

Aiming High Network – News Update No. 8 – February 2012

Welcome to the latest edition of the News Update.

Wants and Offers

On our website *Active Impact* is now starting to list ‘wants and offers’ so that organisations welcoming disabled children and young people can share equipment/facilities/training/skills with one another – either by asking for what you need or offering what you’ve got.

Please now use the other attachment that came with this News Update to submit your ‘wants and offers’. This could be a great service – if enough of you submit things! So do have a think and send James those wants and offers.

Mobile hoists - Who has got one and who might lend one to other people? This can go on Wants and Offers but we are specifically researching this at the moment, so please tell James about this without delay.

Family Fun Day – Thursday 12th April – 10.00am to 3.00pm

As part of their 20th anniversary celebrations Carers Gloucestershire are working with *Active Impact* to run this fun day of activities and information at the Hatherley Manor Hotel, Down Hatherley, just north of Gloucester. It’s for any family with a child with a statement of SEN or a disabled child of any age. Entertainer Dave Benson-Phillips will be with us all day - and performing at 11.30am. There’ll be games, animals, drumming, dance, den-building, arts and crafts; and lots of stalls with info about opportunities for disabled children and young people. Please spread the word to families – posters coming soon! No need to book.

If you would like to come along on the day and give out information to families about the activities or opportunities you offer, please contact Jane at info@activeimpact.org.uk

There will be similar Family Fun Days at June half term in the Forest of Dean and on Wednesday 15th August at Stratford Park Leisure Centre in Stroud.

Community Consultations

As part of The Barnwood Trust’s new 10-year strategy BasicNeeds has begun working in Gloucestershire to help improve the lives of people with disabilities

and people with mental health problems. They are holding consultations to give people the chance to describe their lives and aspects they would like to change. They are particularly interested to hear from people with lived experience of disability and mental illness. These gatherings will be interactive and fun. Date and venue details are below.

Refreshments and transport costs will be provided. Children and care givers are very welcome. You can just turn up or let BasicNeeds know you are coming by contacting Rosie Branney on 01242 539930 or on rosie.branney@basicneeds.org

Date	Venue	Partner for Gathering	Time
20 February	Hesters Way Community Resource Centre, Cheltenham, GL51 7SU	People and Places	1pm – 3pm
21 February	Moreton Area Centre, High Street, Moreton, GL56 0AZ	Fairshares	11am – 1pm
22 February	The Butterfly Garden, Bamfurlong Lane GL51 6SL	The Butterfly Garden; Gloucestershire Voices	12.30 – 2.30pm
27 February	City Works, Alfred Street, Gloucester GL1 4DF	Fairshares	9.30 – 1.30pm
28 February	St Bartholomews Community Lounge, Newent, GL18 1BX.		2 - 3.30pm
1 March	The Roses Theatre, Sun Street, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, GL20 5NX	Take Part @ The Roses	1pm – 2.30pm
1 March	The Subscription Rooms, George Street, Stroud, GL5 1AE	Scout Enterprises	12 noon - 2pm
6 March	The Main Place, Coleford	Independence Trust	11am – 2pm
Date tbc	Tewkesbury District		
Date tbc	Cirencester, South Cotswolds	Fairshares	
Date tbc	Gloucester, for young people		

The Loo Bus! - All singing all dancing mobile toilet

Active Impact has brought together several organisations led by National Star College to convert a vehicle into a mobile toilet and changing area that all disabled people can use, especially those needing hoisting or a changing bench. If your organisation or family might want it for trips or events in the future, please fill in this short questionnaire by 24th February:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dDRoRIRIS1I1cURseW5IdjRaNTRtdGc6MQ>

If you want to know more, please contact Joy Goudswaard
jgoudswaard@natstar.ac.uk or 07946 456989.

Young disabled people: volunteering opportunities in the arts

The Yes Let's programme aims to support disabled young people to volunteer with arts organisations across Gloucestershire. If you know a disabled young person who might be interested (or if you are an arts/culture-based organisation keen to host a volunteer), contact Sarah Blowers at Take Part@The Roses – tpdirector@rosetheatre.org or 01684 853069.

Cool2Care offering volunteers as well as paid personal assistants

Cool2Care have recently expanded their service to offer volunteers to families and organisations working with disabled children, young people and adults. Contact suzie.phelps@cool2care.co.uk if you could benefit from that sort of help. Contact kate.chapman@cool2care.co.uk if you'd like to know more about becoming a volunteer or personal assistant.

Aiming High Network Meeting - 22nd May 2012

The next Aiming High Network meeting is on Tuesday 22nd May from 10.00am until 12.30pm at Gloucestershire Deaf Association, Colin Road, Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 3JL. It is for everyone interested in opportunities for disabled children and young people outside of school. More details will be sent nearer the date.

And finally for people who like getting muddy.....

Active Impact is planning to get loads of runners (disabled and non-disabled, young and old) into the ridiculously muddy Mudrunner event on Sunday 21st October at Eastnor Castle near Ledbury (www.mudrunner.co.uk). Join a happy band of similarly ridiculous people, have a laugh and raise some money for our *Of Course We Can* programme of residential and non-residential activity events. Interested? Contact philip@activeimpact.org.uk or 01453 756614.

Best wishes for all you are doing. Philip, James and Jane – *Active Impact*.