

## Keynsham Mencap Dinner and Auction

Our dinner and auction event is due to go ahead on Saturday 26th March at the Apex Hotel in Bath. There are still some places available if you would like to attend. Tickets are £45 per person, which includes drinks and 3 course meal.



We are still looking for donations towards our auction.

If you know of any businesses that would donate some activities that could be auctioned off then please let us know.

As well as the auction we will also be holding a raffle. So if you cannot attend the event in person then raffle tickets will be available from next week and you could be in with a chance of winning an amazing prize.

## Santa's Grotto

In December we held our first ever Santa's Grotto experience, especially for children with SEN. We welcomed both members and non-members and the event was fully booked with over 50 children attending throughout the day to see Santa. First children visited the workshop where they got to decorate gingerbread people, make baubles and decorations, paperchains, crackers and reindeer food. Children then had a time slot to visit Santa in his grotto; meaning there was no waiting or queuing and no crowds. Santa saw all the children either 1:1 or in their family groups, and for the children who didn't want to go in to the grotto, Santa came out and sat in the foyer and even went for a walk around with some children. After their time with Santa, the children visited the toy shop, where they chose their gift. It was a truly magical day for everyone involved. Thank you so much to Santa for visiting us, and to all of our elves who helped during the day.



## Bath Pantomime Cinderella

Our annual trip to the pantomime returned this year, much to the delight of children and helpers alike! This year we visited the Theatre Royal in Bath and enjoyed a lively performance of Cinderella. We were fortunate to receive a number of donations towards the cost of the tickets meaning we were able to offer this trip to families at a subsidised cost. Thank you to everyone who made the trip possible and thank you to the volunteers who helped on the night. We all had a magical evening.



## Join our Team!

**We are recruiting for the following positions:**

### Club25 Leader

Club25 is a social group for adults; it runs on a Thursday evening in Keynsham.

We are looking for someone dynamic, creative, with a positive can-do attitude.

The role includes planning and delivering activities and overseeing the weekly club nights.

### Go Explore Deputy

Due to expansion, our Go Explore Club is now appointing a deputy leader. The club is for young adults 18-25 and runs on Wednesday evening. The deputy role is to work with the leader to deliver the activities, support the volunteers and to supervise the group.

### Piano Accompanist

We are looking for a piano accompanist that can attend our Music Man Project rehearsals on a Saturday morning, and play the piano for the members to sing and play along with.

To request an application form please email [laura@keynshammencap.org.uk](mailto:laura@keynshammencap.org.uk)

## Thank You!

To everyone who purchased toys and games from our Amazon Wishlist.

Coventry Building Society for donating the proceeds of their Christmas Raffle.

Keynsham Methodist Church Brass Band who raised money for us at their Christmas Concert.

The Wine Bar who held a Christmas Market in December and donated the proceeds.

AbleFit tyres who made a donation towards the cost of the pantomime tickets.

Niall Tomlins, who continues to look after our minibuses, organising repairs and keeping them roadworthy!

Glynn from Rocky's Disco who donated his time to visit Radstock club Christmas party with music, games and balloon hats!

Mrs Gillard, who welcomed family and friends to use her swimming pool for donations, which she donated to Super Saturday Club.

Mr and Mrs Sheppard, who made a donation to Super Saturday Club in lieu of Christmas cards.

## Sky Dive for Free!

We have another date in the diary when more thrill seekers can take part in a sky dive for free, providing they raise a minimum amount of sponsorship of just under £400.

If you are interested in taking part on Sunday 3rd April 2022 with the next team, or if you want to do it solo, please contact me in the office [amanda@keynshammencap.org.uk](mailto:amanda@keynshammencap.org.uk) for more details.

It will be one of the most incredible challenges you have ever done - I speak from experience!

- Amanda



## Volunteer Birthdays for Jan and Feb

Happy Birthday to...

Laura Barber

Liv Edwards

Corrie Bell

Charlotte Stenner

Gary West



Have a great day!

## Welcome

Hello to new volunteers Joe who joins us at Club25, and Nathamon who joins us at Saturday Club. Welcome to the team!

## Club Vacancies

We currently have spaces, and would love to welcome more members to the following clubs:

### Boccia

This is a gentle seated exercise, similar to bowls. It is played sitting down and is accessible to all abilities. It's lots of fun, and we'd like to build up a team to eventually compete in competitions.

Wednesday Evening, 6:00 - 7:00pm

Wellsway School in Keynsham. Age 14+

### Music Man Project

An opportunity to learn original songs, sing, sign, play percussion and take part in live performances throughout the year.

Saturday Morning, 10:30 - 12:30

Queens Road Methodist Church. Age 16+

If you, or someone you know, would be interested in joining, please contact Laura to arrange a taster session.

## In Memoriam

Thank you so very much to the families who have asked for donations to the Society in lieu of flowers at recent funerals. We're sorry for your loss, and thank you for thinking of us at a difficult time.

**Denis Scrine**, grandfather of one of our members.

**Paul Harvey**, father of one of our members.

**Kit Kettel**, trustee of the Society, and former founding trustee of what was then called the 'Keynsham Mencap Family Home'; a residential home in Keynsham for 8 people with learning disabilities.

## Contact Details

### Keynsham Mencap Society

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