

Staff News

Jody Ablitt Larney, Annette Jones, Tina Hopkins, Julie Jones, Rebecca Smith and Mike Hood have all successfully completed their Manual Handling Key Trainers Award. Jody Ablitt Larney, Annette Jones and Julie Jones have also attained their NVQ level 2 in Team Leadership

Parveen Khan has achieved the NVQ level 2 in Adult Social care

Congratulations to everyone.

We have said goodbye to Gill Illman. Gill has been with Crossroads for 16 years and we thank her for her service and wish her well for the future.

We are pleased to welcome Aasa Kent-Seiber to our team of Carer Support Workers.

16 April will be a big day for carer support worker, Debbie Stewart. Her son Simon and his band SilcStone will be in the regional finals of 'Live and Unsigned'. This is a national competition for unsigned musicians to win equipment and recording studio time as well as the fantastic opportunity of performing at the O2 arena in London. Good luck, SilcStone!

Changes to our charges for 2011/12

After consultations with West Sussex County Council Social Services and preparation of our own budget for the coming year, the following charges will apply for our current customers from 1 May. Our new children's service will be effective from 1 April.

Services for children with disabilities will be **free** of charge for the first three hours. Charges after three hours will be the same as for the Self Funded Service listed below.

The West Sussex County Council funded service will be **£4.50** per hour for both day and night services.

The Self Funded Service, for children or adults, will be **£15.00** per hour for Monday to Friday, 9.00 am to 6.00 pm. Charges vary for support provided between 6.00 pm and 9.00 am depending upon whether the support is required on a weekday, weekend or Bank Holiday.

A full list of prices is available on request.

Do you know of an unpaid carer who would benefit from the support our services give? Please pass on our contact details and we will be happy to see how we can help.

Crossroads Care West Sussex:

Tele Cottage, Horsemere Green Lane, Climping, West Sussex BN17 5QZ

01903 790270

email: admin@westsxcrossroads.org

website: www.crossroadscarewestsussex.org

Registered in England No. 06682652 Charity Registration 1127236

Registered Office: Tele Cottage, Horsemere Green Lane, Climping, West Sussex BN17 5QZ



Crossroads Care West Sussex receives funding from West Sussex County Council

CROSS ROADS CARE

West Sussex

NEWS

Spring 2011

from the people carers turn to



Spring is finally beginning to make its presence felt. Flowers are appearing, trees are greening up again, days are getting longer and temperatures are beginning to rise. All this helps to raise our spirits after the long winter we have endured.

2011 is already shaping up to be a busy year for us at Crossroads with exciting plans to be put into action, see below for more details. We are looking forward to the months ahead and to delivering the best services we possibly can for all our customers.

Please note from 1 April telephone calls made to the numbers for our previous offices at Bognor, Horsham and Worthing will no longer be redirected to our Climping office. To ensure you reach us, please make sure you ring the Climping number.

01903 790270

Celebration Event 8 March 2011

Crossroads Care West Sussex's staff and Trustees gathered together on 8 March at Billingshurst Village Hall. The event had been organised as a direct response to the findings from the staff survey (reported in our last issue). Staff had requested an opportunity to meet other members of the Crossroads' team and the Trustees



Miranda Litchfield, chair of the Board of Trustees, opened the proceedings by saying how proud she was to be part of such a valued organisation. She receives positive comments about Crossroads from people she is in contact with throughout the County.

Brief presentations on Crossroads' services were then given by coordinators. Chief Executive, Eric Geddes, thanked all staff for their dedication, hard work and support. He reported that even under the current economic climate, Crossroads' services are moving forward. There are positive prospects for all areas of service delivery.

'These are very exciting times for us and we look to expanding our current services in West Sussex. We also have plans to move into neighbouring Hampshire, where Crossroads currently does not operate.'

Countywide Services for children and young people with a disabilities

An integrated, countywide respite service for children and young people with disabilities and their carers will shortly be available from Crossroads Care. Three hours of **free** support per week will be available with the new service, which is fully funded by West Sussex County Council. As we go to press we are putting the finishing touches to this new service.

Young people can be supported at home, in activities in their local communities or by having their participation in group activities facilitated.

The new service brings together the two previous services we offered for young people. A children's service, has been available in the Worthing area since the early 1990s, and the Aiming High service has been available for the past year across the rest of the County. The number of hours we have available for support has been increased from just over 8,000 to over 12,000 per year.

Crossroads Care West Sussex will be one of 8 voluntary organisations commissioned by the County Council to deliver services to children with disabilities across the County.

Fun for young carers

Another free Young Carers' Fun Afternoon was held during the half-term break at Park Centre in Burgess Hill with 26 young carers aged 6-11 years enjoying the fun. The afternoon was very successful in providing an opportunity for young carers to try out a range of activities, including pizza making, crafts and sports.

Crossroads Care is a member of the Mid Sussex Young Carers Partnership, which organised the event. Other members are West Sussex Youth Service, Burgess Hill

Town Council, Burgess Hill Boys Club and Outset Youth Action. The Young Carers Partnership is planning an ongoing programme of activities for young carers in Mid Sussex.



Worthing Short Mat Bowls Club to raise funds for Crossroads Care in 2011

On 9 February Chief Executive, Eric Geddes, was presented with a cheque for £400 by the members of the Worthing Short Mat Bowls Club. The club has also generously agreed to raise funds to support Crossroads Care for the rest of the year.

Pictured receiving the cheque, Eric commented, 'Such support makes a big difference to the lives of unpaid carers and enables Crossroads to continue providing a high quality respite service.'



News from Crossroads Clubs

We are very pleased to report that funding remains in place for the four clubs that Crossroads operates in West Sussex. This is particularly good news at a time when other daytime care facilities are facing closure in the County.

The Horsham Social Club

- meets every Wednesday at Hordern House, Granary Way, Horsham

Themes are often chosen for Club sessions and members recently celebrated all things Welsh on St David's Day. Members particularly enjoy 'tasting' sessions when unusual food and drink from different cultures and countries are sampled.

In January members enjoyed entertainment from 'Daisy Pipperedge' who performed old time songs. In April they are looking forward to a visit from mezzo soprano Joanna Bates.

The Balcombe/Ardingley Social Club

- meets every Tuesday at St Peter's Church Centre, Ardingley

The Club has recently moved to this new hall, which has plenty of space for activities such as quoits, boules and skittles as well as playing cards, doing crosswords and quizzes or listening to music. Outings to local venues are also organised.

Now that the Club is in Ardingley, Crossroads' clubs' coordinator, Julie Jones, is thinking about renaming it. Any thoughts? Let Julie have your ideas.

Neil's Club

- based in Balcombe

Club organisers Rachel, Carol and Kate are planning a sponsored cycle ride for May. Full details are still being decided but if you would like to join in, contact Rachel on 07769 578891

Crossroads Care and Neil's Club will benefit from a charity table at Balcombe Village's Crafts, Gifts and Local Produce Market, on Saturday 16 April. The market is held at Victory Hall, Balcombe from 10 am to 2 pm. If you can contribute items such as Easter Eggs, cakes, plants, flowers, then contact Julie Jones. Julie would also like to hear from you if you can help with refreshments.

The Tuesday Club

- Holy Cross Church Hall, Bognor Regis

The Bognor Regis Hand bell Ringing Group (pictured) entertained Club members at their Christmas party last year. The Hand bell Ringers visit various events to raise money for local charities and we are delighted to say that the Tuesday Club is to benefit from their efforts this year. Our thanks go to the Hand bell Ringers.



For information on all Crossroads Care Clubs, contact Julie Jones on 01903 790270.