



Disability Digest

Members News

disability network hounslow
hounslow's centre for independent living

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Special Edition – Feb 2010

We hope all our members have had a wonderful Christmas and New Year and welcome back to our special edition of Disability Digest, the member's only newsletter, for supporters of Disability Network Hounslow.

WE HAVE MOVED.....!

As some of you may be aware, if you attended our AGM in December, that Disability Network Hounslow moved offices during the Christmas break to a new location in Hounslow in the centre of Hounslow.

We are pleased to announce that we are working in partnership with The Star Centre, a well established mental health charity based on Bell Road, Hounslow. They provide responsive day care services that support mental well-being. The Star Centre provides a number of activities and sessions for people who have mental health issues from Monday to Friday.

Our new Management & Administration Hub means it will be easier for people requiring access to our services due to the central location of The Star Centre, just a few minutes walk from Hounslow's Treaty Centre, making our drop-in Advice clinic on Tuesday & Wednesday even easier to attend.

For all our new contact details, please see the back page of this newsletter, for more information about the changes to our services due to the move – please read on!

Edward Tetbury, Chief Executive Officer

Our services redefined...

The move to The Star Centre sees a new way of working for all our staff members and we are now fully operational.

The changes have meant that we've needed to locate some of our services at different locations, such as our BSL sign classes, which we hope improves the overall quality of our services offered.

In this special edition newsletter we take a closer look what this means to our members, disabled people & carers who use our services.



How to visit us at Disability Network Hounslow's new Administration Hub

The only major change to our services is that we do not have an office where members of the public can pop in to, however, we can still see clients by appointment or at our outreach and drop-in clinics for information or advice.

Our new contact details can be found on the back page of our newsletter, which include details of our new telephone, fax, minicom numbers & general Email contact address. We have also listed our internet address too.

Please note all visitors to The Star centre will be required to sign in when arriving. The Star Centre also offers a range of snacks and hot & cold beverages for sale at very reasonable rates if you require some refreshments whilst waiting to be seen.

Where are drop-in Advice Clinic's being held?

The Advice Clinic from 2010 will be held at The Star Centre on Bell Rd (the full address can be found on the back page of the newsletter) every Tuesday & Wednesday from 10am – 12pm. The Advice clinic will resume from Tuesday 12th January 2010 onwards.



A second location is being sought in Hounslow to offer a further opportunity for people to access information and advice.

This will also be advertised in our forthcoming newsletter so watch this space!

(Map opposite shows location of The Star Centre, Bell Rd)

Where are the free British Sign Language classes held?

We are pleased to announce we are working in partnership with Kew Bridge Steam Museum to offer our British Sign Language classes for anyone wanting to learn basic sign language skills.

Classes restart from Monday 11th January 2010 at the usual time of 12.30pm – 1.30pm. Kew Bridge Steam Museum is ordinarily closed to the public on Monday's giving Disability Network Hounslow unprecedented access to its facilities.



The museum is located on Green Dragon Lane, Brentford, TW8 0EN and is serviced by the following transport links: 237, 267, 65 & 391 buses or Kew Bridge mainline railway.

Please note there is no BSL class on Monday 8th March due to a function being held at Kew Bridge Steam Museum.

Where is the Deaf drop-in Advice Surgery being held?

The Deaf Advice Surgery from the New Year will be held at The Star Centre on Bell (the full address can be found on the back page of the newsletter) every Wednesday from **3pm – 5pm** and starts from Tuesday 13th January 2010.

Please note the Deaf Advice Surgery timings have changed slightly from the service we offered at Brentford. For a map please refer to the map for the drop-in Advice Clinic's on page 2.

Where are the Outreach Advice Services being held?

Disability Network Hounslow will continue to provide an outreach Advice Service in partnership with Sri Guru Singh Sabha Gurdwara, Hounslow's main Sikh temple every Friday from 2pm – 4.30pm.

Information can be provided to disabled people and their carers in a number of community languages (Hindi, Gujarati & Punjabi) as well as English.



The Gurdwara is based at Alice Way, Hanworth Road, Hounslow, Middlesex TW3 3UA.

Sessions restart from Friday 22nd January 2010 with senior Advice Worker, Ashi Dhillon.

Volunteers wanted!

We're looking for new volunteers to help us with facilitating our British Sign Language Classes at Kew Bridge Steam Museum in Brentford. The volunteer post is during school term times for 2 hours per week on a Monday from 12pm – 2pm.

The volunteer's role will be to help with the setting up of the BSL class, opening the door to our guests, asking them to sign in, and to help with packing up the class.

If you are interested in volunteering for this post, please contact the Deaf Community Coordinator on: Dom@disabilitynetworkhounslow.org

Update on DNH AGM

Friday 11th December 2009

We would like to say a special thank you to all our members, supporters, staff and volunteers who attended our AGM, especially to Chris Ore for bringing our special guest Elsie the Dalek, Claire Rooney for the amazing catering on the day, Tamar O'Neil for selling raffle tickets and looking after our raffle prizes stall and to Raj Mangat for taking minutes at the business meeting.



DHN Members meet Elsie the Dalek our special guest, helping us to raise funds at our AGM. In total from both Elsie's help and sale of raffle tickets raising over £100 towards our work. Thank you to everyone who bought raffle tickets and gave us a donation towards our work



We recognised Tamar's commitment to DNH as a volunteer awarding our first ever Volunteer Certificate for two years service at events, fundraisers and help with issuing our newsletter to all our members. Thank you again for all your hard work!



We surprised one of our long term members and supporter Daphne Rathbone with a chocolate birthday cake, organised by other members, to help Daphne to celebrate a very special birthday with all of us!



We had opera performances during the interval by Sharon Selman from the Sagesse Duo. Sharon also joined Disability Network Hounslow's management committee for this year and we look forward to working with Sharon during the coming year.

And finally, a word from our chair...

Hello and a Happy 2010 to you all! The year has got off to a great start for DNH, with the staff continuing to provide support for our service users from our new Administration Hub at The Star Centre in Bell Road Hounslow. I would also like to welcome our three newest Trustees: Muralidhar Ambavarapu, Sharon Selman (some of you might have heard her beautiful singing as she sang for us at the AGM) and our most recent addition, Didem O'Brien.

But times are hard and the recession has hit many of us individually and is hitting funders and grant makers alike. As such finding and securing funding for the work our wonderful charity does is harder than ever. I therefore appeal to you all to support DNH in whichever way you can.

Renew your membership. Encourage everyone you know to support us by donating whatever they feel they can, including their time and/or expertise - Disability affects us all, not just those of us who are disabled. Use our services and let other disabled people & carers know about us so that they too can join us & use our services. DNH was set up by disabled people, for disabled people, to provide a voice for disabled people and to work towards creating an inclusive environment for all disabled people. This is your Charity and it needs your support. Please speak to one of our staff or volunteers to find out how you can help or get more involved.

I know we can achieve wonders if we all pull together and I look forward to seeing DNH go from strength to strength over the course of the year.

Thank you & lets make it a wonderful year!

Mary-ellen

Events Calendar - IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Please note for Social Outings... We've been advised by Dial-a-Ride that individual bookings are preferable to groups bookings, therefore members will have to arrange their own transport to events.

We also advise to contact the office ahead of attending either Coffee mornings or the member's lunch club to register your place. Please speak to Christina Wadland, Advice and Information officer for more details on any of the listed social events. Thank you.

Members Lunch Club: to be held at The Hungry Horse on Saturday 6th March 2010 from 12pm onwards.

Our Events (for member's only):

For more details on members coffee break or outings please contact Christina on (020) 8577 0956.

Coffee Morning, Saturday 27th February 2010 at Heath Court, Benham Gardens from 10am – 12.30pm. There will be free refreshments for those attending. We're hoping to have Eric Timms return as guest speaker.

Coffee Morning, Saturday 27th March 2010 at Heath Court, Benham Gardens from 10am – 12.30pm. There will be free refreshments for those attending. Guest Speaker to be confirmed!

Free British Sign Language Classes – Come to our all new BSL classes held every Monday at the venue Kew Bridge Steam Museum from 12.30 – 1.30pm. Free to members, otherwise suggested donation £1.

Please note there is no BSL class on Monday 8th March due to Kew Bridge Steam being closed for a function.

Contact Us

Monday to Friday 10am – 4pm
Management & Administration Hub

✉ www.disabilitynetworkhounslow.org

✉ The Star Centre, 63 – 65 Bell Road,
Hounslow, TW3 3NX

✉ T. (020) 8577 0956
F. (020) 8813 0311
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E. Mail@disabilitynetworkhounslow.org

Disclaimer:

All information is carefully checked but DNH cannot accept legal liability for any inaccuracies or omissions. DNH does not recommend or endorse any products or services mentioned and the views in the articles do not necessarily represent those of the organisation.

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Working in partnership with: The Star Centre
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& Middlesex Association for the Blind

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