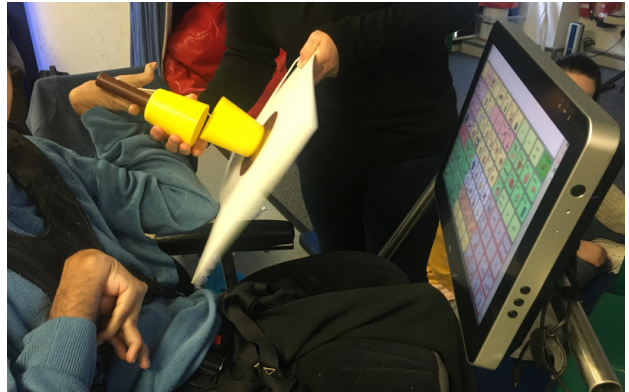


PARITY NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2023



NEW MULTISENSORY MAKATON ACTIVITY

Several students have joined a Makaton learning group at the Farnborough day service. Many of the staff have been taking Makaton courses and Keyworkers Diane and Sophie were keen to put together tailored, interactive sessions, each with a theme. They've pulled together tactile objects, sound and video to accompany each sign. Staff or students make most of the props beforehand from everyday items or craft materials, and these help students experience the meaning of each sign.

For the session on animals, students felt the tentacles of a paper jellyfish brush their arms, touched a rubber washing up glove to feel a dolphin's skin, stroked fabric similar to horse-fur, and played with a long concertina to get the idea of an elephant's leg.

FUNDRAISE

Sign up to take on a challenge or hold an event of your own.

DONATE

Donate items to our shops in North Camp and Church Crookham.

VOLUNTEER

Find out ways in which you can give your time to Parity.

HAMPSHIRE COMPLEX NEEDS GROUP

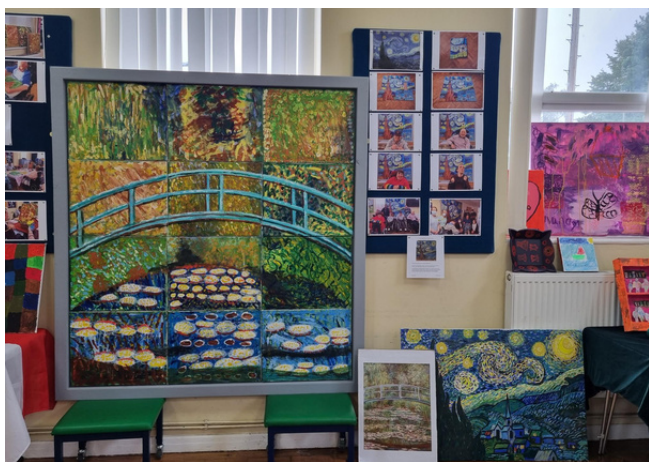
Alison Cooper - Executive Director

I have recently agreed to become Chair of the Hampshire Complex Needs Group, which meets remotely every couple of months.

It is a group for family carers, providers and HCC/NHS staff Hampshire-wide, to discuss the specific issues relating to complex needs and to feedback to the Hampshire Learning Disability Partnership. New attendees welcome! Do get in touch if you'd like to find out more. Please call 01252 375 581 or e-mail alison@parityfordisability.org.uk.

As the colder weather approaches, we respectfully remind all who are planning a visit to the day services, not to attend when suffering with potentially infectious ill-health, including signs of colds, flu and/or Covid. Please do not return until symptoms have passed and, if Covid positive please wait until you have a negative test result.

SUPPORTERS EXPERIENCE ARRAY OF ART AND CREATIVE PROJECTS AT CAMBERLEY OPEN DAY



The Art Open Day at St Martin's Church, Camberley gave supporters and the public a chance to experience the wonderful array of independently created artwork and creative projects, and learn more about artistic interests and creative techniques at the Camberley service. The well-attended event saw families, carers, health professionals, representatives from local community organisations and businesses and a wide range of supporters from the local area exploring the displays. Thank you to the service for opening your doors and sharing the inspiring and beautiful results with us.

MYTCHETT STUDENT STARTS DOCUMENTARY COURSE



Student Darren has started a documentary-making course. With Senior Keyworker Matt, he's accessing online instruction and working on his ideas for film projects.

Darren will be interviewing soon – look out for news of the finished film(s) in 2024.

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS



Parity's volunteers came together in September at Church Crookham Memorial Hall for a thank you afternoon tea, organised by Parity as a way of showing our huge appreciation for all they do. Thank you to all of our volunteers for supporting Parity to grow.

LADY M DRAG FOR DONATIONS TOUR



We are in awe of the wonderful Lady M, who has already passed the £8,000 mark on her Drag for Donations Tour for which Parity for Disability is one of her chosen charities. Lady M has enjoyed phenomenal success at a range of local venues, including, The Bear Inn in Burwash and The Tweseldown in Fleet. Upcoming is the Crown and Cushion in Minley on the 3rd November. We're looking forward to the big celebration event taking place 25th November at The Grange Estate Social Club, Fleet. Please see Lady M's Facebook page or contact the Parity office for details of how to attend.

SNOWDON TREK TEAM SUCCESS



Congratulations to the Parity For Disability Snowdon Trek Team - Alex Cioboiu, Andy Fox, Daniel Fox, Ben Martin, Debbie Martin and Richard Palmer, including Gift Aid, they've raised over £3,000 for Parity!

LUCI'S WINGWALK

Congratulations to Keyworker Luci who took on the challenge of wingwalking for Parity. Supported by friends, family, students and staff Luci raised over £850.

If you would be interested in taking on a wingwalk please get in touch. Contact Emma on 01252 375581 or e-mail emma.nelson@parityfordisability.org.uk.



CASTLE TO COAST TRIATHLON



Huge thanks and congratulations to supporter Helen O'Neill who took on and conquered the Castle to Coast Triathlon in July.

Helen raised over £740 in support of Parity.

Thank you to Helen for her incredible effort.

TWILIGHT RUNWAY CHALLENGE

In September a team from our Farnborough Day Service took on the Twilight Runway Challenge. Huge thanks to Nicki, Gemma, Daniel, Leo and Di who completed the course and raised more than £750. The annual Twilight Challenge at Blackbushe Airport is growing in popularity and we are already looking forward to next years event!



SHOPS SHOUTOUT

Our Church Crookham and North Camp shop staff are looking for more CDs, vinyl and paperback books as well as quality clothing - thank you to everyone who gives donations to our shops! If you would like to pay a visit our shops can be found at:

North Camp Shop - 69 Camp Road, North Camp Farnborough GU14 6EP

Church Crookham - 9 Linkway Parade, Church Crookham, Fleet, GU52 7UL



FAREWELL TO SHOP MANAGER NICOLA



We recently said a fond farewell to Nicola Barnett-Reddy who is leaving for pastures new after working at Parity's North Camp shop since 2011. Nicola, who became shop manager in 2015, is parting from a team of staff and volunteers and a host of loyal customers who are all very sorry to see her go.

"It's never felt like a job," said Nicola (pictured centre in blue t-shirt and cardigan) at her jam-packed leaving party at the shop. "I've enjoyed my time. We have the most amazing customers. There's always been a lovely team here, and I've loved working with everyone."

Good luck and thank you, Nicola, from all of us at Parity for Disability.

MAYORAL SUPPORT

A brand new heavy-duty therapy bed will arrive at the Mytchett day service shortly, thanks to Cllr Helen Whitcroft's fundraising during her Mayoral year. Helen raised £12,503, which will also help keep all Parity's services going for the people with multiple disabilities who rely on them. Thank you also to John Marsh the outgoing Rushmoor Mayor who has donated £3,500 from the amount raised during his year in office. We are extremely grateful to both Helen and John for their support.



WE'RE GETTING READY FOR PARITY'S CHRISTMAS MARKET AT PRINCES MEAD



We're delighted to be partnering with the team at Princes Mead in Farnborough, who will be supporting us again this year with our Christmas Market on the 18th November.

DONATION FROM THE FREEMASONS



Thank you to the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Freemasons for donating £500 towards our vital services. Eric Robinson, Worshipful Master at Mercury Lodge presented the cheque at Parity's shop in North Camp. Trustee Linda Anderson, Executive Director Alison Cooper, Assistant Shop Manager Kate Robinson, and volunteer (and past Senior Shops Manager) Christine Stevens were on hand.

Pictured left to right: Christine, Alison, Eric, Linda and Kate.

PUBLIC CHOOSES PARITY FOR DISABILITY TO BENEFIT FROM FLEET CARNIVAL 2024

Thank you, everyone who voted for Parity and encouraged others to vote too, when Fleet Carnival organisers polled the public to decide which charity should benefit in 2024. Parity for Disability has now been officially announced as the Fleet & District Carnival charity.

Being a part of Fleet & District Carnival 2024 will raise the profile and awareness of the needs of people with multiple disabilities as well as providing a fundraising opportunity. It promises to be an enjoyable event.

We appreciate the warm welcome from the Carnival committee and we look forward to working with everyone over the coming year.



DAY SERVICE TEAM CONTINUES TO EXCEL

Many congratulations to the following members of our excellent day service staff team:

- Natalie Vaughan for passing her Level 3 Health and Social care diploma,
- Rebecca Sommers who has had a recent promotion to senior keyworker, and
- Gwen Baker who has transitioned to Locum keyworker, this role will be essential to the running of the day services ensuring that adequate, effective and trained cover is available at short notice.

WELCOME TO SUMMER, OUR NEW CHARITY ADMINISTRATOR

Welcome aboard to our new Charity Administrator Summer Finney! Summer replaces Debbie Martin who has now taken on the role of Finance Administrator.

Huge thanks and warm wishes to Sue Maugham, our previous Finance Administrator who has recently stepped down from the role. Sue is very kindly continuing to support Parity with her extensive experience.



DCL DRAINS & PLUMBING

The amazing team at DCL Drains and Plumbing have taken good care of us when we needed help this year with issues at our Farnborough and Mytchett sites. The DCL engineers have been friendly, quick and effective in resolving problems, and with minimum disruption to our services. Our sincere thanks to all at DCL.

COLLECTION BOX

Would you or a business that you know like to display one of our Parity collection boxes?

It's a great way of supporting Parity and finding a good home for loose change. Last year collection boxes raised over £600 for Parity! Thank you to all of the local businesses that already hold a collection tin. Contact Emma on 01252 375 581 or e-mail emma.nelson@parityfordisability.org.uk.

EARN DONATIONS ONLINE...EASYFUNDRAISING



We've registered Parity for Disability with #easyfundraising, which means over 7,000 brands will now donate to us for FREE every time you use #easyfundraising to shop with them. These donations will help SO MUCH, so please sign up to support us – it's completely FREE and doesn't take long. To get started scan the QR code or head to: www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/parityfordisability

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

For more information, contact Emma on 01252 375 581 or e-mail emma.nelson@parityfordisability.org.uk.

25th October - **Parity for Disability AGM**
Rushmoor Borough Council Offices 6.30pm

3rd November - **Lady M - A Night with the Lady**
Crown and Cushion, Camberley, £20 per ticket from 6.30pm

18th November - **Parity for Disability Christmas Market**
Princes Mead Shopping Centre 10am till 4pm.

25th November - **Lady M Drag for Donations Celebration Event**
The Grange, Church Crookham

26th November - **Parity Christmas Collection**
The Meadows Camberley, 10am - 3pm

21st January 2024 - **Farnborough Half Marathon**
24th March 2024 - **Fleet Half Marathon**

Are you still thinking about taking on a challenge?

We have a range of exciting sponsored challenges we can talk with you about. For the more adventurous, we can organise a wingwalk, skydive or abseil. Or the accessible, family-friendly Twilight Runway Challenge in September 2024 might be your thing. Or if you have an event that you would like to take part in, please do get in touch as we'd love to hear from you.

Contact Emma on **01252 375 581** or e-mail emma.nelson@parityfordisability.org.uk.

The cost of living crisis is biting Parity for Disability too – the bills for running our vital, award-winning services are rapidly rising. Your donations ensure Parity students keep active and connected.

How to donate:

Please make cheques out to 'Parity for Disability'.
Donate via BACS, our bank details are available by calling us on 01252 375 581. Or donate directly and securely via any page at www.parityfordisability.org.uk.

Thank you!

Parity for Disability is a Registered Charity no. 1071571.

Copyright © 2023 Parity for Disability, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is: 94 Whetstone Road, Cove, Farnborough, Hampshire, GU14 9SX

Phone Number: 01252 375 581

