

AWARE News September 2008

Registered Charity 1089617

Issue 101

www.homestead.com/awareuk/



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September Dates	Time	Activity & Location	Cohort/Age Group	Cost
Mondays 8, 15 22 & 29	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 12, 19 & 26 (no library this month)	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 9	7.30pm	Parents' meeting, CDC, Airedale Hospital	Parents, Carers, Professionals, anyone interested	Free
Sunday 14 September 	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
Wednesday 17	10am – 12pm	Coffee Morning Addingham Youth Centre <i>Just turn up</i>	Parents/carers, babies & toddlers welcome.	Free
Saturday 20 with trampoline	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

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

Plase remember to send us your used stamps; mobile phones and ink cartridges!

AWARE Website

Help please! We urgently need to someone to help us keep our website up to date as the current editor, Jeanine Blamires, is no longer able to do so. If you can spare the time, please let Jo or Margaret know asap! We would like to express our thanks to Jeanine for all her work over the past couple of years it has been much appreciated

Minutes of AWARE AGM

The minutes are now available on the AWARE website - or please request a copy from Margaret Nash by post or email.

Monthly meeting: Child Development Centre, Airedale Hospital, Tuesday 8 September at 7.30pm

This month's speaker will be Robert Cooper from BSRAPD – Bradford Sport and Recreation Association for People with Disabilities, who will be able to give us information on their services and answer our enquiries. Incidentally, if you have information about activities or events that you and your children/young people have enjoyed over the summer, please come along and share the information with other members. .

Monthly Raffle – Cow and Calf meal for two

Tickets are £1 each; pick one up next time you attend an event! The winner of July meal was Peter Harris.

Lineham Farm Residential Weekend, 17 – 19 October,

We have secured additional funding to run another residential weekend from teatime on Fri 17th to Sun 19th Oct for children on the spectrum (i.e. not sibs) age 8+ who regularly attend our play schemes or youth clubs. Please contact Jo for further information or to express interest in your child attending, places are limited, priority will be given to those who haven't attended before, but this does not exclude children who have previously attended.

Advance warning: 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.

Finding out about post 16 – 19 options

There will be another parents' meeting at Braithwaite School, with professionals from the Transitions team and Connexions, giving information on options at post 16 -19 years. All parents/carers welcome – this is not just for parents of children at the school. Friday 19 September, from 9.30am onwards.

Special discount for AWARE members

We have been offered a discount by Hilary from 'Mychild' magazine – call 0845 034 4613 to request a catalogue with voucher. The magazine contains several items specially designed for children with communication and language issues.

Funding available from The Cauldwell Trust www.caudwellchildren.com

To date Cauldwell Children has made over 2000 donations to families with disabled children and has spent over £1.2 million on treatments and therapies for children with autism. For further information about funding for interventions such as Applied Behavioural Analysis, Son-Rise, biomedical treatments etc, send a request for application forms to charity@caudwellchildren.com or telephone 0845 3001348 and leave your name and address.

NAS News, Local Seminars

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

Harrogate: Wednesday 24th September 2008 - (10am – 2.15pm) Anger Management.
Thursday 25th September 2008 – (10am – 2.15pm) Anti Bullying. Venue - The Cross Bar, Harrogate Town Football Club, Wetherby Road, Harrogate HG2 7SA

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.

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

Creativity Competition for Adults with Autism or Asperger Syndrome

The NAS is holding a creativity competition for adults with autism and Asperger Syndrome aged 18 and over. The theme of the competition is “my life with autism or Asperger Syndrome”. If you are entering the competition your work should reflect your experience of living with autism or Asperger Syndrome. There are three categories in the creativity competition:

1. Poetry or prose up to a maximum of 300 words (only typed or word-processed entries will be accepted)
2. 2D art. This can include drawing, painting, collage, montage or digitally-produced art
3. Photography

The maximum size of entries is A2 (420mm x 594mm). The closing date for entries is Tuesday 30th September. The entries will be judged by a panel of judges and prizes will be awarded to the best three entries in each category. The winning nine entries and a selection of commended works will be exhibited in a public space. To obtain a competition entry form, email thinkdifferently@nas.org.uk or call 202 7923 5799.

Online Learning with Accipio (sourced from Leeds ABC newsletter)

Accipio Learning is reporting great success from its online learning communities for children and young people with autism, including Asperger Syndrome (AS). The company demonstrated how this learning works at the BETT show earlier this year. On the stand, the Accipio teachers taught their classes in maths, science, English and preparation for working life via the internet. Their pupils accessed these lessons, as normal, from their homes or local authority centres around the country, using microphone, headset and instant messaging. Equally as well received by visitors to BETT was a question and answer session hosted by Accipio for 15 year old Andrew who has AS. Andrew discussed with visitors his experiences with Haybrook College, Accipio’s online school and explained how after being excluded from a number of schools, he has been helped by online learning to achieve 5 good GCSEs. Find out more from enquiries@accipio-learning.com or Tel: 01582 831090. Alternatively visit their website at www.accipio-learning.co.uk

Extending Inclusion - Access for Disabled Children and Young People to Extended Schools and Children's Centres

The Council for Disabled Children has launched a new guide to support the inclusion of disabled children in children’s centres and extended schools.

Extending Inclusion brings together learning and information for those managing and working in children’s centres, extended schools and those in local authorities and voluntary organisations working with them. It provides support for improving access and inclusion for disabled children, young people and their families. It also includes case studies and a CD of resources.

View the guide here: www.ncb.org.uk/cdc/extending_inclusion_april08.pdf

Bercow Review of Services for SLC needs

John Bercow MP has undertaken the first major review in seven years of services for children and young people with speech, language and communication (SLC) needs. The review will publish the interim report in March and deliver the final report in July.

The review is currently considering a range of issues identified in the five themes including:

- how best to improve families’ overall experience of services
- what further action is needed to raise the importance of SLC on the national agenda
- what further research needs to be carried out to enhance an evidence based case for cost effective investment in services for children and young people with SLC needs
- how to enhance the skills of specialists and ensure that those working in children’s services are trained to identify and meet SLC needs.

The interim report, and the final report, when published, can be downloaded at: <http://www.dfes.gov.uk/bercowreview/>

Carers Strategy

The government has launched the Carers Strategy - a ten year programme to give carers short breaks, more help with employment and support for them to stay healthy, supported by £255

million of new investment. This money is in addition to the £224 million per annum given to Local Authorities through the Carers Grant, the extra £340 million to be spent by the government supporting the families of disabled children over the next three years, and £2.7million a year to fund a new information helpline and website for carers.

<http://nds.coi.gov.uk:80/Content/Detail.asp?ReleaseID=370133&NewsAreaID=2>

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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

