

PARITY NEWS

The newsletter of Parity for Disability, Farnborough, Hants Registered Charity No 1071571 Vol 9 Issue 3 Autumn 2011



Parity in Bloom



The garden area at Parity's Farnborough day service earned the Silver Gilt Award at the 2011 Rushmoor in Bloom competition. This year, outsized garden insects adorned the pergola and an old power chair became a lush container complete with gnome. The day service staff and students continue to outdo themselves—what will they come up with next year?

Sainsbury's and Local Charities Make Scents Together

Parity's recent adoption by the Lisa May Foundation continues to make a difference for the Camberley day service. The Foundation arranged for Sainsbury's staff to take Camberley students around the Watchmoor Park store collecting scented items for sensory work. Bath products and spices were chosen alongside less fragrant aromas like cat food. They will be put in a 'smell bank' of small jars, stimulating the students' senses for months to come.



Guest Editor Lisa Baldwin Talks About Her New Interest in Painting

In each issue, we ask a Parity student to be a guest editor and include their ideas. This edition is brought to you by Lisa Baldwin who uses the Camberley day service.

Last November I saw Stephen (who also uses the service) painting independently and decided I would like to try doing the same. I started off with lots of support from keyworkers but soon found I was very creative working on my own. Sometimes I'll start off with a pencil drawing done by a keyworker.

I work with acrylic paints. I find a picture online that gives me an idea of what I want and then I paint it in my own style.

The first pictures I did were of Basingstoke Canal and of Ascot. These are my two favourite trips out that I have made with Parity.



I've also done a portrait of Sam, who worked with us for six months on a placement scheme.

Right now I'm making a reproduction of Frédéric Bazille's *View of the Village*. I looked through a dictionary of artists for the idea. I've seen other pictures I'd like to copy and might do more of my own pictures in the future.



Lisa's Recommended Place To Go...



Ascot Racecourse

"It's fun to watch the races and bet on them. You can take your lunch, and have a picnic with friends."

Guest Editor Lisa's Pick of the News: Charity Pamper Evening

The Lisa May foundation, which has adopted Parity as one of its chosen charities, held a fundraising Pamper Evening in September, in partnership with another local organisation, Christopher's Smile.

Empty rooms in the building shared by the two charities were converted into treatment rooms, where specialists delivered massage and other health and beauty treatments. Over £1,200 was raised and split between the charities. Thank you, LMF.



Parity's AGM

At Parity's AGM on 25th October we said a fond farewell to two valued trustees. Alan Stemp, whose son used Parity's services, retired after 20 years. Gret Woodason, who became a trustee last year and has also been making a significant contribution, is moving out of the area. We'll miss them both.

Guest speaker Jennifer Kelsey from Just Advocacy gave an excellent presentation on the valuable work that her organisation does in helping people with learning disabilities speak up for themselves and make informed choices.



AGM: Church Crookham Shop Managers Sandra Broadbridge and Marilyn Benger received Long Service Awards: Marilyn for 10, Sandra for 15 years.

Parity Teens Raise £s

Parity's Teenagers' Activity Scheme raised lots of dough when they held a bake sale at Princes Mead Shopping Centre in August. Expert at making cakes and treats during the Scheme, the teens raised £190 selling their creations at the busy mall. Keen Parity supporters added more home-made goodies. The Scheme's staff and teens, including Lindsey Gathercole, pictured left, and Saskia Mackintosh, right, worked confidently with the public. Thank you to Princes Mead Shopping Centre management and customers for all your support.





Darren, left, and Stephen meet the Eduzoo lizard.



Above, a guinea pig relaxes with Mike. Left, Mandy calmly examines the giant snail.

PAT Tester Still Needed
 Parity is looking for a PAT testing (electrical safety testing) volunteer. The role requires a few days work per year. Proper training and equipment is provided. You will save the charity £££s!
 To find out more, contact Helene on 01252 375581.

Forsight Opticians Bring EduZoo to Parity

Like Parity, Forsight Opticians on London Road, Blackwater are pioneers. They recently acquired a groundbreaking item of equipment, and decided to promote it as a fundraiser for charity. The special offer to try out the new TOPCON OCT scanner for a £10 donation raised £430 for Parity, plus another £159 in small change! The Camberley day service used part of the funds raised to book Eduzoo Animal Encounters. Vicky from Eduzoo brought her menagerie including a lizard, snake, spider, guinea pig and giant snail for the students to experience. Thank you, Forsight and Eduzoo.



Photo courtesy of Surrey Advertiser.

Left to right, Parity's Helen Morris and Alan Piper with Forsight's Len Blake and Alan Reay.

In Memory of Jim Brunton



Photo courtesy of the Brunton family.

Much-loved volunteer Jim Brunton passed away in September after a courageous battle with cancer. Jim and his family have been long-time Parity supporters. Jim built and maintained Parity's web site with daughter Claire, and his wife, Angela is a Parity trustee. Their son, Adam, has used the charity's services since childhood. Jim was a warm, kind and generous person whom we will greatly miss.

Donating Is Now Even Easier With Text Giving!

You may have seen the adverts for a new way to support charity using your mobile phone, by texting donations. Parity has joined in and we can now receive donations by text using JustTextGiving by Vodafone.

You don't have to be a Vodafone customer to donate, individuals can give £1, £2, £3, £4, £5, or £10 by text to Parity using a unique code.

Donors text PARI22 plus an amount to 70070. So their text might look like this: 'PARI22 £5'

Every penny donated by text goes to Parity. The amount is deducted from the donor's mobile phone credit or added to their mobile phone bill, and they don't pay any VAT on the donation. Vodafone will send the donor instructions by text for adding gift aid. You can even create your own code for your own fundraising! Visit <http://www.justgiving.com/justtextgiving> for more details.



Pauline with Parity Trustee Kelvin Smith.

In Memory of Pauline McKenzie

We were very sad to learn that Pauline McKenzie passed away in hospital in September. Pauline managed Parity's Frimley charity shop for many years, and many of her past customers paid tribute. Pauline's daughter Nicola uses Parity's services. A tireless supporter, Pauline completed many sponsored challenges for Parity. Our thoughts are with her family.

Herrington & Carmichael Thanks

Herrington & Carmichael Solicitors, who have adopted Parity for the year, recently made us the beneficiary of their annual Surrey Chambers Quiz Night. The event raised £262 and brought a donation of £150 from local wealth advisers Towry. The Camberley solicitors' support is adding up to thousands for Parity. Thank you, H&C.

Thank you to all those who donated between July 1 and Oct 31:

Alchemy Foundation, The
Aldershot & District Bowling Assn
Bagley, Mrs B
Bruce Wake Charity
Camberley Ladies
Ellicott, Mr G
Ellis Campbell Ch Foundation
Farnborough Clockhouse
Townswomen's Guild
Flackett, Mrs K
Gower, Mrs J
Hamalienko, Ms R
Harvie, Mr & Mrs C & K
In Memory of Jim Brunton
In Memory of Pauline McKenzie
Loseley & Guildway Ch Trust
Meech, Mr C
Pattinson, Mr J
Randall, Mrs C
Robert Bion & Co. Ltd
Rotary Club of Fleet
Rotary Club of Rushmoor
Society of Friends
Spencer, Mrs V
Surrey Heath BC Mayor's Fund
Surrey Heath Borough Council
TAG Fine Arts
Towry Law Ch Trust
Waitrose Ltd, Godalming
Wandering Wrinklies Golf Society
Woodward, Mr D



Spinnaker Tower Abseil

Thank you to Iain Speed who raised £395 for Parity abseiling 328 feet down the side of Portsmouth's Spinnaker Tower. Iain, wearing blue in the photo above left, runs All Inclusive Disability Consultants, and knows about living with a disability due to having cerebral palsy. Congratulations, Iain.

Fleet Half Entries Open in October

Visit the marathon website at www.fleethalfmarathon.com to enter the 13 mile race which takes place Sunday 25 March 2012.

Parity in London Marathon

Parity has a place in the London Marathon in 2012! Keyworker Shane Martin has already stepped up to take on the 26 miles — you can sponsor Shane at www.justgiving.com.



Completing 120 miles in one day were, left to right: Kit Abbiss, Arbin Gurung, Andy Danaher, Mat Crane, Chris Walters, Stuart Durrett, Graeme Smith, and Richard Dackombe.

Camberley to Cove

On September 17th, a group of eight hardy bike riders made the 120 mile journey from St Martin's Church, Camberley (where Parity's Camberley day service is run) to Lulworth Cove in Dorset, all in one day! The event has raised £2,500 for Parity. Thank you to everyone who took part, and to the Ashton family, and Owen and Audrey Durrett, for making it possible.

Congratulations, Pat!



Pat Osborne

Thank you and congratulations to Pat Osborne, Parity's longest serving shop volunteer, who receives her 20 Years Long Service Award this year.

"Pat has been with Parity at all its Farnborough

shops, starting at

Victoria Rd, then on to the Queensmead shop, and now at North Camp," said Senior Shops Manager Christine Stevens. "I do so much appreciate her support."

We're grateful to Qualcomm staff who recently visited Parity Farnborough to donate two refurbished laptops.

Thank you to...

Fleet Town FC for holding a quiz night in support of Parity and raising £200. Aldershot Raceway for permission, and Kelvin Smith for collecting £213 at October's stock car championship. Teens from the Princes Trust Scheme for fundraising and then taking Farnborough students on a fantastic day out to Marwell Zoo. Jane Harden for raising £200 from a plant sale with Yateley Horticultural Society. Mart's Fish and Chips on Cove Road for raising £173.60 from their special chip promotion. Mytchett Bowling Club for raising £233 from their Captain vs Vice Captain game. Joanna Woodley for making Parity the beneficiary of over £200 of donations from her wedding with Andrew. Congratulations to you both. L&G Acro Gym Club for raising £150 at their recent competition.

PLEASE DONATE YOUR PAIRS OF SHOES, HANDBAGS, AND BELTS TO OUR SHOPS — WE ACCEPT WORN OUT ONES TOO! PARITY CAN RECYCLE THEM FOR CASH.

Wedding of Pramila Krishnamurthy

Congratulations to Pramila and Damien on your wedding and thank you for choosing Parity to benefit from donations, raising over £5,000 so far!

Thank you to the Wandering Wrinklies Golf Society for donating £1,000 from their Charities Day.

Thank you to Genesis Business Technology, who raised over £1,400 with their sponsored 10 mile Canoe Challenge along the Thames.



Photo courtesy of Genesis Business Technology



Photo courtesy of Mytchett Bowling Club

Mytchett Bowling Club Captain Vs Vice Captain Game.

Dates For Your Diary

For more info contact Helene on 01252 375581
or helene@parityfordisability.org.uk

Sat 19 November 10am to 4pm
Parity Christmas Market
Princes Mead Shopping Centre
Gifts, baked goods, and children's activities
including the return of the lifesize Dalek and
other popular sci fi characters!

Sat 26 November 10am to 4pm
Collection, Vintage Car Show, Aldershot
A collection of classic cars on Union and
Wellington Streets. Can you spare one or two
hours to help collect? Please contact Helene.

Sun 4 December 4.30pm to 7.30pm
Santa Sleigh Collection, Cove, Farnborough
Join us as we knock on doors around Cove
and make kids smile with Santa and his Sleigh.

Sun 11 December 10.30am to 4pm
Carols by Cactus Brass, in support of Parity
The Meadows, Sandhurst
The popular brass band will be playing festive
tunes and collecting for Parity—pick this day to
shop at The Meadows and show your support!

Sat 17 December
'Fall From Grace' Christmas Rock Concert
St John's Church, Church Rd, St John's, Woking
An exciting concert by rock music students
organised by tutor David Pascoe, any profits
from the event will go to Parity's music therapy
service. For more information, contact David
on 07967 711280 or
davidpascoe003@btinternet.com.

Sat 4 February 10am to 4pm
Bagpacking, Asda Superstore, Farnborough
Please help us pack customer's groceries in
return for donations. Contact Helene.

The Spring Newsletter will be issued at the beginning of
March. The deadline for submissions is Feb 15.

This newsletter is published by Parity for Disability, and edited by Helene Abbiss, fundraising & communications manager. If you have contributions for future editions or comments resulting from this newsletter, please contact Helene on 01252 375581 or helene@parityfordisability.org.uk.

www.parityfordisability.org.uk

THIS NEWSLETTER IS ALSO AVAILABLE IN LARGE PRINT

CAN YOU HELP?

Parity Christmas Market at Princes Mead Shopping Centre Saturday 19 November 2011

We would be grateful for donated items including gifts, bottles/chocs, and home-baked goods. Please bring to the Farnborough or Camberley day service (baked items should be delivered to Parity on Friday 18 November). Or contact Helene on 01252 375581 or helene@parityfordisability.org.uk. We're also looking for volunteers to help run the stalls – do you have a few hours to spare? **Thank you.**

Parity Changes

Congratulations to Farnborough Day Service Coordinator Julie Cantillon on the birth of her baby boy, Connor. Kelly Jarman from the Camberley service is covering Julie's maternity leave, and Darren Shergold has stepped into Kelly's Senior Keyworker post at the Camberley service. We said farewell and best of luck to Sylvia Miles and Pam Eldred, longtime staff members at the North Camp Shop, and to Camberley Keyworker Mariana Powell.



Parity 100 Club Winners
Join the 100 Club and win cash prizes! Details are on
the Parity website.

July – J Dickie
Sept – M Petchey

August - S Morris
Oct – A Hamilton



For People With Multiple Disabilities