. November 25th 2009 at Midland Hotel, Bradford Professional: £137 Parent: £69. All workshops start at 9am and finish at 4.30pm

For further information or to book a place, go to www.pecs.org.uk or ring 01273 609555

Practical strategies in the classroom for children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder

Sheila Jaegar BSc (hons) P.G.C.E. MEd. (Autism) Director of Services – Wargrave House School
1st October 2009.

Understanding the keys to Autism

Wendy Lawson (author and adult with an ASC), 10 November

For further information on both these conferences, contact Gemma Sampford, Tel: 01282 415 455

Email: info@actionasd.org.uk Website: www.actionasd.org.uk

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 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>

The Children's Information Link is a key part of the Bradford Early Years and Childcare Service, enabling parents and others to obtain comprehensive up-to-date information about childcare, nursery education, children's activities and family support services. Tel: 01274 437503

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

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

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

AWARE thanks the following for their support this year:

Bradford Carers Grant

Cow & Calf, Ilkley

