

SCHEME NEWS

Home
Start

Support and friendship
for families
**Home-Start
North West
Hampshire**

Newsletter: Home-Start North West Hampshire, Dame Mary Fagan House,
Chineham Court, Lutyens Close, Basingstoke RG24 8AG
Company No.: 5604443, Registered charity no. 1112233

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Community Newsletter....

The staff team had a good break over the Christmas holidays and started 2018 with renewed energy and enthusiasm. 2018 promises to be as busy, if not busier, than the previous year and we wouldn't want it any other way. I'd like to thank everyone for their support in making 2017 a success and for everyone's continued support as we move forward.

Our groups continue to go from strength to strength and provide really valuable support for the families who attend them regularly. For any of our volunteers who haven't been to our groups you're missing out! I have emailed out dates of the groups where we would love to see some new faces. Even if you can only manage one it makes a big difference to the families who often rely on the groups to chat to volunteers and staff about issues they may be having.

Our waiting list is currently open for new requests for support. If you are a home-visiting volunteer waiting for a suitable family, I have no doubt that we will be inundated soon as an email has been sent out to referrers! If the demand becomes too high we will have to consider closing the waiting list but this is something that we try to avoid if at all possible.

I look forward to an exciting and busy year ahead working with families in Basingstoke and Deane which is only possible because of the support from our volunteers, trustees and supporters who help spread the word about our work.

Thank you!

Jools Anderson – Scheme Manager

Volunteer Drop In!

We're so pleased to be able to offer all of our volunteers and supporters an opportunity to meet up once a month and enjoy a cup of tea and a catch up. They will be held on the last Thursday of the month between 10:30am and 12:30am starting on **Thursday 22nd February 2018**. Further dates throughout the year are:-

Thursday 29 th March	Thursday 30 th August
Thursday 26 th April	Thursday 27 th September
Thursday 31 st May	Thursday 25 th October
Thursday 28 th June	Thursday 29 th November
Thursday 26 th July	

Where?

Brookvale Village Hall,
Lower Brook Street,
Basingstoke,
RG21 7RP

The drop-ins are an ideal time to speak to staff about non-urgent matters, find out about forthcoming training or new volunteering roles, hand in monthly time sheets, collect blank copies of diary sheets etc and to meet and have a natter to other volunteers. They are also suitable for potential volunteers to pop in and have a chat about what Home-Start volunteers do, so please feel free to signpost friends or family to come and have a chat. We would love to see you there!

Congratulations to our newly trained Volunteers!

A warm welcome from the Home-Start volunteer team to:-

Lydia Butler, Emma Cater, Sarah Gaitskell, Loo Mason, Gill McMillan, Kay Ralph, Jacqui Singleton who have all completed their volunteer training, including our new scheme co-ordinator Claire Wooldridge!

Our patron Dr.Judith Darmady kindly presented our newest recruits with their certificates:-



Dr. Judith Darmady presenting Sarah Gaitskell with her Certificate.



We hope that they enjoyed the prep-course as much as Fran and Jools did delivering it. More importantly we hope they enjoy volunteering with Home-Start NWH, or in Claire's case working with us, for many years to come!

Our next volunteer prep course is due to start on Tuesday 17th April 2018. The training will be the usual 8 week course in order to cover all the information needed. If you have any friends or family who are interested in volunteering please ask them to get in touch and we can have a chat with them about the commitment and rewards of being part of the Home-Start family! We're hoping to have a large group this time to bring our volunteer numbers up so we can support more families.

Announcing 1st Annual Volunteer Award Evening!

In September, date to be confirmed, HSNWH will be hosting an evening volunteer celebration. We would like to formally thank all of our volunteers and trustees for their hard work. Without you we would not have a scheme and the families wouldn't benefit from the unique support that Home-Start offer. Along with thanking **all** of our volunteers (you're all worthy of an award), we will be acknowledging volunteers who have offered long service.

There will also be the presentation of the first "Margaret Harrison award" (Margaret Harrison was the founder of Home-Start). This will be an annual award, presented to one of our volunteers who has shown an outstanding contribution to volunteering with HSNWH. Many factors will be taken into account including the number of volunteered hours over the year, feedback from families, staff and other volunteers and contribution to fundraising efforts/scheme publicity. More details for this event will be in our next newsletter which is due out in April.

Trustee News

Ian Nicholson has decided to step down from the Trustee Board but will continue to support events and other activities. I am very grateful for the work Ian has given Home-Start over the years, particularly in staff and volunteer support, recruitment and being 'the voice of reason' when tricky decisions have to be made! We will miss you Ian!

We recently held a strategy day where we reviewed the risks to the scheme and developed our future plans. We feel confident that Jools and the team are in a strong position to meet the needs of families in the area. Our groups are thriving and our volunteers are enthusiastic and committed to our work. Over the next year we hope to introduce some new initiatives for both families and volunteers.

Janette Hewitt, Chair

Families Christmas outing 2017

In November we held a cake/Christmas card sale in DMF House which raised £306 towards our Christmas outing to Finkley Down Farm in December. A very big thank you to everyone who made/bought cakes for the sale, including Jool's mum who very kindly donated a home-made cake which

was won by Rachel from HCC School Finance:-



Trustees, Liz and Karin, started the Lottery in February 2016. The first winner received £46.00 and now two years later, that win has increased to £124! We pay out 20% of the income each month to the winning ticket. Participating in the Lottery is a great way to contribute to HSNWH and potentially winning that month's draw!

We would like to increase our lottery members in order to inject much needed monies into our funds to support more families. We'd like to ask each one of you to help introduce new members into this special Club by asking your friends, families and neighbours to support us. The monthly cost is £5.00 per ticket but you are very welcome to purchase more than one ticket per month. Most of our members buy their tickets via standing order which makes the process very straightforward.

The money we receive is not ring fenced for a particular project, instead, it allows us to support the running costs of the scheme.

Please contact the office on 01256 405988 or via email to info@homestart-nwhampshire.org.uk for further information or to request an application form.

Thank you in advance, we look forward to hearing from you.

Liz Narracott & Karin Jardine-Brown - Lottery Co-ordinators -Home-Start NWH Trustees

Christmas outing to Finkley Down Farm on 6th December 2017



Magical Christmas Grotto



Look it's Snowing!



Making Reindeer Food

Fundraising

Coming soon -Water or Wine fundraising stall – 12th/13th May 2018

You may recall last May that we ran a successful stall at the Rotary Family Festival at Basingstoke Rugby Club which raised a fantastic amount!

We are asking for your help in making this years an equal success by saving your empty wine bottles and donating any of wine that you can spare.

- Collect empty screw top wine bottles and fill them with water.
- Screw top back on, then wrap in newspaper and secure.
- If donating a wine bottle please leave unwrapped!

More information to follow.....
Please start collecting!

Thank you

Liz Narracott-Trustee

TESCO BAGS OF HELP PROJECT

Just a reminder that our "BAGS of Fun" project is currently in Tesco's during **January and February 2018**. If you do shop in Tesco please vote for us we could win up to £4,000.00!

Participating Tesco Stores are:-

BASINGSTOKE	RG24 8BE	Superstores
BASINGSTOKE METRO	RG21 7LG	Metro
BASINGSTOKE OAKRIDGE RD	RG21 5SG	Express
KEMPSHOTT BSNGSTK EXP	RG22 5NZ	Express
LYCHPIT BASINGSTK EXP	RG24 8TF	Express
POPLEY BASINGSTKE EXP	RG24 9DR	Express

CO-OP COMMUNITY FUND

In addition, if shopping in the Co-op a reminder that you can use your Co-op Membership card to earn 5% for you, and 1% for Home-Start NWH. Our designated stores and businesses are:

Co-op, Petrol Basingstoke in Grove Road,	RG21 3AX
Co-op Old Basing, Linden Avenue,	RG24 7HR
Funeralcare, Hook,	RG27 9UT

If you support these Co-op businesses it will, in turn, help us to support local families!

THANK YOU!

Thank You & Goodbye to:-

**Trustee Ian Nicholson
&
Volunteer Debbie Lister**

Dates for your diary:-

1st Volunteer Monthly drop-in session starts Thursday 22nd February 2018 between 10:30am & 12:30am at Brookvale Village Hall.

Future Fundraising Events:-

Dinner & Auction - Audleys Wood Hotel on Thursday 19th April 2018.

Number Crunching

38

**Active home
visiting/Group
volunteers.**

229

**Children
supported since
1st April 2017.**

72

**Requests for
support received
since 1st April 2017**