

Football Team Win Sports Award



The football team attended an award presentation recently for the Chairman of the Council's Sports Awards 2014. The team were overjoyed to be announced winners of the Contribution to Inclusive Sport award during the event, held at the Guildhall in Bath. The players were nominated in recognition of all they have achieved and their league success, as well as recognising how well they work together and support each other. The players received a certificate and a Bath Aqua glass engraved plaque.

Keynsham Mencap FC are part of the Somerset FA Ability Counts league and play regular matches against other disability football teams from across the South West. The team are currently top of Division 2. They have their final fixture on Sunday 27th April at Strode College in Street.



Hilton Ball. 10th May 2014



We are really pleased that once again, Bath Hilton Hotel have chosen to partner us for this super event. Tickets are on sale now and are £39 each, which includes pre-dinner drinks, a 3 course meal and wine with dinner. Tables sit 10 but smaller groups are also very welcome. There will be a raffle, auction and a disco for after dinner dancing. The dress code is smart but not formal. Last years event was an unstuffy, relaxed and fun evening that raised £3,500 for the society. We'd be delighted if you and your family, colleagues and friends would join us again this year. To purchase tickets please contact the Keynsham Mencap office on 0117 9865659 or email michelle@keynshammencap.org.uk

Go Explore Club

We are piloting a new club called Go Explore for young adults aged 18 - 25. The club will run for 12 weeks and if it successful it will be launched later in the year. Go Explore is designed to provide young adults with focussed support in areas such as independence and life skills. As our 18+ Club is currently full with a long waiting list, it is hoped that by running the new Go Explore club we can expand our services and welcome more members to the Society. We have a small group taking part in the pilot scheme and look forward to hearing their ideas, suggestions and views that will help us shape the future of this project.

Grace Wins Volunteer Award - Again!



Following on from her win at The Chairman's Community Awards where Grace won Young Volunteer of the Year, Grace has now won a second award for the voluntary work that she does for the Society. Grace has won the Keynsham

Good Citizen Award 2014. Grace will be presented with the award at the Annual Town Meeting, where she will also be giving a short presentation. Anyone who lives in Keynsham is welcome to attend the meeting which is taking place on Monday 28th April at Keynsham Baptist Church, 7:30pm. We would love to have a few representatives from the Society who can give Grace a massive cheer when she receives the award! Congratulations Grace, we are really pleased for you.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all 94 of our volunteers for everything they do to support us. You are all wonderful!

Race Night

Huge thanks to everyone that came and supported our first ever Race Night. The evening was great fun for all and it was wonderful to see so many members, friends and supporters taking part. Races were shown on a big screen and guests were invited to place bets on their chosen horse with cash prizes for the winners. The event raised a fantastic £945. Thank you also to everyone that helped behind the scenes.

Thank You!

Everyone that donated prizes for the Race Night raffle

Barry Hollyman who made some wonderful signs and banners for Race Night

Maureen Milsom for her donation

St John's and @One for being so accommodating with our new Go Explore Club.

Neil Poole for patiently teaching office staff how to manage our new website!

Direct Debit Big Break for Charity

We are in the running to win a share of £5,000. The winners are chosen based on the number of votes received, so please vote for us! You can vote by visiting www.directdebit.co.uk and selecting the Big Break link on the bottom left. You can also vote by texting BIG BREAK 0377 to 78866. Texts cost your normal standard rate. Voting closes at the end of April. Please share with your family, friends and colleagues!

New Website

We are excited to announce that we have a fresh new website! You can visit it at www.keynshammencap.org.uk. Log on and have a look, and let us know what you think! Many thanks to one of our volunteers Neil Poole who has helped us set up the new site and patiently taught the office staff how to use it!



Mencap Font

You may have noticed we have been using a different font in our publications. This font is called FS Mencap and has been designed with the help of people with Learning Disabilities. The font was created to make letters easier to identify and to be easier to read. We'd love to know what you think of it.

We're taking part in Keynsham's Flash Mob! We'll be joining lots of other groups for a huge photo that will appear as part of the Bath Fringe Festival. If you would like to be part of it please meet at us Keynsham Bandstand at 1pm on Saturday 26th April. Please wear your burgundy Mencap t-shirt or hoodie.

Volunteer Birthdays! March and April

Happy Birthday to...

Harriett Hendy - 1 March

Katie Beere - 5 March

Ceri Sanders - 6 March

Amy Jeffers - 12 March

Helen Bridges - 25 March

Lydia Newman - 27 March

Jean Batterbea - 8 April

Kat Luckhurst - 10 April

Ralph Crouch - 14 April

Katie White - 15 April

Mac McDowall - 17 April

Stuart Barry - 19 April

Laury Dorling - 19 April

Julian Cole - 21 April

April Siva - 22 April

Hope you have/had a great day!

Welcome! We welcome Corrie Bell to Sat Club, Cameron Robertson and April Siva to KJ, Ceri Sanders, Will Jarvis and Mike Galaszia to 18+. Great to have you on board!

Welcome to Michelle

We're delighted to welcome Michelle Tarrant to the team as our new fundraiser. Michelle will be visiting all our clubs over the coming weeks to meet our members and the teams and to find out more about each project.

Message from Michelle: I would like to say Thank You to all of you who have made me feel so welcome. I have lots of ideas and enthusiasm for fresh approaches to fundraising and would welcome discussing your own ideas initiatives and how we could support you with them at any time. Best Wishes, Michelle

Farewell

Sadly we have to say goodbye to two members of staff. Sam Greedy, deputy at KJ, has left us to concentrate on her nursing degree.

Alex Williams, 18+ deputy, will be leaving on 17th April as she has new job as a job coach for people with Learning Disabilities. We wish them both every success in the future.

Dates for Your Diary

Sunday 13th July - Keynsham FC Fun Day

Keynsham Town football club are hosting a fun day with part of the profits being donated to Keynsham Mencap. There will be a 5-a-side Competition, a fun run, raffle, auction, stalls, live bands, BBQ and a bar. More details to follow.

Sunday 14th September - Bike Ride

Our annual sponsored bike ride and walk will be taking place at the Bird in Hand.

Friday 17th October - Quiz Night

Our fun quiz night returns for another year at Saltford Hall.

We now have a printer cartridge and mobile phone recycling box in the office which Harley Owners Group have kindly organised for us to help raise funds through recycling. If you have any old ink cartridges, toner or old phones then please drop them in the office. Many thanks.



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