

News Release

HART CHAIRMAN VISITS PARITY TEEN SCHEME

Chairman of Hart Council Brian Blewett had a taste of teen life when he visited a vital programme run by a local charity last week.

Parity for Disability runs Easter and Summer Teenage Activity Schemes as part of its services for young people with multiple disabilities in the local area.

Brian joined the group of over 30 teenagers at the Scheme's base in Fleet Baptist Church, Clarence Road.

"I spoke to the young people participating and was very impressed by everybody's enjoyment and enthusiasm", Brian Blewett said. "Some people had travelled long distances to be there. The Scheme is very important for these people during the Easter and Summer holidays."

The Scheme runs for two weeks over the Easter break and four weeks during the summer. Teens from Surrey, Hampshire and Berkshire who have profound and complex disabilities choose what they will do each day, which can range from going out shopping, bowling or ice skating, to indoor activities like computer gaming, cooking and craftwork.

The teens are joined by university and college students who support them one-to-one and share their young outlook.

"People are very nice there, I really enjoy talking to people and going on trips," said Rajiv Neel-Sivan from Camberley. "I also use the Scheme to learn to communicate with people. Plus I really enjoy myself. The people who work there are very good at their jobs."

Among other activities Rajiv went bowling and joined teens in a bouncy castle at Hart Leisure Centre. The Centre makes one of its halls available, complete with equipment, to the youngsters during the Scheme.

ENDS

About Parity

Parity for Disability provides services and information for children and young adults with multiple disabilities in Surrey, Hampshire and Berkshire. The organisation operates two day centres in Farnborough and Camberley, a music therapy service and teenage activity schemes. Parity is dedicated to making the image of disability a more positive one, and to enabling people with multiple disabilities to become integrated into our community and access mainstream services. Parity is registered charity no 1071571. For more information, write to 94 Whetstone Road, Cove, Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 9SX; telephone 01252 375581; e-mail info@parityfordisability.org.uk or visit www.parityfordisability.org.uk.