

Goosecroft Centre News

In the September newsletter we asked for applications for the new post of Assistant Manager to work with Sue and the team, we are pleased to tell you that we have appointed Joelle Mitchell. Joelle started work with us in January and is busy finding her way round the work we do and meeting people and groups as they attend the centre. Joelle will be developing projects to involve people in learning new skills or improving the skills they already have. We are looking forward to working with Joelle, we will be introducing her to you over the next few months.



Goosecroft Litter Pickers

Well done to all the Goosecroft Litter Pickers. We've had some good sessions and it is good to know that we are helping to keep Northallerton free of litter. The next litter picking session will be on **Saturday 26th February between 10.30 and 12.30** for anyone who would like to join in. As usual, there will be a snack and a chat afterwards.



The Round the World Challenge has now ended. Joe McKechnie, Disability Sports Adviser, Hambleton Leisure and Northallerton and the Dales Mencap Society have worked together with Royal Mencap to give opportunities for people with learning disabilities in Hambleton area the chance to compete in sport and exercise activities. Lots of people took part in the challenge to travel 'Round the World' completing passports recording hours of exercise they had taken part in. Competitors were presented with certificates in January. Very well done to everyone who took part.

North Yorkshire Health Task Group

The Health Task Group will resume its meetings from 22nd February but will have to stay online until it is felt safe enough for the group to meet face to face. People attend from across North Yorkshire. As it is a large group, North Yorkshire County Council need to consider the safety of the people attending as Covid is still a risk.

Sue Lear has been asked to be the independent Co-chair alongside Christopher Porter who is the learning disability Co-chair.

We will keep you updated about the work of the group after the meeting.

Community Safety Event

We were very pleased to welcome local police Community Support Officers, Carly, Hannah and Justin, and Laura from the North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Services to the Goosecroft Centre. They took the opportunity to tell us about their work and gave us important tips on keeping safe at home and out and about in the community. Thank you to the groups who attended. Everyone had a great time trying on the uniforms and getting locked in the police van! We were all surprised how heavy some of the equipment is and were very impressed with the hard work done by people from police and fire services to keep us all safe.

Justin told us about the new police scheme called 'We Care'. People can sign us to join free. North Yorkshire Police hope that you will join the scheme to help keep you safe in the community where you live. Justin will be coming to Mencap Drop-in on Wednesday 11th May from 10am to talk about the scheme and sign people up if they want to join. Please come along and find out more information.



Northallerton and the Dales Mencap Society runs a 'Community Safety Task Group' at the Goosecroft Centre in Northallerton. If you are interested in joining or finding out more about what we do please contact:

Sue Lear Tel: 01609 778894

or email: admin@northallertonmencap.org.uk



Northallerton 'Treat Me Well' Group

The group has started meeting face to face again at the Goosecroft Centre. It has been good to share our experiences and to move on our campaign for a learning disability nurse at the Friarage Hospital, Northallerton.

Liz Dixon attended our November meeting to share the good news about our campaign. Liz told us that from December 2021 her role would be changing to a full time one as a learning disability nurse to cover children and adult services at the James Cook Hospital and the Friarage Hospital.

Liz is working towards accreditation on the Learning Disability Diamond Standard Acute Care Pathways to improve healthcare in our hospitals.

Liz asked our group if they would be involved in some quality checks at the Friarage Hospital. The group will work out how they would like to do this and what sort of questions they would like to ask.

Jess Norwood will represent the group on the Learning Disability Partnership Group to cover the Friarage Hospital. Jess will share information from our local area and bring information back to the meetings to discuss.

We are all really pleased with the contributions the Northallerton 'Treat Me Well' Group towards changes in the health services locally.

If you are interested in taking part please contact Sue Lear to find out more.

Sue Lear Tel: 01609 778894 or email: admin@northallertonmencap.org.uk.



WATCH OUT FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE CELEBRATIONS FOR THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROYAL MENCAP THAT WILL BE HAPPENING AT THE GOSECROFT CENTRE IN MAY.

Activities at Goosecroft

Goosecroft Arts and Crafts Group is well attended on Tuesdays with our tutor Ruth Hawkes. There are some vacancies in the afternoon session 1pm to 3pm. If you are interested in joining the group, please contact Sue Lear.

The **Wednesday Drop-in** is open from 10am to 2.30pm. The PLC students are running the café with hot food and snacks served till 1pm. Afternoon activities start at 1.15pm. Contact Sue Lear for more information.

We have a facebook page and a website.
Have a look and let us know what you think.

Find us on: www.northallertonmencap.org.uk or on [facebook](#) Mencap Northallerton
Remember to look at our [tweets](#)

From the Chairman Frits Rab:

To all our readers, members and friends.

Important questions for you to think about.

The aim of the Society is to support people with learning disabilities, their families and carers. The Society is in a good position and is able to think about and support new developments. We want to be helpful to you. You can help us help you by answering these questions:

What does the Society do well?

Is there anything more the Society could do to help?

What additional services or activities would make a difference?

Send your answers to the Goosecroft Centre, or come and have a chat and tell us what you think.

Optional: Name Telephone